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PHOTO COURTESY HOMES FOR AMERICA

County and state officials celebrate the ribbon cutting of the much-anticipated Homes at Oxon Hill, a brand-new 163-unit community located at 4550 Wheelers Hill Road in Oxon Hill, Maryland.

County and State Officials Celebrate the Grand Opening of Homes at Oxon Hill

Ribbon cutting celebrates brand new community for seniors in Prince George's County featuring 163 affordable and market-rate apartments

By PRESS OFFICER
Homes for America

OXON HILL, Md. (June 15, 2023)—Today, Homes for America, in collaboration with the Housing Authority of Prince George's County and Foundation Development Group, were joined by county and state officials including State Senator C. Anthony Muse, Maryland State

Delegates Jamila Woods and Veronica L. Turner and County Councilmember Krystal Oriadha (District 7), project partners and residents for a celebration and ribbon cutting of the much-anticipated Homes at Oxon Hill, located at 4550 Wheelers Hill Road in Oxon Hill, Maryland. The event marked the completion of the brand-new 163-unit community

that offers an array of affordable (at or below 60% AMI) and market-rate apartment homes for seniors.

"Today's grand opening is a testament to Homes for America's unwavering mission of providing exceptional housing and supportive services to create thriving communities and enrich lives. We are deeply committed to residents of our

communities and to ensuring that our properties serve as valued additions to the neighborhoods they belong to. With the opening of Homes at Oxon Hill, we take another significant step towards fulfilling this mission," said Dana Johnson, president and CEO for Homes for Amer-

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Prince George's County Economic Development Corporation Celebrates 40 Year Anniversary

With a sustained mission to cultivate and promote a strong local economy

By PRESS OFFICER
PGC Economic Development Corporation

LARGO, Md. (June 13, 2023)—Prince George's County Economic Development Corporation (PGCEDC) celebrates 40 years of serving the business community of Prince George's County, MD. Since its founding on June 13, 1983, the organization has been dedicated to promoting economic growth and prosperity in the region.

With a mission to cultivate and promote a strong local economy supporting entrepreneurs' and businesses' growth and prosperity, dedicated to strengthening communities through business development and job creation, PGCEDC has been at the thresh-

old of the county's economic abundance.

"Over the past 40 years, we've seen Prince George's County transform dramatically, away from a bedroom community, to a county that led the country in job growth for six consecutive years," said David Iannucci, President & CEO of Prince George's County Economic Development Corporation. "A county that brought exciting new employment opportunities and industry sectors, everything from quantum computing to aerospace to IT to

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IMAGE COURTESY PGCEDC

Council Enacts Prince George's County Senior Housing Assistance Pilot Program Act of 2023

Measure Proposed by District 7 Council Member Krystal Oriadha Provides Financial Relief for County's Low-Income Seniors

By ANGELA ROUSON
Prince George's County Council Media

The Prince George's County Council, during session on Tuesday, June 13, 2023, enacted CB-042-2023, the Senior Housing Assistance Pilot Program Act of 2023 which provides temporary financial assistance to low-income senior residents 65 years or older in the form of a one-time rent pay-

ment, mortgage payment, or property tax payment.

CB-042-2023 establishes a Prince George's County Senior Housing Assistance Fund which will provide financial assistance to County seniors based on Area Median Income (AMI) levels. Residents 65 years or older who have lived in the County for at least 5 years, and whose income is equivalent to or less than the 40% AMI are eligible to apply for financial assistance.

Council Member Oriadha, proposer of the measure, says the Senior Housing Assistance Program Fund will provide much-needed relief for senior residents experiencing financial strains.

"How the County might better support senior residents who struggle financially has been an ongoing community concern, and it is an issue that demands attention. I look forward to the implementation of this program because it will serve the

most vulnerable populations in our County, who too often face financial hardship and are forced into bad living conditions. The Senior Housing Assistance Pilot Program will allow us to have a set amount of funds yearly so that we are able to assist our senior population when they are in most need."

