

The Prince George's Post



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State's Attorney Aisha Braveboy Urges Maryland Legislature to Pass Lieutenant Richard Collins Law To Strengthen the Hate Crime Statute

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

UPPER MARLBORO, Md. (Feb. 11, 2020)—Prince George's County State's Attorney Aisha Braveboy was joined by Mr. & Mrs. Richard Collins, II, other elected officials, advocates and supporters at a press conference last Tuesday to discuss House Bill 917 (HB917) and Senate Bill 606 (SB606), "Criminal Law – Hate Crimes Basis – 2nd Lieutenant Richard Collins, III's Law." The legislation in the House Chamber, HB917, was cross filed with SB606 in the Senate Chamber. House Bill 917 and SB606 will strengthen the hate crime statute, clarifying that hate does not have to be the sole motivation for a hate crime.

"Now more than ever we need strong hate crime laws to ensure that crimes of hate will not be tolerated in our state and to ensure the punishment for targeting individuals or institutions for violence or vandalism for

no other reason than their religious affiliation, skin color or other personal characteristic is appropriate," said State's Attorney Braveboy.

According to the Maryland Department of Legislative Services, as of 2019, there are 21 radical groups that spew hate in Maryland, an increase from 2017. Among them are Neo-Nazis and white nationalists and groups whose members are anti-Muslim or exist to deny the Holocaust.

Currently, Maryland's hate crime statute is ambiguous and requires prosecutors to prove that hate or bias is the sole motivating factor for a crime.

"Requiring prosecutors to prove that hate or bias is the only motive for a crime is an extremely high standard that



PHOTO COURTESY OFFICE OF THE STATE'S ATTORNEY FOR PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY
Prince George's County State's Attorney Aisha Braveboy at a press conference Feb. 11 to discuss House Bill 917 (HB917) and Senate Bill 606 (SB606), "Criminal Law – Hate Crimes Basis – 2nd Lieutenant Richard Collins, III's Law."

gives hate crime offenders an easy defense. This law has to change and the time is now. Maryland Legislators must pass SB606 and HB917, the Second Lieutenant Richard Collins, III law," Braveboy said.

Senate Bill 606 was heard in

the Senate Committee, Judicial Proceedings, at 12 p.m. The Judiciary Committee of the House Chamber hearing on HB 917 was at 1 p.m.

Advocates and supporters came out in support of both bills.

USM Board of Regents Appoints Darryll J. Pines as President of University of Maryland, College Park

New UMD President is Glenn L. Martin Professor of Aerospace Engineering and Dean of the University's A. James Clark School of Engineering

By MIKE LURIE
University System of Maryland

BALTIMORE, Md. (Feb. 12, 2020)—The University System of Maryland (USM) Board of Regents has appointed Darryll J. Pines, PhD, as the 34th president of the University of Maryland, College Park (UMD). Pines has spent 25 years on the College Park campus and is dean of the university's A. James Clark School of Engineering. His appointment is effective July 1.

Pines has served as both dean and the Nariman Farvardin Professor of Aerospace Engineering at the Clark School since January 2009. He first arrived in 1995 as an assistant professor and later served as chair of the Department of Aerospace Engineering from 2006 to 2009.

As dean, Pines has led the development of the Clark School's 2020 Strategic Plan and achieved notable successes in key areas, such as improving teaching in fundamental undergraduate courses and raising student retention, achieving success in national and international student competitions, placing new emphasis on sustainability engineering and service learning, promoting STEM education among high school students, increasing the impact of research programs, and expanding philanthropic contributions to the school.

Thanks in part to these efforts, the Clark School's one-year undergraduate retention rate and five-year graduation rate are 91 percent and 75 percent, respectively—which rank among the top at public flagship universities in the United States. In addition, the university's Solar Decathlon team placed first worldwide in the 2011 competition, the Clark School's Engineers Without Borders chapter is considered one of the best in the nation,



PHOTO COURTESY UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND
Darryll J. Pines, PhD

and the Engineering Sustainability Workshop launched by Pines has become a key campus event.

Pines has testified before Congress on STEM education and created the Top 25 Source Schools program for Maryland high schools. On the national level, he has led an effort as part of the P-12 Engineering Education Committee of the American Society for Engineering Education's Engineering Deans Council to develop a first of its kind, nationwide, pre-college course on engineering principles and design. The pilot program, Engineering-For-US-All (E4USA), will implement a standardized educational curriculum across multiple states. The course, made possible through a grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF), is intended to provide the equivalent of placement and credit for an introductory college course. Pines is also the secretary for the Executive Committee of the National GEM Consortium,

a national nonprofit providing programming and full fellowships to increase the number of domestic underrepresented minority graduate students pursuing STEM fields.

"The Board is delighted to welcome as president of our flagship institution a leader of the caliber of Dr. Pines," Board of Regents Chair Linda Gooden said. "The University of Maryland, College Park is a world-class institution, and Dr. Pines brings to the position a wealth of experience. He knows intimately the strengths of the faculty, the energy of the students, and the circle of legislative and philanthropic support both in the State of Maryland and beyond. I can't think of a better person to build on the excellence at the university and take it to even higher levels. I know I speak for the entire board when I say we've found precisely the right person for this important job—College Park will indeed be in good hands."

Pines will succeed President Wallace Loh, PhD, JD, who has led UMD since 2010. As the flagship university of the state, Maryland is a global leader in research, entrepreneurship, and innovation, and is home to more than 40,000 students, 10,000 faculty and staff, and 280 academic programs. UMD is one of the nation's top producers of Fulbright scholars, and the university's faculty includes two Nobel laureates, three Pulitzer Prize winners, and 58 members of the national academies. The institution has a \$2.1 billion operating budget and secures more than \$1 billion annually in research funding together with the University of Maryland, Baltimore.

"It is an honor to take on the leadership role at the University of Maryland, College

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Prince George's County Council Holds FY 2021 Budget Town Hall Meeting

Residents Encouraged to Participate in the County Budget Process

By ANGELA ROUSON
Prince George's County Council Media

UPPER MARLBORO, Md. (Feb. 11, 2020)—The Prince George's County Council will hold its FY 2021 Budget Town Hall Meeting, on Tuesday, February 25, 2020, from 7–9 p.m., at Prince George's Community College, Largo Student Center, 301 Largo Road in Largo, Maryland, in Community Rooms A and B.

Council Chair Todd M. Turner (D) – District 4, says the Budget Town Hall meeting offers an important opportunity for residents to learn more about the Council's Budget Review and Adoption Process, and share their priorities for spending County tax dollars.

"Informed residents are engaged residents. The goal of the Budget Town Hall Meeting is to provide County residents with information about the Council's Budget Process, explaining how it works and how residents can participate. The Council is committed to an open, inclusive and participatory budget process, and we look forward to working collaboratively and creatively with our residents to ensure Prince George's County operates and serves at its best."

The Council's FY 2021 Budget Town Hall Meeting will feature a presentation on the fiscal outlook for the upcoming budget season by Office of Management and Budget Director, Stanley Earley. Deputy County Auditor Turkessa Green will also present an overview of the Council's Budget Review and Adoption process. Important calendar dates for budget meetings and public hearings will be provided, and participants will have an opportunity to address Council Members and share their FY 2021 budget concerns and priorities. There will be an opportunity for residents to speak. To sign up in advance, please visit: <https://pgccouncil.us/FormCenter/Town-Hall-Meetings-12/TOWN-HALL-MEETING-BUDGET-PROCESS-OVERVIEW-584>.

In accordance with County Charter, the County Executive must submit a proposed FY 2021 spending plan to the Council by March 15th. The Council will then begin its review process in a series of committee work sessions and public hearings. The Council must adopt a new and balanced spending plan on or before June 1.

This event is free and open to the public. To watch live, visit: <https://livestream.com/PGCountyCouncilMD> on February 25, 7–9 p.m.

WHO: Prince George's County Council, Deputy County Auditor, Turkessa Green, County Residents

WHAT: County Council FY 2021 Budget Town Hall Meeting

WHEN: Tuesday, February 25, 2020, 7–9 p.m.

WHERE: Prince George's Community College, Largo Student Center – Community Rooms A and B, 301 Largo Road, Largo, Maryland 20774

District 3 Council Member Dannielle Glaros Addresses Groundbreaking For New College Park City Hall Building

District 3 Council Member Dannielle Glaros was among the participants and speakers in the ceremonial groundbreaking for the new City Hall Building in the City of College Park on Friday, Feb. 14, 2020. College Park Mayor Patrick Wojahn, University of Maryland President Dr. Wallace Loh, State Senator Jim Rosapepe, Terrapin Development Corporation President Ken Ulman, and former College Park Mayor Andy Fellows also participated in the groundbreaking event. This unique project is a joint venture between the University of Maryland College Park and the City of College Park to transform the current City Hall and create a town square with vibrant retail. The new building will house both City and University staff.



PHOTO AND ARTICLE COURTESY COUNCILCONNECTION NEWSLETTER

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Upper Marlboro Native Receives Bluejacket of the Year Honors at Japan-Based Command

Information Systems Technician 2nd Class Jeremiah Everett is Commander, Submarine Group 7's (CSG 7) 2019 Bluejacket of the Year.

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Prince George's County Council Declares Support For D.C. Statehood

Council Chair Todd M. Turner says the Council strongly supports a full voting voice for the District of Columbia.

Commentary, Page A6

Kendrick Gibbs Chosen For Leadership Maryland Class of 2020

Gibbs is one of 52 individuals chosen for Leadership Maryland's 28th class—the Class of 2020, who will complete the eight-month hands-on learning program focused on the state's most vital social, economic and environmental issues.

Business and Finance, Page A7

Visit the Biggest Pyramid on the East Coast For HyBall 2020: Roadside Attraction!

The HyBall (Hyattsville Ball) returns, and it's gonna be huge! In addition to being an over-the-top party, this annual bash helps raise money to support Pyramid's facility and programs.

Out on the Town, Page A8

EarthTalk

Dear EarthTalk:
What's the environmental impact of these dockless e-scooters I see all over town now?

—Jim M. Salisbury, CT

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TOWNS *and* NEIGHBORS

In and Around Morningside-Skyline

by Mary McHale 301-735-3451

At Darnall's Chance Museum: Highland Tea, Colonial Dinner, and a book club for girls

Darnall's Chance House Museum in Upper Marlboro invites you to two of their popular events—Highland Tea and Colonial Tavern Dinner, both coming up soon. Get a taste of Darnall's Chance hospitality.

Highland Tea is on Saturday, Feb. 29 at 2 p.m. It's a cozy winter afternoon tea that pays homage to Darnall House's Scottish roots.

Colonial Tavern Dinner on Saturday, March 14, at 7 p.m., recreates the atmosphere and flavor of a mid-18th century tavern. Guests enjoy a dinner of colonial food and spirits, followed by a performance of period sea chanteys by Ship's Company. Call the museum and reserve your seat!

Fees: Highland Tea: \$28 for residents, \$40 non-residents. Colonial Dinner: \$ 45 for residents, \$58 non-residents. The Museum is at 14800 Governor Oden Bowie Drive, on a hill overlooking Schoolhouse Pond in Upper Marlboro. Reservations and information: 301-952-8010.

Also at Darnall's House Museum is a book club for girls ages 7 to 13. It's the Liberty Girls Club and deals with Samantha, the American Girl in the series. \$30 membership fee covers the book discussions, activities and refreshments. Call 301-952-8010 for information or to sign up.

Black History on Wheels

Take a bus from the Surratt House into Montgomery County to explore sites related to enslavement and freedom, from the Sandy Spring Slave Museum to Boyd's Negro School. Lunch will be at Bassett's Restaurant in Poolesville.

The bus departs from the Surratt House (9118 Brandywine Rd., Clinton) on Saturday, Feb. 29, at 8:30 a.m. and returns at 5:30 p.m. Cost is \$80; advanced registration required (301-868-1121).

Our amazing volunteers

In 2019, the Morningside Fire Department responded 7,230 times! And remember, these men and women are all volunteers. They donated 68,800 volunteer hours.

Ash Wednesday is coming

Ash Wednesday is indeed coming, on Feb. 26; it's the first day of Lent, a 40-day season of penitence. The tradition for many Christians is to have a pancake supper, on Shrove Tuesday, to prepare for the fasting ahead.

St. Philip's, in Camp Springs, hosts its annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on Feb. 25, 5 to 7 p.m. Those that come can have all the pancakes they can eat.

The donation (or charge, if you will) is: Adults, \$6; children 5-12, \$3; 4 & under, free. Bring the whole family for \$20. For information, call Karin Yeatman, 301-899-7784, or Ligia Rojas, 240-480-9540.

Neighbors and other good people

Mary Reilly, of Skyline, turned 95 on Valentine's Day, an appropriate day because we all love Mary.

Brother Richard Aloysius Kiniry, C.S.C., 86, former teacher at Bishop McNamara HS, died Aug. 25. He grew up in Johnstown, Pa., and served in the Naval Air Force before being accepted into the order. He died at the retirement center for Holy Cross Brothers in upstate New York.