CB-42-2023 will be implemented by the Department of Family Services and the Department of Social Services, which will also provide additional information about the program and how to apply, in the coming months.

The FY 2024 County Budget adopted by the Council on May 25, 2023, includes a \$1 million allocation to support the Prince George's County Senior Housing Assistance Fund.

CB-042-2023 will go into effect on July 28, 2023.

Students From Across Maryland Win Statewide Financial Literacy and Economics Competitions

By PRESS OFFICER
Maryland Council on Economic Education

More than 100 elementary, middle and high school students from 17 Maryland counties have won the statewide financial literacy and economics competitions coordinated by the Maryland Council on Economic Education (MCEE). The winners were honored on Wednesday, May 17, 2023 at a luncheon and awards ceremony attended by more than 350 students, family members, sponsors and leaders at

Towson University. Lieutenant Governor Aruna Miller honored the students with a keynote presentation.

More than 20,000 students from 20 Maryland counties and Baltimore City participated in MCEE's annual competitions this school year—the highest student participation in MCEE's annual programs in more than 12 years.

Winner from Prince George's County:

Personal Finance & Economics Poster Competition: Fourth grader

Astrid Carranza from Suitland Elementary School

Awards were presented to winners in these competitions:

- Stock Market Game™ (SMG): an educational simulation that teaches about the stock markets, the American economic system and the global economy. Teams of students create and manage an imaginary \$100,000 portfolio—striving to achieve the highest return on investment—while

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CEO Dr. Monica Goldson Appointed to State Board of Education

By PRESS OFFICER
Prince George's County Public Schools

Retiring Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) CEO Dr. Monica Goldson will join the Maryland State Board of Education following appointment by Governor Wes Moore.

"I am grateful to Governor Wes Moore for appointing me to serve on the Maryland State Board of Education," said Dr. Goldson. "It is an honor to continue doing my life's work, transforming the lives of children and public education in this great state. I look forward to continuing the next phase of my career in public service."

The Maryland State Board of Education's mission is to ensure a rigorous and world-class educational experience for every Maryland student, in every neighborhood, that prepares each to be college and career ready, through strategic direction and leadership; policy making and resource allocation; and engagement and advocacy.

"The work of the Maryland State Board of Education and Maryland Public Service Commission have an enormous impact on Marylanders' lives every day," said Gov. Moore, expressing confidence that her "expertise and experience will serve Marylanders well."

Dr. Goldson will conclude her 32-year career with PGCPS on June 30.

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TOWNS *and* NEIGHBORS

In & Around Morningside-Skyline

Mary Reilly, longtime Skyline resident and Census retiree, dies at 98

As her son Jim wrote, "Our sweet, funny, and beloved mom, Mary M. Reilly, passed away at home June 12 at the age of 98. She will be missed terribly but her family is grateful for her long and healthy life. She loved her family and church and was devoted to the Virgin Mary." She prayed the rosary twice a day in recent years and watched Mass at noon on EWTN when she could no longer go to daily Mass at St. Philip's.

She was born in Hazleton, Pa., on Valentine's Day 1925, daughter of James and Sara Mundie. After the family moved to New York City, Mary attended P.S. 173 and P.S. 115, graduated from George Washington High School and went on to Ballard Business School for a course in typing and stenography.

Her first of many jobs was at the Fifth Avenue Bank at 44th Street. Then to Eastern Airlines at 10 Rockefeller Plaza. After the family moved to Detroit to be near Mary's brother and his young family, Mary was hired by Ford Motor Company, only to return to NYC to work for another Ford Division. After her father's death, they moved back to Detroit, but soon returned to New York and another job at Ford's.

On the Fourth of July 1957, Mary and her mom made a trip to Washington to visit Aunt Catherine and Uncle Joe McGready. Her cousin, Bill McGready, set her up on a blind date with his best friend, Tom "Larry" Reilly, for dinner at Andrew's Officers' Club. That date went well. Mary and Larry became engaged on Valentine's Day 1958 at St. Patrick's Church. On Oct. 4, 1958, they were married at Holy Family Church in Hillcrest Heights.