St. Philip's School, in Camp Springs, has its 60th anniversary coming up this year. Those planning the celebration would love to have graduates, of whatever vintage, join in this special event by emailing stpaoffice@gmail.com.

Morningside Sportsmen's Club Inc.: forty years ago

The Morningside Sportsmen's Club was founded on April 8, 1971 with a charter membership of 41 men (women came later). Over the years, the Sportsmen contributed much to our community, including their annual ride through town with Santa Claus, collecting canned goods for local food kitchens. In addition to other good works, they held an annual banquet, installation of officers and the presentation of awards.

At their April 20, 1980, Banquet at the VFW they presented The Laddie Beardmore Award to... me!, for "outstanding civic achievement" and I received a Sportsmen jacket with my name on the pocket. Previous winners had

been Gerald Glaubitz, Roscoe and Irene Smith, Lee Ditmars, Matthew Rosch, Robert Dice West Sr., and Grover Estep. So, I was in good company.

Athlete of the Year Award went to Robert Rosasco of Thomas Stone High. The Scholastic Achievement Award went to Holly Hamilton of Surrattsville High.

President that year was Lee Collins. Other officers were Richard Jurney, Joe Carlucci, Clinton Stamp, Gary Jurney, Donald Jurney, Frank Jurney Jr., Ernest Bayne, Fred Readon and John Keehan.

Ruth Hoehl, saw her daughter win the Bronze in China

Ruth Lohr Hoehl, 86, of Upper Marlboro and formerly of Clinton, died Jan. 30. She was born and grew up in Washington, and married Elmer Hawes with whom she had five children. Elmer died unexpectedly in 1971.

Mutual friends played matchmaker, and in time Ruth married George Hoehl and they had daughter Christine. And because of Christine, the next 45 years took them many places having to do with special-needs children. A favorite trip was to China for the Special Olympics World Games where they saw their Christine win a Bronze Medal in bocce ball.

At St. Philip's Ruth was a member of the Sodality and volunteer with SPRED (Special Religious Education). She was also a member of the Queens of the Knights of the Columbus in Forestville. Ruth had an arts and crafts mission, crocheted baby blankets and loved to decorate for the holidays.

Her husband George survives her. She was mother of Nancy, Patricia, John, Christine, and the late Joanne and Robert; and was a grand- and great-grandma. Services were at St. Philip's with burial at Cheltenham.

Milestones

Happy birthday to Father Bernard Ihrie, Feb. 23; Larry Miller, Feb. 24; Kevin Gray, Feb. 25; Angela Hutchinson and Thomas "TJ" Flaherty, Feb. 27; and Terrence Flaherty, Feb. 28.

Happy anniversary to Clifford and Nancy Lantz, on Feb. 26; and to my good neighbors Freda and Michael McDonald, their 40th on Feb. 28.

Brandywine-Aquasco

STUDENT CHOREOGRAPHY

The 3rd Annual Prince George's County Public Schools Student Choreography Showcase will be held Friday, March 13, 2020 7 p.m. at Dr. Henry A. Wise, Jr. High School Auditorium. The address is 12650 Brooke Lane, Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772. Contact temisha.richardson@pgcps.org. Tickets: \$10.00 for adults and \$5.00 for students.

A SPECIAL FILM SCREENING & DISCUSSION

Join us for a special film screening and discussion on the genre of fashion films with Sewra Kidane, filmmaker/producer and visiting professor at the Pratt Institute Wednesday, February 26, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. One of Kidane's films will be screened to prompt the discussion. Topics include fashion design, entertainment, Afrofuturism, Black aesthetics, style, and culture.

The location is Bowie State University Fine & Performing Arts Center, Recital Hall, 14000 Jericho Park Road, Bowie, Maryland, 20715-9465. Contact person is Tewodross Melchishua Williams. Phone number is 301-860-3731. Email: tmelchishua@bowiestate.edu. Categories: Black History Month- Featured, Lecture/Discussion.

AFRO BLUE: WE WILL OVERCOME

Join Afro Blue as they release their seventh CD in concert Saturday, February 29, 2020 at 8 p.m. The program features a wide variety of material, including songs from the Civil Rights Era, original material written by members of the ensemble, unique jazz versions of contemporary tunes, and their signature Big Band sound on standards such as "Stompin' at the Savoy" and "St. Louis Blues."

The program will be held at Prince George's Publick Playhouse, 5445 Landover Road, Cheverly, Maryland 20784. All ages/Ticket (General Admission): \$25/person; \$20 seniors, students, and groups of 20 or more. Telephone number 301-277-1710. PARKS DIRECT #PGPP-CON-GA-20200229.

GRADUATE OPEN HOUSE

Saturday March 28, 2020 from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. Graduate Open House (Public) hosted by Bowie State University at 14000 Jericho Park Road, Bowie, Maryland 20715.

SAARC OPENING CEREMONY

The Southern Area Aquatics and Recreation Complex opening ceremony will be held Saturday, February 29, 2020 at 1 p.m. The address is 13601 Missouri Avenue, Brandy-

wine, Maryland 20613. Please join us for activities and demonstrations following the ceremony on Saturday until 5 p.m. Additional activities are planned for Sunday, March 1, 2020 from 2-5 p.m.

RSVP by Wednesday, February 26, 2020. Visit <http://www.pgpcps.com/rsvp> or call 301-446-3300; TTY 301-446-3302. We encourage the participation of persons with disabilities; if you have special needs, please let us know when you RSVP at the number above.

RSVP by Wednesday, February 26, 2020. Visit <http://www.pgpcps.com/rsvp> or call 301-446-3300; TTY 301-446-3302. We encourage the participation of persons with disabilities; if you have special needs, please let us know when you RSVP at the number above.

CAREVERSATIONS

Join us for a free event for family caregivers Thursday, February 27, 2020 from 6-8 p.m. at Courtyard by Marriott-Largo Capital Beltway in the Lincoln Room. The address is 1320 Caraway Court, Largo, Maryland 20774. (Complimentary on-site parking).

Join us for this lightly facilitated conversation about family caregiving. You will discover the five key steps to aid you in your caregiving journey, connect and exchange tips with fellow caregivers, and explore local caregiving resources available in your community.

This is an opportunity to connect with other caregivers, get tips and encouragement, find local resources and more. This information will help you be ready for what's next on your caregiving journey. Also enjoy light refreshments. Reserve your seat today and call 1-800-278-1045 or register online at aarp.cvent.com/caremd.

BWC SCHOLARSHIP

Baltimore Washington Conference scholarship application process is now open. The BWC Awards scholarships for qualified students currently attending college, as well as high school seniors who plan to attend college in the fall of 2020. The application process closes March 5, 2020. The entire process will be completed online. Go to bwcumc.org, click on search and type "scholarships". Click on "scholarship" and the page will come up for online processing.

"SOUL FEST"

A "Soul Fest" will be held 4 p.m. Saturday, March 14, 2020 at Nottingham Myers Family Life Center, 15601 Brooks Church Road, Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772. Sponsored by the Ushers of Nottingham Myers UMC of the New Hope Fellowship Cooperative Parish. Rev. Constance Smith, Pastor.

At the "Soul Fest" we will have food, entertainment, fellowship, door prizes and Black History. Tickets are available now. Donation: \$25.00. Telephone number is 301-888-2171.

Around the County

Join Us For PGCPs Legislative Night Feb. 24

Join PGCPs CEO Dr. Monica Goldson, Board Chair Dr. Alvin Thornton, Board of Education members, labor partners, State Senators and Delegates to support Maryland Kirwan Funding for Public Education. RSVP and Bus Transportation: www.pgcp.org

6-7 p.m.: Legislative briefing; 7-8 p.m.: Tour & group photo House Office Building, Room 142 6 Bladen Street, Annapolis, MD —Engage PGCPs Newsletter, Prince George's County Public Schools

Application Deadline Coming Up For Youth@Work/Summer Youth Enrichment Program

There is still time to apply for our Youth@Work/Summer Youth Enrichment Program (SYEP). County residents between the ages of 14-22 are eligible to apply for this award-winning summer jobs program. If you are between 18-22 years old and looking for work now, we will be hosting several job fairs where you can apply and interview on the spot to potentially receive a temporary or permanent position prior to the summer program.

Whether you are looking for a job now or for one this summer, be sure you apply before Feb. 28. Visit www.princegeorgescountymd.gov to complete an application. —Community Connections Newsletter

Local Students Honored

College Park Student Graduates From Fort Hays State University

HAYS, Kan. (Feb. 13, 2020)—Aurangzeb Nisar, College Park (20740), graduated from Fort Hays State University, Hays, Kan., in the fall 2019 semester with a Bachelor of Science in sociology.

A total of 921 students completed associate, bachelor's or graduate degrees at Fort Hays State in the fall 2019 semester.

The university does not release the lists of undergraduate and graduate degrees until transcripts have been verified as having met all requirements for graduation.

Fort Hays State, one of six state universities in the Kansas Board of Regents system, serves more than 15,000 students, 4,500 on its campus in Hays, more than 7,000 through the FHSU Virtual College and the remainder through its international partners.

—Fort Hays State University, University Relations and Marketing

Uvel Paul Honored by the Randy Moss Group Foundation

The Randy Moss Group Foundation Inc., CEO and Founder, Deb Moss, honored Four Unsung Heroes in the DMV area and 8 HBCU students at the 2nd Annual Black History Month Program on Sunday, Feb. 9, 2020, at the DC Office of the State Superintendent of Education, 1050 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20002. Bowie State University student-athlete, Mr. Uvel Paul Jr., was honored with the Jackie Robinson Award, for his sportsmanship, scholarship achievement, and athletic participation. Mr. Paul, is a sophomore majoring in Business Administration at Bowie State University. Mr. Paul has maintained a 3.40 or higher term grade point average, while balancing sports and academics. He is a 3-time Athletic Director's Honor Roll Recipient and earned a perfect 4.0 term grade point average for spring 2019. He is a member of the Bowie State University Championship football team.

—Gregory C. Goings, Bowie State Sports Information



PHOTOGRAPH CREDIT RANDY MOSS GROUP FOUNDATION

Uvel Paul, on right, was honored by the Randy Moss Group Foundation.

SU Social Work Scholarships Awarded

SALISBURY, Md. (Feb. 11, 2020)—Salisbury University's School of Social Work recently announced \$70,000 in awarded scholarships.

"These scholarships demonstrate the school's ongoing commitment to responding to student need," said Dr. Jennifer Jewell, interim director of SU's School of Social Work.

The school's other initiatives to give back to students include student research, travel support and fellowships.

"I am the first in my family to graduate college, let alone pursue a master's degree, so this scholarship is invaluable to me," said recipient Jazzmine Davis. "It has allowed me to pursue something greater while minimizing the financial stress that comes with higher education costs."

Prince George's County recipients:

- **Chloe Jones of Oxon Hill, MD**
- **Meghan Smith of Laurel, MD**

"The scholarship gives me a peace of mind as I prepare myself for the profession I am most passionate about, and that is something greater than any gift I could be given," said recipient Joaquin.

Generated from a revenue-sharing program, the awards were distributed to 40 graduate and 20 undergraduate candidates and range from \$500-\$2,000.

Scholarship recipients must be social work majors who are currently enrolled, have demonstrated financial need and at least a 3.0 grade point average.

For more information call 410-543-6030 or visit the SU website at www.salisbury.edu.

—Maura Dullea, Salisbury University

COMMUNITY

The American Counseling Association's
Counseling Corner

Realizing That Actions Do Speak Louder Than Words

If you ever find yourself yelling, "How many times have I told you?" then you're likely aware that words often are not going to fix many problems. Instead we find that the very behavior that drives us crazy continues to occur.

We're often frustrated because we're talking when we really ought to be acting. The common expression is, "Actions speak louder than words," and that's often true in our personal relationships. The cure is to take action that gets the message across.

Take that toddler in your house who would rather play with his food than eat it. Rather than yelling or repeatedly reprimanding him, instead smile and remove his plate as you calmly say, "I see you've finished your dinner." Will he protest? Yes, and probably loudly, the act of having his dinner disappear, along with your explanation of why it happened, is almost always more effective than simply ordering him to eat.

Or how about a spouse who tends to overindulge at social events? You've been embarrassed in the past and have expressed your displeasure several times, all to no avail. Next time, instead of more fruitless complaining or a loud argument, take action by picking up the car keys, handing over ten dollars for that cab ride home and walking to your car and driving home.

There are many situations where taking action is the most effective course. Do you have a parent or in-law who is giving you headaches with daily calls to complain and criticize you? Instead of arguing with him or her about the problem, just inform the person that the next time he or she calls to criticize you're simply going to hang up. Then follow through and do just that.