In 1964 they bought a house on Elmendorf Drive in Skyline; three years later they bought a new model home nearby on Ladd Road where she lived for the next 59 years.

Mary's mom, Sara Mundie, lived with them until her death in 1973. It was then that Mary returned to the workforce, this time at the Census Bureau from which she retired in 1989. She earned a Bronze Medal Award from the Department of Commerce for superior federal service.

The Reillys were founding members of St. Philip's Church where Mary served two terms as Sodality Prefect. For many years, she sang in the choir, with me. She worked at Prince George's Hospice and at the Na-

tional Association of Manufacturers in Greenbelt. She was recording secretary for the Skyline Citizens Association.

Her husband of 53 years Larry, brother Jimmy Mundie and his wife June predeceased her. Survivors include daughter Christine (Tim), sons Kevin (Kellie) and Jim, granddaughter Tanna (Kevin) and great-grandson Warren. Mass of Christian Burial will be 11 a.m. June 22 at St. Philip's with burial at Resurrection Cemetery.

Jim ended the obit with, "As long as it is, this obituary doesn't capture how funny she was, the withering looks she could give, the great mother she was, how sweet she was or how loved she was."

Town of Morningside

Marchers, riders, and walkers can still contact the Town for a chance to participate in Morningside's 4th of July Parade. It will shove off at 11:30 a.m. at the Fire Department on Suitland Road and head up Suitland Road to the VFW. Call 301-736-2300 to register.

Following the Parade, Family Fun Day will begin at Patterson Park at 2 p.m. and continue until 4. There'll be free food and games. And great Fireworks at dusk.

The Morningside Police Department will host National Night Out Against Crime on Tuesday, August 1, 5:30-8:30 p.m. at the Town Hall.

GI Liquors is still boarded up. It's outrageous that three speeders in a stolen car could close a business that dates, probably, from before Morningside became a Town in 1949.

Neighbors & other good people

Joshua Loufik, formerly of Skyline, is in Spain visiting Alhambra, a palace and fortress complex. Recently he did 100 miles on El Camino de Santiago, starting at San Sebastian. Joshua and his wife Louise now reside in Boston.

Skyline Citizens Association is working to come back. We went strong for 50 years and had plans for a big Golden Anniversary Banquet until Covid hit. To start a comeback, a flyer was distributed: "We need to address Community concerns. We are better together than if we are alone. We have many challenges ahead, but we hope to emerge stronger." The meeting opened with a prayer. About 25 Skyliners turned out and were very vocal about problems such as street parking, noise and street-tree issues. Our next meeting

by Mary McHale 301-735-3451

will be Tuesday, August 1, at the firehouse.

Regarding my story last week on the National Spelling Bee, Sue Frederick reminded me that the Bee was held at the DAR (Daughters of the American Revolution) in the late 1960s.

Academia

Please send me graduation news of your kids, grandkids, siblings, neighbors, whoever. Include name of graduate, high school or college, degree, honors, plans (if any), parents or grandparents. Email me at muddmm@gmail.com.

Crossland's Class of 1973 is celebrating its 50th anniversary September 29-August 1 in Frederick, Md., beginning with Meet & Greet on Friday, continuing with a Dinner Dance at Dutch's Daughter Restaurant on Saturday, and closing with a Picnic at Ballyhoo Creek Park on Sunday. Sounds like fun. For information, go to the Class website.

Changing landscape

A Convenience & Tobacco store has opened in the little Skyline shopping center. As a community, we're not happy about this. I believe there's been a bill submitted (to the County or State) limiting these.

That store space has a history: When we moved here in 1958, it was Clinton Oil Co. Later, it became Skyline Market. I remember when it was a crab store, and when Ted Burke opened a paint and wallcovering store there, Johnson's Barber Shop and Morningside Variety Shop. In recent years, it has been a dry cleaners. We'll see how long Convenience & Tobacco lasts.

"As part of the Operation Build-a-Reef Campaign," according to The Washington Post, "30 million oyster spat (larvae) have been planted in the Severn River at Jonas and Anne Catharine Green Park in Annapolis." The campaign will help restore the depleted oyster population and reefs in the Chesapeake Bay.

A home at Norfolk Court, in Skyline, just sold for \$355,000.

Places to go and things to do

Join the Prince George's County Animal Services Division (ASD) and Best Friends

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Competitions from A1

developing skills in math, language arts, research and critical thinking.

- InvestWrite Essay Competition: a national writing competition that reinforces the economic concepts students learned by participating in the Stock Market Game™.
- Maryland Personal Finance Challenge: an academic competition that provides high school teams from across the state with the opportunity to learn and demonstrate knowledge and application of personal finance concepts during a one-day academic competition. The Challenge is sponsored by M&T, WesBanco, State Farm, Aberdeen Proving Ground Federal Credit Union, First Financial Federal Credit Union, and Towson University
- The Maryland Economics Challenge: the only program of its kind that tests micro and macroeconomic principles as well as knowledge of the world economy in one-day competitions.
- Personal Finance Poster Competition: a creative competition where students demonstrate their understanding of economic concepts.

These competitions are coordinated by the Maryland Council on Economic Education, the nonprofit that helps make sure Maryland's children graduate high school with the economic and financial literacy knowledge and decision-making skills they need to make informed decisions as adults. In addition to student programs, MCEE offers free professional development and financial literacy education training and lesson plans for educators. Based on the campus of Towson University, MCEE supports more than 2,000 teachers each year who reach over 11,000 Maryland students.

Said Julie Weaver, MCEE Executive Director, "The winning students from these statewide competitions should be proud of this wonderful accomplishment. They have creatively illustrated their understanding of personal finance and economics concepts and are a testament to how important this kind of learning is for all children."

Local Students Honored

Local Residents Graduate, Achieve Dean's List From William & Mary

WILLIAMSBURG, Va. (June 15, 2023)—The following residents recently graduated from the College of William & Mary:

Cheverly, MD: **Samanta Popol**, Bachelor of Science

Upper Marlboro, MD: **Salimata Sanfo**, Bachelor of Art

The following local residents were recently named to the Dean's List at the College of William & Mary for the spring 2023 semester:

Bowie, MD: **John Golding**

Cheverly, MD: **Sami Popol**

In order to achieve Dean's List status, a full-time degree seeking undergraduate student must take at least 12 credit hours and earn a 3.6 Quality Point Average during the semester.

—Claudette Brooks, College of William & Mary

Nathaniel Taylor Graduates From Marquette University

MILWAUKEE (June 14, 2023)—This past spring, Nathaniel Taylor of Hyattsville, MD, graduated from Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Taylor earned a Doctorate in Philosophy.

Taylor was one of 3,143 students to graduate from Marquette in May. The university celebrated its 142nd Commencement with a series of events, including Graduate Recognition Ceremonies at Fiserv Forum and a Baccalaureate Mass on campus. Learn more about the weekend.

—Jack Goods, Marquette University

Yadel Negash Receives Degree From Quinnipiac University

HAMDEN, Conn. (June 13, 2023)—Yadel Negash of Fort Washington, MD received a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science from Quinnipiac University during a commencement ceremony held in May.

—John W. Morgan, Quinnipiac University

Local Students Graduate From Bucknell University

LEWISBURG, Pa. (June 12, 2023)—Bucknell University celebrated over 800 graduates from the Class of 2023 on Sunday, May 14, 2023. The class represents over 60 majors across Bucknell's three colleges (Arts & Sciences, Engineering and the Freeman College of Management). These students hail from 33 U.S. states and 25 nations.