Similarly, if you have a teen who won't abide by your curfew hours, rather than lecturing or arguing, simply explain clearly what action you are planning the next time it happens. It may mean cutting off an allowance or confiscating their cell phone for a period. When the next infraction occurs, carry through on the proposed action making it clear they brought it on themselves.

It's important to take action with a positive, calm attitude. Yes, there will be protests, and yes, you will want to explain calmly what is happening and why, but the bottom line is that actions are much harder to ignore than simple words.

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

Upper Marlboro, Maryland Native Receives Bluejacket of the Year Honors at Japan-Based Command

Commander, Submarine Group Seven

By PETTY OFFICER 1ST CLASS
RYAN LITZENBERGER
U.S. Navy Mass Communication
Specialist 1st Class

FLEET ACTIVITIES YOKOSUKA, Japan (Feb. 13, 2020)—An Upper Marlboro, Maryland native is Commander, Submarine Group 7's (CSG 7) 2019 Bluejacket of the Year.

A bluejacket is an enlisted man or woman in the U.S. Navy. CSG 7's Bluejacket of the Year is a junior enlisted Sailor that is selected through a highly competitive process throughout a command. He or she is recognized as the highest performing junior Sailor that fully embodies the Navy core values of Honor, Courage, and Commitment.

Information Systems Technician 2nd Class Jeremiah Everett joined the Navy in 2017 and is currently assigned to CSG7 in Yokosuka, Japan. Information systems technicians (IT) engage in a broad range of responsibilities, including network administration, database management and computer hardware and software implementation.

At CSG 7, Everett leads a team of Sailors as a radio division supervisor to monitor and broadcast communications between CSG 7 and deployed submarines in the 5th and 7th Fleet Areas of Operation.

"Being an IT was something that was fairly new to me, but I have truly grown to love it. My experience at IT 'A' school really motivated me to continue to pursue more opportunities in the field, and ultimately I completed



PHOTOGRAPH CREDIT: U.S. NAVY PHOTO BY MASS COMMUNICATION SPECIALIST 1ST CLASS RYAN LITZENBERGER

YOKOSUKA, Japan (Dec. 13, 2019) Information Systems Technician 2nd Class Jeremiah Everett, from Upper Marlboro, Maryland, assigned to Submarine Group Seven, receives a Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal certificate during an awards ceremony. Everett was recognized as Submarine Group Seven's Bluejacket of the Year.

my college degree in Computer Networks and Cybersecurity," said Everett.

"There is so much to learn, and the technology field is ever-growing. I am going to continue to seek further opportunities to advance my knowledge and career."

Everett is also currently serving as the command's sports coordinator and assistant command fitness leader. The

sports coordinator puts together teams in different sports and competes in "Captain's Cup" events at Fleet Activities Yokosuka. Everett serves as a command representative for these events.

Everett's initiative and work ethic have caused him to stand out in the

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For Charles,
kayaking
offers total
freedom.

His heart
almost took
that away
from him.



Coronary bypass surgery ranked in the nation's top 10%. Charles lives to kayak... and he almost lost it all when he developed congestive heart failure and an aortic aneurysm. He was referred to Dr. Jamie Brown at UM Capital Region Health, who is also a faculty physician at University of Maryland School of Medicine. Dr. Brown and his team replaced Charles' aortic valve and restored his life.

Charles is thankful for the outstanding care he received. "This is a miracle to me. I'm back kayaking and playing with my grandchildren—which wouldn't be possible without Dr. Brown."



See Charles' story at umcapitalregion.org/evidence

Bowie • Cheverly • Laurel • National Harbor • Suitland

COMMUNITY

American Medical Association Presents Governor Hogan With Dr. Nathan Davis “Outstanding Governor” Award

Recognized For Significant Accomplishments, Bipartisan Leadership to Advance Public Health

By SHAREESE CHURCHILL
Office of the Governor

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (Feb. 12, 2020)—At a ceremony last night in Washington, DC, the American Medical Association presented Governor Larry Hogan with the Dr. Nathan Davis “Outstanding Governor” Award. The award, which is named after the founder of the AMA, is presented each year to elected and career officials in federal, state, or municipal service whose outstanding contributions have promoted the betterment of public health.

“This truly is an incredible honor to have been chosen to receive this prestigious award,” said Governor Hogan. “Far too often, health care can become a partisan issue and politics gets in the way of progress, but in my state of Maryland we have worked very hard to seek common ground to recognize the urgency of our health care challenges and to achieve real, bipartisan, common sense solutions. I am humbled to accept this award on behalf of those who truly deserve it—all of the incredible doctors, nurses, and healthcare professionals throughout our great state.”

Last night’s ceremony, held during the AMA’s national advocacy conference, was emceed by ABC News Correspondent Deborah Roberts. The AMA cited Governor Hogan’s reputation for bipartisanship, his staunch advocacy for the Maryland Model, the state’s unique all-payer contract with the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation (CMMI), and his bold and effective leadership in response to the opioid crisis.

“Gov. Hogan has kept his promise to focus on bipartisan, common sense solutions in the area of health care—a promise kept benefitting

millions of Marylanders,” said AMA Board Chair Jesse Ehrenfeld, M.D., MPH. “A leader in confronting the opioid epidemic and protecting access to affordable health care coverage in his state, Gov. Hogan has earned the respect and admiration of all Marylanders. It is our pleasure to present him with the Nathan Davis Award for Outstanding Governor.”

In 2017, Governor Hogan became the first governor in the nation to declare a State of Emergency in response to the heroin, opioid, and fentanyl crisis. The Hogan administration has invested more than \$800 million toward fighting this epidemic and has implemented a number of groundbreaking policies related to the opioid epidemic.

In 2018, Governor Hogan enacted the Maryland Model, which aims to control growth in healthcare costs, both at hospitals and community providers, while improving patient outcomes and quality of care. That same year, when facing predicted health insurance rate increases of up to 50%, the Hogan administration worked in a bipartisan fashion with legislative leaders to develop landmark leg-

islation establishing a state reinsurance program. As a result of these efforts, all individual insurance rates in Maryland saw decreases in back-to-back years.

Governor Hogan was nominated by MedChi, the Maryland State Medical Society, to receive the 2020 “Outstanding Governor” award by the AMA.



PHOTO BY JOE ANDRUCYK, MARYLAND GOVPICS

February 11, 2020: AMA Nathan Davis Awards. Governor Hogan Accepts the Outstanding Governor Award at Grand Hyatt Washington, 1000 H St NW, Washington, DC 20001

Governor Hogan Celebrates Installation of Frederick Douglass and Harriet Tubman Statues in Maryland State House

Statues Unveiled in Old House of Delegates Chamber

By SHAREESE CHURCHILL
Office of the Governor

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (Feb. 10, 2020)—Governor Larry Hogan last week joined Speaker of the House Adrienne Jones and Senate President Bill Ferguson to unveil new statues of iconic Marylanders Frederick Douglass and Harriet Tubman in the Old House of Delegates Chamber of the Maryland State House. The governor, along with descendants of both Douglass and Tubman, attended a special joint session of the Maryland General Assembly prior to the unveiling.

“As we commemorate Black History Month,

it is my immense honor to dedicate these two statues and to ensure that the lives and legacies of two of Maryland’s most important and most influential leaders—Harriet Tubman and Frederick Douglass—are permanently and formally enshrined in the history of our great state,” said Governor Hogan. “It is my hope that when we view these wonderful statues of these incredible heroes and reflect on the countless contributions of these remarkable leaders, it will remind each of us to always stand on the side of goodness and love, and on the side of unity and justice.”

Douglass and Tubman were born into slavery in the 19th century on the Eastern Shore of Mary-

land. A tribute to both Douglass and Tubman has been a topic of conversation amongst the state’s leaders since the completion of the Old Senate Chamber in 2016. Since that time, Maryland citizens have consistently expressed a desire to add these abolitionists to the public experience of the nation’s oldest working state house.

In January 2019, the Board of Public Works voted unanimously to approve a contract to design and install statues of Douglass and Tubman in the Old House of Delegates Chamber. Artistic property, like these statues, are the property of the Maryland State Archives. The Department of General Services is responsible for the procurement of the statue designs and the construction services, and managed the project diligently to complete the installation of the statues within a year of approval by the Board.

“General Services is proud to facilitate the procurement of the design, construction services, and installation for both the Frederick Douglass and Harriet Tubman statues,” said Maryland Department of General Services Secretary Statues of Ellington E. Churchill, Jr. “All Marylanders and visitors to the State House will have the opportunity to admire these national heroes for generations to come.”

Construction services included designing and installing the additional structural support that will preserve the historic integrity of the State House. The sculptures, cast in bronze, weigh approximately 400–500 lbs. each. General Services executed preliminary investigations to determine the structural constraints governing the potential placement of the statues within the chamber, as well as the means by which the statues could be introduced into the State House with minimal impact to the historic fabric of the building, including the existing timber framed floor and the extensive building infrastructure below.

“The inclusion of these two Marylanders, born as slaves and who self-emancipated, inside the room where slavery was finally abolished in Maryland on November 1, 1864, will greatly

enhance the visitor experience in the State House,” said Elaine Rice Bachmann, deputy state archivist and secretary of the State House Trust.

The Archives curatorial team required a design of the sculptures that would be consistent with the statue of George Washington which resides in the old Senate Chamber. State Archives staff was responsible for the interpretation of each figure, including establishing the relative age of each figure during the relevant period of interpretation. They worked with StudioEIS of Brooklyn, New York to determine the figures’ stances, facial expressions, clothing, and other factors to serve as a guide for the figures’ development. State Archives also developed the interpretive exhibits in the Old House of Delegates Chamber, which will now include information about Douglass and Tubman and the new statues.

The Old House of Delegates Chambers was reopened to the public on Tuesday, February 11 to reveal the new statues. On Saturday, February 15, the State Archives hosted a day of free public events to celebrate the statues. Members of the legislature, Maryland state employees, and members of the public attended and enjoyed a number of activities, including guest speakers, a musical performance, children’s activities, and a panel discussion.



PHOTOS BY JOE ANDRUCYK, PATRICK SIEBERT MARYLAND GOVPICS

Statues of iconic Marylanders Harriet Tubman and Frederick Douglass were unveiled on February 6, 2020 in the Old House of Delegates Chamber of the Maryland State House.

The Prince George’s Post

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COMMUNITY

President from A1

Park—clearly one of our nation's finest Research I universities—and one that I know and love so well," said Pines. "As professor and dean of engineering, I am well acquainted with and have long admired the outstanding faculty, the executive leadership, and the passionate and civically engaged alumni and students who make Maryland such a special place. I'm excited by this new challenge and can't wait to listen, learn, and lead this incredible university."

Chancellor Jay A. Perman, MD, said the selection of Pines should be well received across the System.

"This is the first major appointment since I became chancellor, and it's something that I felt we had to get absolutely right—so I couldn't be more pleased to see Darryll Pines appointed as the next president of the University of Maryland, College Park," Perman said. "I've known Dr. Pines and his work for quite some time, and I believe he's exactly the right kind of leader at exactly the right time for an institution of College Park's prominent stature and incredible growth potential. I'm especially grateful that Darryll and I share a passion for ensuring that any Marylander who desires a higher education has the opportunity to receive one. We all expect great things, and I look forward to working with him in the months ahead. I know his colleague USM presidents will warmly welcome him to this new position."

"I should also express my deep gratitude to the entire presidential search committee for helping to make this important choice," Perman said. "The committee worked diligently throughout the search process and made sure that a wide range of voices from the greater UMD community was heard."

Under Pines, the Clark School was a key player in the successful conclusion of the University of Maryland's most recent \$1 billion campaign, raising more than \$240 million—well over the school's initial fundraising goal of \$185 million. The funds raised by the Clark School came from 14,945 donors and support critical areas: \$47 million for scholarships and financial support of undergraduate and graduate students; \$48 million to help recruit and retain faculty; \$27 million in support of innovation; and \$89 million for building and classroom upgrades. In the current \$1.5 billion Fearless Ideas: The Campaign for Maryland, the Clark School has already raised \$503.9 million, or 0.8 percent over its fundraising goal of \$500 million. Most notably, Pines and his leadership team were instrumental in securing a \$219.5 million investment—which was in 2017, the sixth largest gift ever to a public university—from the A. James & Alice B. Clark Foundation.

During Pines' leadership as dean, the A. James Clark School of Engineering has been ranked as high as 18th among all institutions in the U.S. News and World Report graduate school rankings. He has served and continues to serve on the boards of several major corporations and not-for-profit organizations, including Engility Corp., Aurora Flight Sciences, and Underwriters Laboratory. In 2015, Pines was awarded the Maryland House of Delegates Speaker's Medallion, presented to a citizen who has made an outstanding contribution to the state. In 2018, Pines was recognized with the University of Maryland President's Medal, which is the highest honor that can be bestowed on a member of campus community by the President of the University. In 2019, Pines was elected to the National Academy of Engineering for his "inspirational leadership and contributions to engineering education."