The list of local graduates is:

Bowie, MD: **Bryan Nelson; Raquel Rowell**

Upper Marlboro, MD: **Bryanni Williams; Caleb Wooten**

—Mike Ferlazzo, Bucknell University

Fairfield University Congratulates 2023 Undergraduate and Graduate Degree Recipients

FAIRFIELD, Conn. (June 9, 2023)—The following Fairfield University students graduated from Fairfield University, May 2023.

New Carrollton, MD: **Christopher Maidoh**

Riverdale, MD: **Ericka Fernandez**

At the time of graduation, a student must have earned a minimum of 120 credits and completed at least 38 three- or four-credit courses, depending on the course of study, and have an overall grade point average of 2.0 or better at the conclusion of the senior year.

—Susan Cipollaro, Fairfield University

Brandywine-Aquasco

UNIVERSOUL CIRCUS

UniverSoul Circus returns to National Harbor with the newest, most exciting combination of interactive circus arts, theater, and music you have ever seen June 30, 2023 to July 23, 2023. UniverSoul Circus is fresh, bold, fun and challenges your imagination like nothing else. It embraces and celebrates the unique aspects of global urban pop-culture, bringing center stage with a cast of international performers reflecting the cultural diversity of the world in which we live.

CHRISTMAS IN JULY

Save the date. It is time for our Annual Christmas in July Craft and Vendor Fair. Join us July 22, 2023, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Shop small businesses. Support items for the Cheltenham Youth Center. Nottingham Myers United Methodist Church 15601 Brooks Church Road, Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772. Nottinghammyers@outlook.com. Rev. Shemaiah Strickland.

Vendors needed- Go on Facebook and Scan QR Code for Registration Form. Of course, our Hospitality Ministry will be running the concession stand. Good eats for sure. Hope to see you there. #small-churchbigvisibiggod, #ComeGrowWithUs.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Cecelia Lewis ('06 Bowie State University Graduate) who was appointed by the Calvert County Board of Education to be Director of Student Services for the 2023-2024 school year. She will begin her new role on July 1, 2023.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Gisselle Johnson, daughter of Lakeya Johnson, late Ernest Johnson, III (EJ), granddaughter of late Ernest Johnson, Jr. and late Brenda Johnson who graduated from South Hagerstown High School.

ALUMNI SENIOR OPEN SWIM

Bowie State University Aquatics Facility is hosting open swim for Bowie State University alumni and seniors on Mondays and Wednesdays. Contact the pool office for details, 301-860-4739. Cost: Free. Location: Leonidas S. James Physical Education Complex, 14000 Jericho Park Road, Bowie, Maryland 20715. Contact Mark Wascavage. Email: mwascavage@bowiestate.edu. Phone: 301-860-4739. Categories: Athletics.

RECREATION BOOTCAMP

Recreation offering Summer Boot camp class June 27, 2023, from 4-5 p.m. No cost. Bowie State University, McKeldin Gymnasium, 14000 Jericho Park Road Bowie, Maryland, 20715. Contact Phyliss Taylor. Email: ptaylor@bowiestate.edu Phone: 240-464-1080. Categories: Athletics.

CRABS AND CONVERSATION

Participate in this year's Crabs & Conversation event with Bowie State's Women's Forum July 27, 2023, from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. It will be

by Audrey Johnson 301-922-5384

an excellent opportunity to collaborate, motivate, and elevate yourself while networking with peers. You will also receive tools for professional development and empowerment. Do not miss out.

Keynote Speaker: Mary Ogan, Manager of Training & Development, Human Resources, Bowie State University. Transportation updates will be first come first serve. Seating is limited. All guests need tickets, due by July 20. Cost: \$55 General/Alumni/Staff/Faculty/ \$35 Students.

Location: Skipper's Pier Waterfront Restaurant, Drum Point Road, Deale, Maryland. Contact: Angela Morton, email: amorton@bowiestate.edu. Website: https://www.bowiestate.edu/ Phone number: 301-860-3839. Categories: Featured, Workshop/Training.