Pines has also made diversity at the student, staff, and faculty levels a hallmark of his tenure as dean. Under his leadership and as a co-principal investigator, the university became an NSF ADVANCE grant recipient under the theme of developing "A Culture

of Inclusive Excellence," which is focused on improving work environments, retention, and advancement of tenured and tenure-track women faculty in ways that improve the culture for all faculty. At the Clark School, the number of tenured and tenure-track women and underrepresented faculty has more than doubled under Pines' leadership.

During a leave of absence from the University from 2003 to 2006, Pines served as program manager for the Tactical Technology Office and Defense Sciences Office of the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA). While at DARPA, Pines initiated five programs primarily related to the development of aerospace technologies, for which he received the Department of Defense's Distinguished Service Medal.

He also held positions at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL), Chevron Corporation, and Space Tethers, Inc. At LLNL, Pines worked on the Clementine spacecraft program, which discovered water near the south pole of the moon. A replica of the spacecraft now sits in the National Air and Space Museum.

Pines' current research focuses on structural dynamics, including structural health monitoring and prognosis, smart sensors, and adaptive, morphing, and biologically-inspired structures, as well as the guidance, navigation, and control of aerospace vehicles. As a faculty supervisor, he has mentored over 50 MS and PhD students, and six postdoctoral scientists. Many of his graduates hold key positions in academia, industry and government. He is a fellow of the Institute of Physics, the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, and the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, and has received an NSF CAREER Award. Pines received a BS in mechanical engineering from the University of California, Berkeley. He earned MS and PhD degrees in mechanical engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

As the new UMD president, Pines takes leadership of the university after a decade of tremendous growth and advancement under President Loh. Over the past 10 years, Maryland became the nation's first "Do Good" campus, engaging the entire student body in doing good in their communities and around the world; rolled out the \$2 billion public-private investment known as Greater College Park; joined the Big Ten Conference, bringing academic and athletic benefits to the entire university community; solidified its strategic partnership with the University of Maryland, Baltimore through the MPowering the State initiative; and launched a \$1.5 billion fundraising campaign—Fearless Ideas: The Campaign for Maryland—slated to end next year.

The university is well poised to bolster its global leadership in key areas of research and innovation, such as quantum science, advanced computing, language and culture, terrorism, neuroscience, remote sensing, energy, transportation, and biomedical engineering. The university is committed to investment in the arts, building upon its partnership with The Phillips Collection and the long-time success of the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center. Later this decade, the university will welcome the Purple Line light rail to campus, connecting students, faculty, and staff to surrounding communities and transportation hubs like never before.

The University of Maryland has earned high national and international rankings. The university is consistently recognized by numerous publications for its value, including its rank as No. 10 among U.S. public institutions in Kiplinger's Best College Values. The university is also widely recognized for its diversity and progress in closing the achievement gap. Diverse: Issues in Higher Education named UMD the No. 1 college in Maryland for conferring doctoral and master's degrees to minority students.

The USM comprises 12 institutions: Bowie State University; Coppin State University; Frostburg State University; Salisbury University; Towson University; the University of Baltimore; the University of Maryland, Baltimore; the University of Maryland, Baltimore County; the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Studies; the University of Maryland, College Park; the University of Maryland Eastern Shore; and the University of Maryland Global Campus. The USM also includes three regional centers—the Universities at Shady Grove, the University System of Maryland at Hagerstown, and the University System of Maryland at Southern Maryland—at which USM universities offer upper-division undergraduate and graduate courses.

To learn more about the University System of Maryland, visit www.usmd.edu.

"It is an honor to take on the leadership role at the University of Maryland, College Park—clearly one of our nation's finest Research I universities—and one that I know and love so well."

—Darryll J. Pines

Maryland State Police Raise Awareness on Safer Internet Day, Urges Digital Safety For All Ages

By RON SNYDER, Office of Media Communication
Maryland State Police

PIKESVILLE, Md. (Feb. 10, 2020)—Investigators from the Maryland State Police Computer Crimes Unit are working to raise awareness of how parents and children can do more to protect themselves from potential dangers on the Internet.

The warnings come in conjunction with Safer Internet Day, which was Tuesday, Feb. 11, 2020. Safer Internet Day is a global rally that aims to raise awareness of emerging online issues as people of all ages surround themselves with a myriad of digital devices.

This worldwide initiative educates people about issues from cyberbullying and social networking to the risks associated with using digital devices and how to stay safe when browsing the Internet, not just in February, but every day.

Consider the following:

- One in five children who use the Internet have been sexually solicited.
 - Nearly 60% of teenagers have received an email or instant message from a stranger (half have replied)
 - The average age for first exposure to pornography online is 11 years old.
 - In 2018, tech companies reported more than 45 million online photos and videos of children being sexually abused, double the amount from the year before.
- Also consider the following from a 2018 study in JAMA Pediatrics regarding children ages 12–17:
- 1 in 7 (or 14.8%) had sent sexts
 - 1 in 4 (27.4%) have received them
 - There was no significant difference between males and females

Safety on the Internet includes the use of any device that has access to online activity. Investigators from the Maryland State Police Computer Crimes Unit remind all ages to be vigilant as it relates to Internet safety. Children and senior citizens are often the target populations for online criminal activity.

Parents are encouraged to monitor their children's use of all digital devices and senior citizens are urged to use the Internet with caution, especially when asked to furnish personal information. Digital devices include laptops, tablets, desktop computers and 'smart' phones.

Internet Safety Tips for Parents:

- Place computers in a common area of the house
- Educate yourself about digital devices and the Internet
- Make reasonable rules and set screen time limits
- Reinforce the guiding rule "Don't talk to strangers."
- Put accounts in your name and know your child's passwords
- Don't let your children give out personal information online
- Be aware of other digital devices your child may be using
- Review the use histories or logs of your digital devices to see where your children have been online.

Complaints involving the exploitation of children should be filed with the National Center for Missing and Exploited

Children (NCMEC) at www.missingkids.com or 1-800-THE-LOST. Complaints of child exploitation may include harassment, cyberbullying, and child pornography. Maryland State Police investigators in the Computer Crimes Unit work closely with NCMEC in the investigation of crimes involving child exploitation. If a child is believed to be in imminent danger, citizens are urged to contact their local police or call 9-1-1 immediately.

Internet Tips for Senior Citizens:

- Use extreme caution when sharing personal information online
- Avoid suspicious emails that ask for personal information
- Avoid the release of personal information in an unsafe forum
- Maintain adequate internet security
- Avoid any requests for remote access to your computer
- Create strong passwords
- Never send money to someone you don't know
- Always validate someone's identity before trusting them online.

Internet crime schemes that use the internet to prey on the vulnerabilities of people of all ages continue to cost victims time and money. Victims of internet based crimes



PHOTOGRAPH CREDIT: MORGUEFILE.COM

are encouraged to file complaints with the Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3) online at www.IC3.gov. Complaints of Internet based crime may include hacking, credit card fraud, phishing, Internet extortion and identity theft. The Maryland State Police Computer Crimes Unit works closely with IC3 in the investigation of these crimes.

The Maryland State Police Computer Crimes Unit urges people of all ages to take into consideration the vulnerabilities associated with online activity. The Computer Crimes Section operates and administers the Maryland Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force, which is comprised of police agencies statewide who work tirelessly to target offenders of child sexual exploitation.

The Task Force's primary mission continues to be to protect children from computer-facilitated sexual exploitation. This goal is achieved by cooperation between law enforcement agencies and prosecutors as they combine resources to combat these crimes. Additionally, the Task Force also provides community awareness campaigns helping to prevent the spread of these crimes through education.

Cardin, Van Hollen Praise FY2020 Army Corps of Engineers Work Plan for Maryland Projects

By PRESS OFFICERS

Cardin Communications / Van Hollen Press Office

WASHINGTON (Feb. 13, 2020)—U.S. Senators Ben Cardin and Chris Van Hollen (Both D-Md.) lauded the release today of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Army Corps) FY2020 work plan that increases available funding for regional projects by more than \$18 million. The Army Corps plan boosts resources for oyster restoration and Chesapeake Bay ecosystems and ensures the continued safety and efficiency of the Port of Baltimore and its shipping channels.

"The latest Army Corps work plan shows an ongoing commitment to major Maryland projects. I thank the Army Corps for renewing investments in such critical efforts as restoring habitats for the Chesapeake Bay's dwindling oyster population, Poplar Island Ecosystem and Mid-Chesapeake Bay (James and Barren) Island. These projects have been paying dividends and helping our environment," said Senator Cardin. "The expertise and investments being made by the Army Corps benefit Maryland and the entire region. The Maryland delegation will continue to pursue funding

for additional projects that are high priorities for our local communities."

"From protecting Maryland's oyster population, to revitalizing the Poplar and Mid-Bay islands, to increasing business at the Port of Baltimore these Army Corps projects are critical to Maryland's economic and environmental health. I was proud to work alongside Team Maryland to fight for these important investments. Together, we will continue working to provide the resources necessary for our state and local economies to grow and thrive," said Senator Van Hollen.

Among the projects in Maryland receiving additional funding from the Army Corps FY2020 Work Plan are:

NEW—\$1,935,000 to initiate and complete preconstruction, engineering and design phase for the **Anacostia Watershed Restoration project in Prince George's County**. The estimated total cost of the project is \$34.1 million, to be cost shared between Baltimore District and Prince George's County Department of the Environment. Multiple sites will restore 7 miles of in-stream habitat, opening 4 miles for fish passage and connecting 14 miles of stream to previously restored stream reaches.

Honors from A3

command and deliver a positive impact to the Sailors around him, according to Senior Chief Information Systems Technician Wyatt Simpson, Everett's leading chief petty officer.

"Petty Officer Everett is sewn into the very fabric of the command," said Simpson. "As a supervisor in a critical position, he and his team are essential in the execution of the command's mission. Outside his long work hours, he divides his time between college classes and command programs. His involvement within and outside of the command is demonstrative of his commitment to 'team' and the betterment of those around him."

Everett credits his success to his parents and mentors for their guidance and motivation.

"I would have to credit the success to my parents; both of them always encouraged me to give 100% effort in everything that I do," said Everett. "I also have to

give thanks to some people at the command for helping me and pointing me in the right direction when I did need help at times. It's always great to have people around you that will support your growing success."

With more than 50 percent of the world's shipping tonnage and a third of the world's crude oil passing through the Indo Pacific region, the U.S. has historic and enduring interests in this part of the world. CSG 7 is responsible for coordinating a diverse fleet of submarines, surface ships and aircraft deployed to the Western Pacific and the Middle East; two forward-deployed submarine tenders and four attack submarines homeported in Guam; Submarine Squadron 21 in Bahrain; five surveillance towed array sensor system vessels and three oceanographic survey vessels when tasked for Theater Anti-Submarine Warfare operations. Under CSG 7 are two task forces: CTF-74 and CTF-54, which provide theater anti-submarine warfare support from the Red Sea to the International Date Line.

COMMENTARY

Prince George's County Council Declares Support For D.C. Statehood

The Prince George's County Council, during session on Tuesday, Feb. 11, 2020, voted unanimously to adopt Council-Resolution 004-2020, formally declaring support for admitting the District of Columbia as the 51st State of the United States of America.

The County Council's declaration comes as the House Committee on Oversight and Reform committee considers HR-51, a bill introduced by Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC). The proposed legislation, if passed, would make the District of Columbia the nation's 51st state, and provide its residents full voting representation in Congress—two senators and one house member.

Council Chair Todd M. Turner says the Council strongly supports a full voting voice for the District of Columbia.

"The County Council is pleased to support the enduring statehood quest by our sister jurisdiction, the District of Columbia, to have its residents enjoy the full rights and privileges of statehood. We commend Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes-Norton for the introduction of this critical legislation advancing the principles of democracy, under consideration in the U.S. House of Representatives."

The Council resolution, expressing the sentiments of the Prince George's County Council and urging Congress to use its powers to admit the District of Columbia as the 51st State of the Union, will be shared with the Maryland Congressional Delegation, the District of Columbia Delegate to the United States House of Representatives, the Prince George's County Delegation to the Maryland General Assembly, the Mayor of the District of Columbia, and the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia.

Marc Morial

President and CEO, National Urban League



To Be Equal:

Rev. William Barber's Poor People's Assembly and Moral March in June Will Be "Generationally Transformative"

"There's no way we can inspire people to move with the normal politics that doesn't fully address poverty. When you can work a full-time job at minimum wage and still not be able to afford a two-bedroom apartment anywhere in this country, that's poor. And if we can't see that and if we don't acknowledge that poverty then we are refusing to call upon these witnesses among us."

—Rev. Dr. William Barber II, Co-Chair, The Poor People's Campaign

In the richest country in the world, 140 million people struggle with poverty and low wealth.

Over the last 50 years, the U.S. economy has grown 18-fold. Yet wealth inequality has exploded. The top 1 percent's share of the economy has nearly doubled, to more than 20 percent of our national income.