SPRING DIVERSITY CELEBRATION

Join us for a brunch in celebration of diversity at Bowie State University June 25 from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Your ticket includes complete brunch and beverages, diversity and inclusion workshop with Tracie Daniels, CEO of Synergy Consulting, networking with the Women's Forums.

Location: 14000 Jericho Park Road, Center for Natural Sciences, Mathematics & Nursing Beacon Room, Bowie, Maryland 20715. Tickets on Eventbrite. Mobile eTicket.

BILL PICKET RODEO

The Bill Picket Rodeo will be held September 23, 2023, 1:30 p.m. at Prince George's Equestrian Center & Show Place Arena, 14900 Pennsylvania Avenue, Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772. Visit Website. The Bill Picket Invitational Rodeo celebrates and honors Black Cowboys and Cowgirls and their contributions to building the west. We highlight the irrefutable global appeal of Black Cowboys and Cowgirls in the West and stories behind a sub-culture that is still strong today. BPIR also serves as a cultural event and opportunity for families to enjoy and embrace the cowboy culture, while being educated and entertained with reenactments, history highlights, and western adventure.

SALUTE THE SUNSET CONCERT SERIES

Saturday evenings throughout the summer are military band nights at National Harbor. Bring a chair and enjoy an evening with performing ensembles from a variety of United States military bands at 7 p.m.

AMERICAN LEGION BRANDYWINE POST 227

The American Legion Brandywine Post 227 located at 135505 Cherry Tree Crossing Road, Brandywine, Maryland 20613, phone number 301-782-737 is accepting clothing, shoes, linens, stuffed animals for our Turnkey Shed. 100% of your donations support the Wreaths Across America Group ID0329.

Look for the tan shed in the parking lot where you can drop your bagged/boxed donations. Thank you. Items accepted are all clothing, shoes, sneakers, belts, purses, blankets, bed linen, drapes, and stuffed animals. Please put your donations into plastic bags or boxes and deposit them in the shed. You can get a receipt when you drop off your donation. To all who served America. Thank you.

COMMUNITY

Prince George's County Animal Services Division Has a 65% Save Rate for Shelter Dogs and Cats, According to Annual Data Report From Best Friends Animal Society

By PRESS OFFICER
Best Friends Animal Society

KANAB, Utah (June 15, 2023)—Best Friends Animal Society, a leading animal welfare organization working to end the killing of cats and dogs in shelters by 2025, recently released its annual data report which gives the most accurate and comprehensive national overview of the number of dogs and cats that enter and exit shelters in a given year. Prince George's County Animal Services Division took in 5,354 animals in 2022 and 65% were saved, while 1,361 were killed (1,126 dogs, 235 cats).

Targeted programming proven to save more lives, including partnerships between no-kill and not yet no-kill shelters, as well as shelters and rescue groups, cat and big-dog-focused initiatives, and advocacy work generally can help fix the problem. Best Friends occasionally embeds staff members in shelters that are struggling in order to help the shelter implement lifesaving programs. Despite Best Friends allocating some of this support to Prince George's County Animal Services Division, there was limited success as the practices were not fully embraced or implemented.

Individuals can help save lives by choosing to adopt from a shelter or rescue group instead of purchasing from a breeder or store, spay or neuter their pets, foster kittens or an adult dog, vol-

unteer, donate, and advocate for proven lifesaving programming for pets. In Prince George's County, individuals can also advocate for elected officials to update outdated ordinances that prevent field and shelter service teams from returning lost animals to their homes, create barriers to adoptions and costly breed restrictions, and urge the County to embrace modern animal services practices.

To help with lifesaving, there will be a free pet adoption event on **Saturday, June 24** from 10 a.m.–4 p.m. at Prince George's County Animal Services Facility and Adoption Center located at 3750 Brown Station Road in Upper Marlboro.

Adoption fees will be covered by Best Friends.