In 2017, the 400 wealthiest Americans owned more wealth than more than two-thirds of the entire U.S. population, and three individuals possessed a combined wealth equal to the wealth of 50 percent of the country.

The Poor People's Campaign, led by the Rev. Dr. William Barber II, is a national call for a moral revival. It is a continuation of the work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., who was just beginning to build the campaign when he was assassinated in 1968.

On June 20, the campaign will lead the Mass Poor People's Assembly and Moral March on Washington, a "generationally transformative" gathering to demand that both major political parties address the "interlocking injustices of systemic racism, poverty, ecological devastation, militarism and the distorted moral narrative of religious nationalism."

At the National Urban League's 2017 Conference in St. Louis, Rev. Barber delivered a powerful and inspirational message of justice, drawing parallels between Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, and modern political figures.

"They were former slaves, and he was oppressing them in this historical moment because they were growing in power and influence and he saw this as the last chance to stop a growing diversity," Barber said of the Hebrew people. "He wanted to control their influence. He wanted to control their wealth. He wanted to control their faith. He even wanted to control their health."

He suggested that the nation is in a third reconstruction.

"The first reconstruction was from 1868–1880. The second reconstruction was from 1954–1968, when Black and brown and white people came together—particularly in the South," he said. "And when we broke through the Southern Strategy and elected President Obama, that represented the possibility of a third reconstruction. What we see happening is a Nebuchadnezzar spirit that is trying to block the transformation of America. Nebuchadnezzar might be dead, but the spirit—that narcissistic stuff still lives."

That "Nebuchadnezzar spirit," he said, is evident in the massive voter suppression effort that has swept the nation since the gutting of the Voting Rights Act in 2013.

In addition to the Poor People's Campaign, Rev. Barber is President of the faith-based social justice organization Repairers of the Breach; Bishop with the College of Affirming Bishops and Faith Leaders; Visiting Professor at Union Theological Seminary; and Pastor of Greenleaf Christian Church, Disciples of Christ in Goldsboro, North Carolina.

He came to national attention in 2015 when, as president of the North Carolina NAACP, he organized weekly protests at the State Legislative Building that were known as "Moral Mondays."

"Some ask the question, why don't they be quiet?" Barber wrote of the Moral Mondays protests. "Well, I must remind you, that it has been our collective silence that has quietly opened the city gates to these undemocratic violators of our rights. If we must pray forgiveness for anything today, it will be the silence with which we have allowed this to happen in the dark. Thoreau said in his famous essay, 'Civil Disobedience,' that if he had to repent of anything, it would be his good behavior. What possessed me, he asked himself, that I behaved so well in the face of such evil?"

"As people of faith, we understand that we have been called to be the voice of the voiceless and the shepherd of God's beloved community. What we do here today is only what any responsible shepherd does to alert God's flock to the presence of the predators of democracy."

The Urban League Movement is proud to support the Poor People's Campaign and count ourselves as allies of Rev. Barber. We look forward to the Assembly and March in June.

Steny H. Hoyer

Maryland Congressional District 5



Hoyer Statement on Selection of the Next President of UMD

WASHINGTON (Feb. 12, 2020)—Congressman Steny H. Hoyer (MD-05) released the following statement today after it was announced that Darryll Pines has been selected to serve as the next President of the University of Maryland, College Park. Pines is the current Dean of the Clark School of Engineering at the University of Maryland, College Park:

"I join in congratulating Dean Darryll Pines on his selection to serve as the next President of the University of Maryland. He is an outstanding choice. His extensive experience serving as the Dean of the Clark School of Engineering has undoubtedly prepared him for this new role. While there was previously an African American Chan-

cellor of the University, which served the same functional role as President, I am proud to see him make history as the first African American President of the University.

"I want to thank outgoing President Dr. Wallace Loh for his 10 years of service to the Terp family. His leadership has been instrumental to the success of the University, and he will be greatly missed.

"I am confident Dean Pines' decades of service to the University of Maryland makes him the best fit for this position, and I look forward to working with him in the coming years to support students and ensure the University of Maryland remains a top university in our nation."

Marion Wright Edelman

President Emerita, Children's Defense Fund



ChildWatch:

To Set All the Children Free

Black leaders and the Children's Defense Fund co-convened with distinguished historians John Hope Franklin and Dorothy I. Height in 1990 and again in 1992 for five days each at the Rockefeller Foundation conference center in Bellagio, Italy, to discuss the plight of Black children and what we could do about one of the worst crises that the Black family has faced since slavery. Agreeing that the Black community had to take the lead in addressing the crisis and in reweaving the rich fabric of community that historically fostered children's healthy development, we decided to launch the Black Community Crusade for Children (BCCC) to "Leave No Child Behind®" and to ensure every child a Healthy Start, a Head Start, a Fair Start, a Safe Start, and a Moral Start in life.

Each day our meetings began with a meditation and the joyful rendition of the Hallelujah Chorus from Handel's Messiah, from the album A Soulful Celebration conducted by Quincy Jones. As a result, we endured amazingly little organizational or personal bickering as we came together to save our children.

Rev. James Forbes, a founding member of BCCC, offered the following prayer during one of our meditations:

To Set All the Children Free

"We shall overcome" has got to be more than a frame of mind

It's working hard in our own backyard—to leave no child behind

"We shall overcome" has got to be more than a children's prayer

It's sacrifice, at any price, to show them that we care

"We shall overcome" has got to be more than a memory

It's a new resolve, to get involved in building community

"We shall overcome" has got to be more than a distant dream

And a place on the freedom team

"We shall overcome" has got to be more than a protest song

It's a loving vow, to show somehow, we all can get along

"We shall overcome" has got to be more than a melody

It's a one-by-one till the job is done to set all the children free

"We shall overcome" has got to be more than a freedom song

It's confidence, being convinced that right will conquer wrong

"We shall overcome" has got to be more than a song we sing

It's the will to fight, to make things right, so the freedom bell can ring

For the children, ring

For the children, ring

Through the power of the Spirit, let's empower each other to go out with power to set all the children free.

The Children's Defense Fund continues to train young servant leaders in the faith movement of all races.

I hope you will join us and support us going forward.

Cardin, Van Hollen Introduce Legislation to Achieve Net-Zero Greenhouse Gas Emissions in the U.S. by no Later Than 2050

WASHINGTON (Feb. 11, 2020)—Today, U.S. Senators Ben Cardin and Chris Van Hollen (both D-Md.) introduced the Clean Economy Act with Senator Tom Carper (D-Del.) and 30 of their colleagues. This legislation would put the United States on a path to achieve net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by no later than 2050.

"As the climate crisis, which threatens the health and well-being of my constituents in Maryland and Americans across the nation, becomes increasingly apparent, people are rightfully demanding action from their federal government," said Senator Cardin. "The Clean Econ-

omy Act recognizes that the EPA lies at the center of America's climate future and empowers it to address climate change proactively. Making the necessary investments to reach net-zero will strengthen our economy, create good-paying jobs, and protect public health and national security. The most expensive and unrealistic course of action is to ignore the mounting costs of climate change and fail to respond."

"The success of our economy is directly linked to our ability to develop innovative clean energy technologies and avoid the escalating costs of climate change. From addressing the threat of sea

level rise, to preventing pollution that could harm the Chesapeake Bay, a plan for a clean economy is crucial to the prosperity of our communities and our country. This legislation provides EPA with important tools to confront carbon pollution change while promoting economic growth. I'm proud to join my colleagues in introducing this bill, and I urge the Congress to take action on this issue immediately," said Senator Van Hollen.

The world's leading scientists have warned that humanity must limit global warming to no more than 1.5 degrees Celsius to avoid the most catastrophic impacts of climate change. According to

the United Nations annual Emissions Gap Report released last month, collective global efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions are not yet substantial enough to reach that temperature goal.

The Clean Economy Act heeds the call for bold climate action and at the same time boosts American competitiveness, promotes healthier frontline communities and fosters a growing economy that works for everyone. The Clean Economy Act directs the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to use existing authorities to put our country on a pathway to achieve net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by no later than 2050.

By providing clear direction from Congress, the Clean Economy Act mandates EPA and other federal agencies to use authorities and tools already available to them

to rapidly achieve net-zero greenhouse gas emissions while fostering a stronger, fairer economy for all Americans.

Any plan developed by the EPA must achieve rapid reductions at minimal costs, prioritize public health, and support a strong labor workforce. EPA is also required to build upon existing state, local and private climate programs and set greenhouse gas emission reduction targets for 2025, 2030 and 2040. Other federal agencies would be required to do their part to help the nation meet the net-zero goal and help enhance America's global competitiveness through investments in research and development, innovation and equitable access to worker training.

This net-zero legislation is supported collectively by major environmental groups, business groups and organized labor.

BUSINESS AND FINANCE

Social Security Matters

Ask Rusty:

Why Did My Social Security Payment Go Down?

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

Dear Rusty: Upon reading a magazine article about the 2020 COLA increase, I thought I'd share the following: Like others, I received the 1.6% raise in my Social Security benefit. However, after their manipulations with Medicare, the net result was a reduction of \$124 in my Social Security payment. I can't afford their "raise." I now pay double for Medicare! **Signed: Disgusted**

Dear Disgusted: Actually, Social Security and Medicare are two totally separate and financially independent programs, but the Social Security Administration handles enrollment and premium payments on behalf of CMS (the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services). For 2020, your gross Social Security benefit went up by 1.6% as a result of the Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA), but at the same time the standard Medicare Part B premium went up by \$9.10 to \$144.60 per month. Most Medicare beneficiaries pay the standard premium amount.

If your Medicare Part B premium is deducted from your Social Security benefit you would normally be protected by a provision known as "Hold Harmless," which prevents your Social Security payment from decreasing as a result of an increase in the standard Medicare Part B premium. But if you have any change (other than a COLA increase) to your Social Security benefit amount, or if you pay an "IRMAA" surcharge on your Medicare Part B premium, the "hold harmless" provision doesn't apply to you. In either of those cases your net Social Security payment could go down as a result of an increase in your Medicare Part B premium.

"IRMAA" is Medicare's "Income Related Medicare Adjustment Amount" which is a surcharge assessed on Medicare Part B (and Part D) premiums for those with higher incomes (the surcharge varies depending upon your IRS filing status and income level). I suspect that you are suddenly subject to IRMAA because of a sudden increase in your income and the 1.6% COLA increase to your Social Security was applied to your new Medicare premium. That, however, fell short of covering your entire IRMAA Medicare premium increase and, since you're not protected by the Hold Harmless provision, the remainder was taken from your Social Security benefit.

Most Medicare enrollees pay the standard Part B premium (\$144.60 for 2020) and are protected by the hold harmless provision from a decrease in their Social Security payment. But higher earning Medicare beneficiaries are affected by IRMAA, and I believe that is what happened in your case, especially because you say you suddenly "pay double" for Medicare. This might typically happen if you took a large one-time distribution from a tax-advantage investment, or received some other form of significant, but temporary, income. The good news is that if your premium doubled because you had a temporary increase in your income in one year, the Medicare premium increase will also be temporary, and you will automatically revert back to the lower premium the following year.

The 2 million member Association of Mature American Citizens (AMAC) (<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 ssadviser@amacfoundation.org.

Prince George's County Economic Development Corporation

Pathways: Accounting Basics for Small Business Owners
Thursday, February 27, 2020 • 10 a.m.–12 p.m.

Prince George's County Economic Development Corporation
1801 McCormick Drive Largo
\$40.00 Register at
<https://www.pgcedc.com/events-calendar/2019/11/26/pathways-accounting-sbo>

Accurate accounting can make or break your business and keeping track of the money that flows in and out of the business means being able to understand the financial health of the business. Understanding accounting basics and being familiar with accounting software tools gives business owners more control to steer the business in the right direction. This course will cover accounting concepts and terms such as debits and credits, the accounting process, and a deep dive into the Quickbooks accounting software.

Additional Session Highlights:

- Learn accounting terms and the top most useful accounting equations
- Understand what the financial reports tell you about the health of the business
 - Get bookkeeping tips to keep better records
- Get an overview of different accounting software tools to fit your business

Speakers:

Kyle Bayliss, Regional Director, Corridor Region—SBDC
Mark Wells, Business Consultant, Prince Georges County—
Corridor Region—SBDC
Tiffany Davis, Rural Business Innovation Initiative Mentor,
Southern Maryland—TEDCO

Kendrick Gibbs Chosen For Leadership Maryland Class of 2020

National Institutes of Health Division Director and Ft. Washington resident one of 52 selected for professional development program

By PRESS OFFICER
Leadership Maryland

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (Feb. 14, 2020)—Leadership Maryland announced today that Kendrick T. Gibbs '20, Division Director at National Institutes of Health, has been chosen to participate in the professional development program dedicated to building a better Maryland by harnessing the strength of its local business and community leaders. Gibbs is one of 52 individuals chosen for Leadership Maryland's 28th class—the Class of 2020, who will complete the eight-month hands-on learning program focused on the state's most vital social, economic and environmental issues.

Following a two-day opening retreat in April, the class will attend five two-day intense sessions traversing the state focusing on Maryland's economic development, education, health and human services, criminal justice, the environment, and multi-culturalism/diversity. These sessions will be followed by a one-day closing retreat in November and a graduation celebration in December. More than 100 experts representing business, government,

education, and the non-profit community will serve as panelists and guest speakers.

"This was our most competitive cohort of applicants in our history, which is a testament to our members encouraging a diverse and broad spectrum of highly-qualified executives from across the state to apply to our program and share in their experience," said Renée M. Winsky '05, president and Chief Executive Officer, Leadership Maryland. "This year's class is a powerful cross-section of leaders from our state. I'm excited to see them come together as a group and do great things in their workplaces, communities and beyond in the years to come."

Leadership Maryland is open to senior-level executives with significant achievements in either their careers and/or their communities. Ideal Leadership Maryland members have a desire to learn more about Maryland's most critical issues and a personal commitment to be a force for positive change in their organizations, their communities, and their state. For more information about Leadership Maryland, please visit www.LeadershipMD.org, call 410-841-2101 or email Info@LeadershipMD.org.



PHOTO COURTESY KENDRICK GIBBS

Leadership Maryland is a professional development program dedicated to building a better Maryland by harnessing the strength of its local business and community leaders. Each year, as many as 52 diverse and accomplished executives from Maryland's public and private sectors are selected to come together as a class for an eight-month hands-on learning program focused on the state's most vital social, economic and environmental issues. To learn more, call Leadership Maryland at 410-841-2101 or visit www.LeadershipMD.org.

New CareFirst Partnership Aligns More Than a Million Marylanders With the Maryland Primary Care Program

By PRESS OFFICERS
Maryland Department of Health

BALTIMORE, Md. (Feb. 12, 2020)—More than one million Maryland residents recently gained access to more integrated health services from the Maryland Primary Care Program (MDPCP) as CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield, Maryland's largest private health insurer, joined the program.

Primary care practices now have an aligned set of standards for Medicare and CareFirst patient care management and quality care measures. These measures are used to gauge each practice's success in improving patient's health. MDPCP provides incentives for diabetes control, initiation and engagement in alcohol and substance use disorder treatment, and other preventive care and screening measures.

"The MDPCP uses enhanced patient services centered on care coordination to get patients the right care to achieve the best possible outcomes," said Maryland Department of Health Secretary Robert R. Neall. "The arrangement with CareFirst provides these primary care practices in the MDPCP combined resources to serve Medicare beneficiaries and CareFirst

members in a cost effective and efficient manner."

The MDPCP is one of three programs under the innovative Maryland Health Model. The model is the first in the country to hold a state accountable for the total cost of caring for Medicare participants. According to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), the MDPCP aims to achieve better care, smarter spending and healthier people.

Under the MDPCP, Medicare and CareFirst members have access to advanced primary care. Practices provide onsite care managers and behavioral health specialists, medication management, and integrated community and social support. Advanced primary care is a holistic approach to patient care.

"We are excited to expand our partnership with the State as part of MDPCP and the possibilities that this holds to improve healthcare for all Marylanders. We believe that advancing program alignment between our Patient-Centered Medical Home and MDPCP will better enable primary care practices to accelerate transformation of care in Maryland," said Brian Pieninck, President and CEO of CareFirst.

Now in its second year, MDPCP has enrolled 476 primary care practices and approximately 2,000 health care professionals. More than 350 practices have already integrated mental health and substance use services into their practices. Together the practices in MDPCP serve more than 2 million Marylanders.

"The majority of our MDPCP practices have been working with CareFirst for many years," said Dr. Howard Haft, Executive Director of the MDPCP. "The collaboration with MDPCP brings new efficiencies to our practices and better health to the Marylanders we serve."

"We look forward to many years of success working together with CareFirst to improve the health and lower the costs of care for Marylanders," added Secretary Neall.

For more information, visit health.maryland.gov/mdpcp.

The Maryland Department of Health is dedicated to protecting and improving the health and safety of all Marylanders through disease prevention, access to care, quality management and community engagement.

Women Veteran Entrepreneurs Training Funding Competition

By JACK SPIRAKES
U.S. Small Business Administration

WASHINGTON (Feb. 13, 2020)—The U.S. Small Business Administration announced that nonprofit organizations, state and local agencies, and institutions of higher learning are eligible to compete for funding of up to \$300,000 to deliver entrepreneurship training to women service members, women veterans and women military spouses.

Up to six awardees will receive a total of \$300,000 in grants administered by SBA's Office of Veterans Business Development to participate in the Women Veteran Entrepreneurship Training Program. The funds will help cover the costs of educating women service members and veterans, as well as women military spouses interested in starting or currently own a small business.

"Women veteran entrepreneurs contribute in a major way to the growth of the U.S. economy, bringing in \$10 billion in receipts over a five-year period," said SBA Mid-Atlantic (acting) Regional Administrator Steve Bulger. "The SBA remains committed to supporting women veterans with the training and resources they need to start, grow, or expand a small business."

Eligible organizations should submit applications for the Women Veteran Entrepreneurship Training Program funding opportunity (WVETP-2020-01) through Grants.gov. Applications not submitted via Grants.gov will not be evaluated. The submission deadline is Tuesday, March 17 at 11:59 p.m. EDT.

The SBA hosts a conference call Wednesday, February 26 at 2 p.m. EST to answer questions related to the Women Veteran Entrepreneurship Training Program grant announcement.

- Submit questions to Jerry Godwin at jerry.godwin@sba.gov no later than 4 p.m. EST on Monday, February 24.
- Call in at (202) 765-1264; Conference ID: 13482739.

Look for a transcript of the webinar on grants.gov and www.sba.gov/ovbd following the conference call.

The U.S. Small Business Administration makes the American dream of business ownership a reality. As the only go-to resource and voice for small businesses backed by the strength of the federal government, the SBA empowers entrepreneurs and small business owners with the resources and support they need to start, grow or expand their businesses, or recover from a declared disaster. It delivers services through an extensive network of SBA field offices and partnerships with public and private organizations. Visit www.sba.gov.

ATTENTION BUSINESS OWNERS!

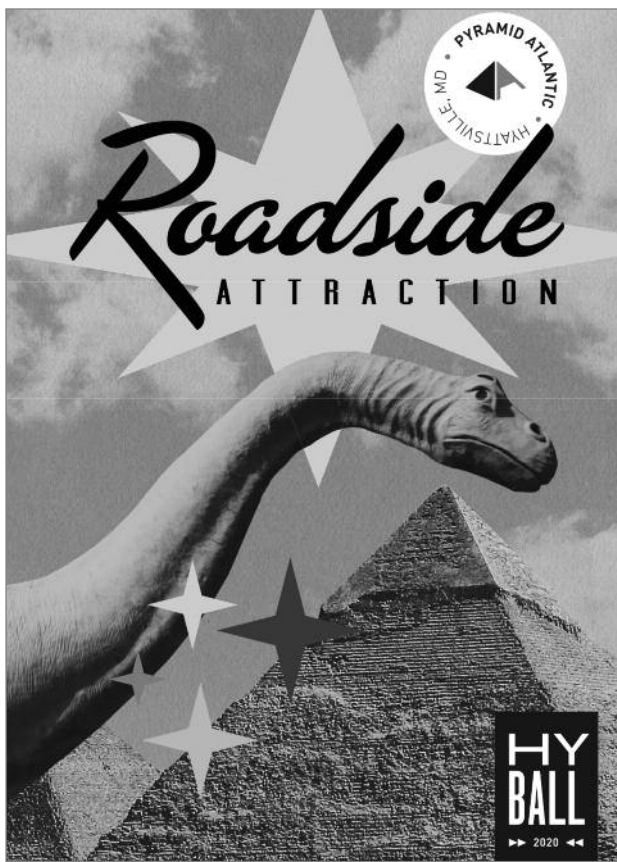
Prince George's County Council District 6 Council Member Derrick Leon Davis, in partnership with RPAL (Retail Properties of America, Inc.) invites you to a briefing on the Carillon Project in Largo, Maryland.

Friday, March 13, 2020, 9 a.m.–12 noon
Homewood Suites by Hilton, 9130 Basil Court,
Largo, Maryland 20774

If you are a small minority, woman or locally-owned business in Prince George's County, you are encouraged to attend and learn more about the Carillon Project in Largo and subcontractor opportunities. Refreshments will be provided.

Attendees are encouraged to RSVP to Mirinda Jackson via telephone (301-952-4919) or email (mdjackson1@co.pg.md.us).

OUT on the TOWN



Visit the Biggest Pyramid on the East Coast For Hyball 2020: Roadside Attraction!

Saturday, Feb. 29, Get Your Fun Just Off Route 1

By PRESS OFFICER
Image courtesy:
Pyramid Atlantic Art Center

HYATTSVILLE, Md. (Feb. 11, 2020)—Hit the road for Pyramid Atlantic to honor the kitsch, the retro, and the outrageous. The HyBall (Hyattsville Ball) returns, and it's gonna be huge! In addition to being an over-the-top party, this annual bash helps raise money to support Pyramid's facility and programs.

HyBall: Roadside Attraction takes place on Saturday, February 29, 2020 from 8–11:30 p.m. Tickets are \$40 and include complimentary beer and wine. Tickets at pyramidatlanticartcenter.org/hyball2020 or by calling 301-608-9101. Pyramid Atlantic is located at 4318 Gallatin Street, Hyattsville Maryland 20781.

In Pyramid's studios, attendees will make a GIGANTIC sheet of paper, print the WORLD'S TINIEST ETCHINGS, learn the secrets of the WONDER BOOK, and print AMAZING retro postcards and posters. These activities will be led by artists of Pyramid Atlantic and result in a DIY gift bag full of handmade goodies. Upstairs in the gallery, music is on the menu with vinyl spun by Red Onion Records and, later in the evening, the ROCK-A-SONICS take over with their atomic age rockabilly! RIDICULOUS photo ops abound with a prehistoric themed bar, 1 hole of Dinosaur putt-putt, and a giant "waving" cowboy.

BUT WAIT THERE'S MORE... the world's most silent auction will be populated with Roadside Attraction inspired art and experiences, beer will be on tap from Streetcar 82, wine will be provided

by the cellars of Franklin's, signature cocktails will feature spirits from Sangfroid Distilling, and OUT OF THIS WORLD munchies will include dino cupcakes from DC Sweet Potato Cake.

This year's event is made possible in part by: Prince George's County Council Member Deni Taveras; Prince George's County Council Member Jolene Ivey; The Mandy & David Team; Maryland Milestones; Prince George's Arts & Humanities Council; Hamel Builders; At Home Group & Taylor Wells Design; indigoink Digital Printing; Winn Residential; Joseph W. McCartin Insurance, Inc.; The Mall at Prince George's; Clinton & Associates; Route 1 Fun; Perry, White, Ross & Jacobson; Cabot Creamery; Castle Sprinkler and Alarm; Shapiro & Duncan; Shine Massage; SoHy Co-Op; Studio SoHy; and Will's Decorating.

Founded in 1981, Pyramid Atlantic is a nonprofit contemporary art center fostering the creative disciplines of papermaking, printmaking, and book arts within a collaborative community. We equip, educate, and exhibit in our historic Hyattsville home. Our vision is to create an artistic hub in Hyattsville that inspires and enables local, national, and international artists to create and innovate in our core disciplines; elevates the local arts and small business scene; and enhances the quality of life for artists and neighbors. We value artistic excellence, infrastructure for artists, hands-on experiences, and collaboration.

Howard University School of Divinity Celebrates 150 Years

By IMANI POPE-JOHNS
Howard University

WASHINGTON (Feb. 10, 2020)—The Howard University School of Divinity is proud to celebrate its 150th anniversary this year, utilizing the theme, "The Gift of Black Theological Education: History, Legacy, Advocacy." This sesquicentennial will consist of a series of events throughout the year in honor of the institution, faculty, students, and alumni.

"We are proud to celebrate this milestone in Howard University's School of Divinity history with our faculty, students, alumni, and the community," says Yolanda Pierce, Ph.D., dean of the Howard University School of Divinity. "The community is who we serve, and as an integral part of our in-

stitution, we welcome everyone to join us in celebration of our sesquicentennial."

The kick-off event featuring special guest speaker Bishop Walter Scott Thomas Sr., pastor of the New Psalmist Baptist Church of Baltimore, will be held on Thursday, Feb. 27 at 7 p.m. at Dunbarton Chapel, 2900 Van Ness St NW, Washington, DC 20008. Titled, "Celebrating Our Spiritual Legacy," the community is welcome to attend this free, "come as you are" style worship event.

HUSD will host additional events throughout the year, including an academic symposium on the main campus on April 3; an arts festival on September 26; and a closing reception on November 7.

The Howard University School of Divinity (HUSD) was chartered in 1870, three

years after Howard University was established. The divinity school became fully accredited in 1940 by the Association of Theological Schools under the leadership of former Dean, Benjamin Elijah Mays (1934–1940).

Howard University School of Divinity remains to be one of the oldest fully accredited theological institutions in the United States and is the only historically black Theological institution connected to a comprehensive category-one research institution. Throughout history, it has gained an enviable reputation for its distinguished faculty and graduates who have made an indelible impact on the nation and the world.

For more information, visit divinity.howard.edu

Register Now For "The Woods in Your Backyard" Online Course

University of Maryland Extension: Monday, March 23, 2020 to June 2, 2020

Registration is now open for the spring 2020 session of "The Woods in Your Backyard" online course. Our self-paced, non-credit course runs 10 weeks from March 23 to June 2, 2020. The course will help landowners convert lawn to natural areas and enhance stewardship of existing natural areas. The course provides strategies to landowners of small parcels of land (1–10 acres) that improve the stewardship of their property for personal enjoyment and environmental quality. It uses a hands-on learning approach to help participants develop and implement a plan for their property. Activities include how to map habitat areas, understand basic ecological principles about woodland and wildlife, choose and implement a few habitat management projects, and how to set a timetable and record your progress. Online discussion groups will allow participants to interact with others taking the course. A certificate of completion is awarded when all assignments are completed.

The course costs \$95.00 per person, which includes the 108-page "Woods in Your Backyard" guide, workbook, and a tree identification guide. The course is limited to 25 participants, so sign up now! Registration closes March 23, 2020 or when filled. Registration is through Eventbrite; go to <https://wyib-online-s8.eventbrite.com>.

For more information, go to <https://extension.umd.edu/woodland/woods-your-backyard/online-course>, or contact course coordinator Andrew Kling, University of Maryland, akling1@umd.edu, 301-432-2767, extension 307.

The University of Maryland Extension programs are open to any person and will not discriminate against anyone because of race, age, sex, color, sexual orientation, physical or mental disability, religion, ancestry, national origin, marital status, genetic information, political affiliation, and gender identity or expression.

GALA Receives 8 Helen Hayes Awards Nominations!

WASHINGTON [CapitalWirePR] (Feb. 10, 2020)—GALA Hispanic Theatre has received eight nominations for the 2020 Helen Hayes Awards, which celebrate excellence in professional theatre in the Washington, DC metropolitan area. FAME The Musical received 7 nominations, and The Old Man, the Youth, and the Sea received one nomination.

"We are thrilled," states Producing Artistic Director Hugo Medrano, "with the Helen Hayes Award nominations that GALA received last night. We congratulate all the nominees for the recognition of their artistry."

The nominations are:

Outstanding Production in a Musical – HELEN Production
GALA Hispanic Theatre, FAME The Musical

Outstanding Choreography in a Musical – HELEN Production
Luis Salgado, FAME The Musical

Charles MacArthur Award for Outstanding Original New Play or Musical

Irma Correa, The Old Man, the Youth, and the Sea

Outstanding Ensemble in a Musical – HELEN Production
FAME The Musical

Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Musical – HELEN Production

Susan Oliveras, FAME The Musical
Teresa Dansky, FAME The Musical

Outstanding Lead Actor in a Musical – HELEN Production
Juan Luis Espinal, FAME The Musical

Outstanding Lead Actress in a Musical – HELEN Production
Tanya DeLeon, FAME The Musical

GALA, which is celebrating its 44th anniversary season, congratulates the nominees for their recognition. The Helen Hayes Awards will be held on May 18, 2020.

Spotlight: Try Something New!

Museum on the Move II: Maryland's African American History & Cooking

Date and Time: Thursday, February 20, 2020, 3–4 p.m.

Description: Get up close and personal with artifacts that paint a picture of African American life through their food with this interactive Black History Month program. #BDMOnTheMove

Cost: Free and open to the public

Location: Hyattsville Branch Library, 6502 America Blvd., Hyattsville, MD 20872

(un)choir

Date and Time: Friday, February 21, 2020, 7 p.m.

Description: A new kind of choral experience: learn your part and sing a song in harmony, all in one fun evening! (un)choir turns the tables on traditional choir. No auditions, no rehearsals, no long-term commitment—just show up and sing a song you love! You will get a lyric sheet, then Allison Hughes, music director for College Park Chorale, will teach you 2 or 3 part harmony to a well-known song. To cap the evening off, you'll then sing your heart out with a choir of your new best friends!

Cost: Free

Ages: All are welcome!

Location: MilkBoy ArtHouse, 7416 Baltimore Ave, College Park, MD 20740

Contact: info@cpae.org, 301-927-3013 (leave message)

CoderChicksMD: Learn the Basics of HTML and CSS

Date and Time: Saturday, February 22, 2020, 10 a.m.–12 p.m.

Description: Tween girls ages 11–14 can learn how to code in HTML and CSS to build and design their very own website in this 5-week program. No prior experience necessary! Presented in collaboration with CoderChicksMD, which aims to get more young women interested in technology through hands-on learning. **Registration required, visit or call the branch to sign up!**

Cost: Free

Ages: Tween girls ages 11–14

Location: Oxon Hill Branch Library, Auditorium, 6200 Oxon Hill Rd, Oxon Hill, MD 20745

Contact: 301-839-2400

Literacy Through Poetry

Date and Time: Saturday, February 22, 2020, 1–3 p.m.

Description: Sistah Joy will host this Black History Month workshop and performance event on this year's National BHM theme, "African Americans and The Vote." Featured artists include Poet, Hope Springs; Djembe Drummer, Doc Powell; Youth Poetry Ambassador, Nala Washington and others. Second in a series of 10 Poet Laureate events to be presented at venues throughout Prince George's County promoting literacy and celebrating poetry.

Cost: Free

Ages: All ages are welcome

Location: Prince George's African American Museum and Cultural Center, 4519 Rhode Island Ave., North Brentwood, MD 20722

Contact: [Sistah Joy, Sistahjoy@pgahc.org](mailto:SistahJoy@pgahc.org)

Museum on the Move III: Maryland's African American History & Cooking

Date and Time: Saturday, February 22, 2020, 3–4 pm

Description: Get up close and personal with artifacts that paint a picture of African American life through their food with this interactive Black History Month program. #BDMOnTheMove

Cost: Free and open to the public

Location: Hillcrest Heights Branch Library, 2398 Iverson St., Hillcrest Heights, MD 20748

Try Hockey for FREE at the Ice Arena

Date and Time: Saturday, February 22, 2020, 3:15–4:30 p.m.

Description: Interested in learning how to play ice hockey?

Sign up for our free introductory session.

Cost: Free with registration at www.cityofbowie.org

Location: Bowie Ice Arena, 3330 Northview Drive, Bowie, MD 20716

Contact: 301-809-3090

Free Workshop—Invasive Tree ID and Removal:

Out With the Bad, In With the Good

Date and Time: Saturday, February 29, 2020, 9 a.m.–Noon

Description: Looking at getting rid of invasive trees like Bradford Pear and Tree of Heaven from your woods, but you want to make sure that you can identify it and find out the right way to remove them from your yard? Are you looking to remove invasive vines like Asian Bittersweet and kudzu from your woods, but you want to make sure that you can identify it and have the right technique to get rid of it? Learn how to identify and remove invasive trees and vines from your landscape.

Register at: <https://tinyurl.com/wkt3g55>

Cost: Free

Ages: All ages are welcome

Location: Prince George's County Forestry Board, 5301 Marlboro Race Track Road, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772

Contact: Kimberleyknox@hotmail.com

Greenbelt Community Art Drop-In:

Postcard Art Workshop

Date and Time: Sunday, March 1, 2020, Two seatings: 1–2 p.m. and 2–3 p.m.

Description: Celebrate women's history month in a free mixed media workshop with Artist in Residence Racquel Keller. Create art postcards, drawing inspiration from quotable women. Materials provided. **Advance registration is recommended:** <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409084babab2ba4ff2-postcard> A limited number of walk-up participants will also be welcome for each seating on a space-available basis.

Cost: Free!

Ages: All ages are welcome

Location: Greenbelt Community Center, Ground Floor East, 15 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770

Contact: 301-397-2208

Calendar of Events

February 21–February 27, 2020

Ebenezer A.M.E. Church Poetry Ministry Black History Month (BHM) Celebration

Date and Time: Friday, February 21, 2020, 6–9 p.m.
Description: Join Sistah Joy; members of The Anointed P.E.N.S.; The Psalmists of Solomon; Featured Poet, Derrick Weston Brown; and The Malcolm X Drummers and Dancers for the 2020 BHM Celebration.
Cost: Free
Ages: All are welcome!
Location: Ebenezer A.M.E. Church, 7707 Allentown Road, Fort Washington, MD 20744

Jazz Night at the Meadworks!

Date and Time: Friday, February 21, 2020, 7–10 p.m.
Description: We are honored and excited for our second year of incredible Jazz Nights at Maryland Meadworks. Featuring the Hyattsville Jazz Collective (aka the Airman of Note when they are not in Cool Clark Kent mode), this is bar-none some of the best jazz in all of the DMV. And, it is right here in Hyattsville! The perfect date night, night out with friends, or just chillin' to hot licks; mead and jazz, are made for each other.
Location: Maryland Meadworks, 4700 Rhode Island Avenue, Suite B, Hyattsville, MD 20781
Contact: 301-955-9644, ken@marylandmeadworks.com

Women of Freedom

Date and Time: Saturday, February 22, 2020, 1–3 p.m.
Description: Learn of the tragedies and triumphs of Harriet Tubman, Rosa Parks, Phillis Wheatley, and other courageous women of African descent through interactive costumed re-enactments by accomplished storyteller Janice Curtis Greene. Audiences will learn of the Underground Railroad, sing Negro Spirituals and Freedom Songs, and more as Greene takes them on a historical journey they will never forget. This event is sponsored by Darnall's Chance House Museum, but will occur off-site at Trinity Episcopal Church.
Cost: Free. *Space is limited; reservations required by February 21. Call 301-952-8010.*
Ages: All ages are welcome
Location: Trinity Episcopal Church, 14515 Church St., Upper Marlboro, MD 20772
Contact: 301-952-8010; TTY 301-699-2544

Soul in Motion: Transformation

Date and Time: Saturday, February 22, 2020, 8 p.m., Sunday, February 23, 2020, 4 p.m.
Description: Experience the rich culture of West Africa with this treasured DC dance company. Combining colorful costumes, spirited movements, and energetic drumming rhythms, this expert ensemble delivers an exciting performance that inspires all ages.
Cost: \$20.00 advance, \$25 at door, \$17 for seniors and students, \$12.16 and under
Ages: All ages are welcome.
Location: Joe's Movement Emporium, 3309 Bunker Hill Road, Mount Rainier, MD 20712
Contact: 301-699-1819

The Plummers' Kitchen

Date and Time: Sunday, February 23, 2020, 12–3 p.m.
Description: Nellie Arnold Plummer served as a schoolteacher and church elder during the 1920s. Take a peek in the open hearth kitchen and discover more about this remarkable woman while learning about recipes popular during Nellie's time.
Cost: Free; regular fee for house tours
Ages: All ages are welcome.
Location: Riversdale House Museum, 4811 Riverdale Road, Riverdale Park, MD 20737
Contact: 301-864-0420; TTY 301-699-2544

Harriet, the Movie

Date and Time: Sunday, February 23, 2020, 1 p.m.
Description: The extraordinary tale of Harriet Tubman's escape from slavery and transformation into one of America's greatest heroes, whose courage, ingenuity, and tenacity freed hundreds of slaves and changed the course of history.
Cost: Free
Location: Old Greenbelt Theater, 129 Centerway, Greenbelt, MD 20770
Contact: 301-329-2034, hello@greenbelttheatre.org

Community in the Courthouse 2020

Date and Time: Tuesday, February 25, 2020, 8:30–10:30 a.m.
Description: Join Prince George's County State's Attorney Aisha N. Braveboy and #TeamPGSAO for Community in the Courthouse. This program provides residents an opportunity to learn more about the justice system here in Prince George's County. In addition, they will hear about State's Attorney Braveboy's initiatives and programs. During the monthly sessions attendees can ask questions, voice their concerns and engage with Ms. Braveboy and her team. In addition to the sessions at the courthouse, this year Ms. Braveboy will be taking our Community in the Courthouse on the road to various community centers and other facilities. It's an exciting outreach so be on the look out for those dates as well. We will serve breakfast and host several rounds of trivia, with door prizes and more.
Cost: Free. *Register at Eventbrite*
Location: Upper Marlboro Courthouse, 14735 Main Street, Room M0421, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772

"Stolen": Book Talk Presented by Author Rick Bell

Date and Time: Thursday, February 27, 2020, 6–8 p.m. Lecture begins at 6:30 p.m.
Description: Join us for a lecture on Rick Bell's most recent book, "Stolen." The gripping true story about five boys who were kidnapped in the North and smuggled into slavery in the Deep South—and their daring attempt to escape and bring their captors to justice. Richard Bell, Ph.D. teaches Early American history at the University of Maryland. He has received several teaching prizes and major research fellowships including the National Endowment for the Humanities Public Scholar Award. Light refreshments to follow.
Cost: Nonmember, \$15; members \$10
Ages: All ages are welcome
Location: Maryland Historical Society, 201 W Monument St, Baltimore, MD 21201
Contact: 410-685-3750 x343; mkopera@mdhs.org

Robert E. Parilla Performing Arts Center 2019–2020 College Performing Arts Series AS YOU LIKE IT

Written By William Shakespeare, Directed by Dr. Frank Trezza

Adapted by Shaina Taub and Laurie Woolery, Music and Lyrics by Shaina Taub

Join us for this unique take on Shakespeare's idyllic comedy As You Like It. Shaina Taub and Laurie Woolery's musical adaptation of faithful friends, feuding families and lovers in disguise. Love blossoms during disputes between two pairs of brothers. Duke Frederick has forced his older brother, Duke Senior, into exile. Duke Senior's daughter Rosaline, who is still at court, falls in love with Orlando. Orlando has been denied his inheritance by his older brother Oliver, who plots to have Orlando killed. Orlando flees for his life, with Rosaline not far behind after her banishment. As You Like It challenges the outdated rules of romance where gender roles, nature, and politics can be perplexing in a play that reveals how bewildering, but pleasurable, life can be.

Shaina Taub is an American singer, composer and musician and is a graduate from New York University Tisch School of the Arts. She has composed and starred in three adaptations of Shakespeare plays for The Public Theater's Public Works program: Twelfth Night in both 2016 and 2018 and As You Like It in 2017. Ms. Taub has appeared Off-Broadway in the revival of the revue show Old Hats in 2016, Natasha, Pierre and the Great Comet of 1812 (2013), and Hadestown (2016). She played the role of Emma Goldman in the Ragtime on Ellis Island concert. Ms. Taub performs at Joe's Pub in Manhattan monthly.

Laurie Woolery is a Latinx playwright, director, and educator based in New York City. Currently, Woolery is the Director of Public Works at The Public Theater, an initiative that seeks to engage the people of New York by making them creators and not just spectators. Working with partner organizations in all 5 boroughs, Public Works invites members of diverse communities to join in the creation of ambitious works of participatory theater. In 2015, Woolery launched a new Public Works program called ACTivate (Artist, Citizen, Theater maker) that takes an ensemble of community members and puts them in the "artistic driver's seat." By partnering with a professional playwright, this ensemble of citizen artists devised an original play directed by Woolery. In the summer of 2017, with collaborators Shaina Taub and Sonya Tayeh, Woolery directed a new musical adaptation of As You Like It at the Delacorte Theater with



IMAGE COURTESY ROBERT E. PARILLA PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

A unique take on Shakespeare's As You Like It will be performed at the Robert E. Parilla Performing Arts Center.

200 New Yorkers. As You Like It was named as one of "The Best Theater in 2017" by the New York Times.

For tickets and information, call the Box Office at 240-567-5301, Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.–2 p.m. and 3–6 p.m. To order tickets online, please visit our Web site at www.montgomerycollege.edu/PAC. Group rates are available. VISA/MasterCard/Discover accepted. The Center is wheelchair accessible and is equipped with infrared sound enhancement for the hearing impaired.

Wednesday–Saturday, February 26–29, 2020, 8 p.m.
Sunday, March 1, 2020, 2 p.m.
Where: Robert E. Parilla Performing Arts Center
Montgomery College
51 Mannakee Street
Rockville, MD 20850
Tickets: Tickets are \$10 regular, \$8 seniors, and \$5 students with ID

The "Spotlight on Maryland Design" Installation Opens As Maryland Historical Society's Ode to the Creatives of Maryland

The museum's newest addition, part of the ongoing "Spectrum of Fashion" exhibition, honors Maryland native fashion designer Bishme Cromartie by showcasing his enchanting garments

By PRESS OFFICERS
for Maryland Historical Society

BALTIMORE, Md. (Feb. 14, 2020)—There must have been love in the air as the Maryland Historical Society (MdHS) officially debuted its newest fashion installation last Friday, as a showcase of their adoration to Maryland and those that shape the culture the state emanates. The "Spotlight on Maryland Design" will feature a new installation each month now through October, highlighting contemporary Maryland designers. The first garments on display highlight the creativity and magnificence of Baltimore-based and self-taught fashion designer, Bishme Cromartie.

Cromartie began his journey in design at the age of 8, when his aunt taught him how to sew using his own clothing as fabric. Fast forward to his high school days, Bishme started his own business designing

clothes for his peers, including prom gowns. Bishme first gained public recognition as a favored contestant on the 17th season of Bravo TV's hit series, "Project Runway." Since then, Bishme has continued to create captivating designs, shedding positive light on the city of Baltimore.

Bishme considers his designs to reflect the art that inspires him in his everyday life: boundary-breaking, fun, romantic and socially conscious. Since Project Runway, Bishme has dressed some recognizable celebrity clients such as Andra Day, Dascha Polanco, Karueche Tran, and Niecy Nash.

As a farewell to Bishme before he leaves the city of Baltimore to continue his journey in Los Angeles, MdHS will display Bishme's elegant, pink gown, similar to the "Rose that Grew from Concrete" dress he made on Project Runway as an ode to Baltimore, during the opening of "Spotlight on Maryland Design." Created out of metallic

material, this dress came to life with a bountiful flower on the bodice and an open back. As one of his first designs after being eliminated from the show, the dress has a meaningful history to the designer.

"I designed the back of the gown open to resemble me 'carrying my problems on my back,'" Bishme explains. "While creating this garment, I felt a sense of disappointment in not making it all the way to the end of the competition. It took a while for me to appreciate the beauty of this gown. I think it helped me get over the pain of so much I was holding on to."

For more information about "Spotlight on Maryland Design", visit www.mdhs.org. The Maryland Historical Society is located at 201 West Monument Street in Baltimore, Maryland. The museum's operating hours are 10 a.m.–5 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday, and 12–5 p.m. Sunday.

Earth TALK™ Riding the Wave of the Future On a Dockless E-Scooter

Dear EarthTalk:
What's the environmental impact of these dockless e-scooters I see all over town now?

—Jim M. Salisbury, CT

By now, you've certainly seen dockless e-scooters in your town or somewhere nearby. Some 85,000 of these electric-powered, phone-unlockable mini-vehicles crowd the streets and sidewalks of 100 different metro areas across the U.S. In 2018 they surpassed dockless e-bikes as the most common app-rentable transport option nationwide, with riders taking them on some 38.5 million trips.

These e-scooters are often marketed as "green" or "carbon-neutral" because they run off electric batteries instead of fossil fuels, but consumers shouldn't think they're getting a completely guilt-free ride. A recent lifecycle analysis from North Carolina State University assessing the "cradle-to-grave" environmental impact of e-scooters found that bicycling, walking and buses are all "greener" ways to get around.

A rider hopping on an e-scooter doesn't necessarily think about the carbon emissions and other impacts involved with manufacturing, transporting and maintaining these otherwise low-impact electric vehicles. "If you only think about the segment of the life cycle you can see, which would be standing on the e-scooter where there's no tailpipe, it's easy to make that assumption," says Jeremiah Johnson, an NC State professor and study co-author. "But if you take a step back, you can see all the other things that are a bit hidden in the process."

While relatively light and small, e-scooter

ers must carry a battery in addition to their basic frame and electronic systems. Producing these batteries takes a heavy toll on the environment, although no worse than similar types of batteries used in e-bikes and even electric cars. Besides the batteries, the aluminum used to create the e-scooters' frames and the rubber for their tires add to their environmental footprint.

The NC State researchers found that about half of an e-scooter's carbon footprint is created during production, while most of the rest (43 percent) comes from collecting and recharging them every night. In general, e-scooters are charged by freelance workers known as "juicers." At the end of each day, they take e-scooters off the street and typically charge them up at home via their own power outlets (likely not from renewable sources). Furthermore, the majority of juicers pick up e-scooters in gas-powered cars or trucks. The upshot is that the common charging process is a long way from being carbon neutral.

That said, e-scooters are currently about twice as efficient as the average car in per passenger miles per gallon (in this case CO2 units emitted per passenger carried a distance of one mile). However, a car carrying more than one passenger can reach the same or even better levels of efficiency as an e-scooter. Buses, when fully loaded, easily beat e-scooters in per passenger efficiency, while bicycles easily beat buses.

Of course, e-scooters are sure to become more efficient in the future as both the production and pick-up processes get greener. As a consumer, you can improve the situation by using e-scooters to replace car trips, but bikes or buses are still a better choice as far as the planet is concerned.



PHOTO CREDIT: BRETT SAYLES, PEXELS

A recent lifecycle analysis found that bicycling, walking and buses are all "greener" modes of transport than dockless e-scooters...but are they as fun?

CONTACTS: "Are E-Scooters Polluters? The Environmental Impacts of Shared Dockless Electric Scooters," iopscience.iop.org/article/10.1088/1748-9326/ab2da8.

EarthTalk® is produced by Roddy Scheer & Doug Moss for the 501(c)3 nonprofit EarthTalk. See more at <https://emagazine.com>. To donate, visit <https://earthtalk.org>. Send questions to: question@earthtalk.org.

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Tuskegee Airman Receives Lifetime Achievement Award

Local Boy Scout Council Honors Centenarian, 6th Award Recipient



PHOTO COURTESY BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA & NATIONAL CAPITAL AREA COUNCIL

By TANESHA POLK
Boy Scouts of America & National Capital Area Council

BETHESDA, Md. (Feb. 14, 2020)—Troop 96 of the National Capital Area Council (NCAC) honored retired Air Force Brigadier General Charles McGee with its Lifetime Achievement award. The Lifetime Achievement Award, presented at his home in Bethesda, MD, was established in 2013 and is given in recognition of individuals whose accomplishments embody the ideals of the Scout Oath and Law.

General McGee stated, "If more people lived their lives by the Scout Oath and Law, the world would be a lot better off."

As an active member of Boy Scouts in his youth, McGee earned the title of Distinguished Eagle Scout and received the Silver Beaver award for his outstanding service. The veteran continued to display his leadership capabilities throughout his 30-year military career, earning numerous decorations from the Bronze Star to the Hellenic Republic WWII Commemorative Medal. Most recently, McGee received the honorary promotion to Brigadier General in December 2019, which was announced last week during President Trump's State of the Union address. The 100-year old Brigadier General McGee has had a busy couple of weeks—from his appearance presiding over the coin toss at Superbowl LIV to being recognized at the State of the Union address to a book signing ceremony this past Saturday at the Smithsonian National Air & Space Museum celebrating Black History month, where he was featured as part of its African American Pioneers in Aviation and Space program.

"We are extremely proud to recognize retired Brigadier General Charles McGee for his tremendous accomplishments on behalf of this nation and in the world of Scouting," said Scout Executive Craig Poland. "Brigadier General McGee not only meets the criteria for this selective award—he more than surpasses it. The values embodied in Scouting are reflected in his daily life and work." Born in Cleveland in 1919, McGee enlisted in the Army on October 26, 1942. Upon earning his pilot's wings, McGee joined the Tuskegee Airmen, the first group of African American military pilots in the Armed Forces. During his extensive military career, he accumulated over 6,300 total hours, flew tactical missions attacking enemy airfields, and took part in top-secret rescue missions. In 2011, McGee was inducted into the National Aviation Hall of Fame in Dayton, Ohio.

McGee, a life member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the Military Order of World Wars, and the Tuskegee Airmen Inc., now spends his time sharing his life experiences by speaking in support of the Black Heritage and Youth Career motivation programs. The Lifetime Achievement Award is given in recognition of a person's noteworthy personal and/or professional accomplishments, his dedication to America and because he lives the ideals of the Scout Oath and Law. Past recipients of this award include Bill Marriott Jr., former Gov. Haley Barbour, Thomas J. Donohue, Jacob Stein and Michael Daniels.

Boy Scouts of America provides the nation's foremost youth program of character development and values-based leadership training, which helps young people be "Prepared. For Life."™ The Scouting organization is composed of 2.6 million youth members between the ages of 6 and 21 and more than a million volunteers in local councils throughout the United States and its territories. For more, please visit www.Scouting.org.

National Capital Area Council was organized in 1911 and today stands as one of the oldest and largest councils in America. The Council territory includes the District of Columbia; Frederick, Montgomery, Prince George's, Calvert, Charles, and St. Mary's counties in Maryland; and in Virginia the counties of Arlington, Fairfax, Prince William, Loudoun, Fauquier, Spotsylvania, Caroline, King George, Stafford and Culpeper as well as the independent cities of Alexandria, Falls Church, Fairfax, Manassas, Manassas Park and Fredericksburg in Virginia; and the U.S. Virgin Islands. For more information, please visit www.NCACBSA.org.

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