"We've made great progress and there is still momentum for our achievable goal, despite the small dip in lifesaving in 2022. 2025 is only two years away, so now is the time to support your local shelters.

Together, let's make every shelter and every community no-kill by 2025," added Castle.

About the data

For the past seven years, Best Friends has spearheaded a one-of-a-kind extensive data collection process that involves coordinated outreach to

See **SAVE RATE** Page A4

Prince George's Community College Announces Community Summer Camps for Elementary, Middle, and High School Students

College Offers Free & Paid Options for Students to Engage in STEM, Coding, Entrepreneurship, and Arts

By PRESS OFFICER
PGCC

LARGO, Md. (June 15, 2023)—Prince George's Community College (PGCC) announced three upcoming community summer camps for elementary, middle, and high school students that will take place from June 20 to August 4, 2023. These summer camps are designed to offer fun academic and interest-based activities to students within a college setting. Each camp will provide an engaging experience to enhance students' learning and skills in a variety of areas including economics, Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM), coding, entrepreneurship, culinary arts, and the creative arts.

"At PGCC, we believe in making higher education and economic mobility accessible for all, and that includes providing fun summer learning experiences for elementary, middle, and high school students," said Denise Barino-Samuels, transition coordinator in the College and Career Transitions Office. "We are thrilled to announce these summer camps that will build kids' and teens' interest and knowledge of in-demand areas."

Owl Scholars Camp

June 26–August 4, 2023

The Owl Scholars Camp is designed for students who have completed grades 2–8 during the current school year. This youth summer enrichment camp offers a variety of academic and artistic activities in-person and virtually. This year,

the Owl Scholars Camp offers three-week academic classes with options in STEM. Other focus areas include culinary arts, theater, game design, and engineering.

The first session is June 26–July 14, and the second July 17–August 4. Morning sessions will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. and afternoon sessions from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. with full or half-day options. Click here to view the full schedule and cost details. Registration closes seven days before the start date of each course.

Verizon Innovative Learning Program (FREE)

June 26–July 21, 2023

The Verizon Innovative Learning Program is a free summer STEM enrichment program for middle school students. In this four-week camp, students will learn coding, 3D printing, augmented and virtual reality, and entrepreneurship through on-campus summer courses. This program will run each day from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The Verizon Innovative Learning Program is held in partnership with the Verizon Foundation, whose mission is to create digital inclusion for all students to ensure they have a brighter future.

Today's announcement builds on PGCC's goals of enhancing equitable access and ensuring learning and achievement through high-impact educational practices. The College is proud to offer these summer camps and encourages early registration, as spaces are

limited.

Information about additional camps and summer activities are available on the PGCC events calendar.

Named a National Center of Academic Excellence in Information Assurance designated by the National Security Agency and Department of Homeland Security (2022–2027), Prince George's Community College (PGCC) provides high-quality education and training for the progressive and career-oriented residents of Prince George's County. From new high school graduates and career seekers to more seasoned professionals and senior citizens looking to enhance their skill sets, PGCC is comprised of students who represent a wide range of ages, backgrounds, and goals. Serving nearly 25,000 individuals annually, the College is the first choice for higher education for residents of Prince George's County. Collaborative partnerships, responsive degree and training programs, and a commitment to student success enable PGCC to address diverse education and workforce development demands. Visit the College website at www.pgcc.edu. Prince George's Community College is accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, 3624 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104; www.msche.org. The Middle States Commission on Higher Education is an institutional accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education and the Council on Higher Education Accreditation.



Powered by FSC First

Elevate your **skills**.
Escalate your **business**.

We understand the hurdles that small and minority-owned businesses encounter, and we're dedicated to helping you thrive. Powered by FSC First and a consortium of partners across Maryland, Level Up provides an extensive array of tools and support to grow your business.

Access to Capital:

Get guidance and connections to funding sources for business growth. From loans to grants, we'll help you navigate the financial landscape and secure the capital you need to expand.

Coaching and Mentoring:

Work closely with experienced mentors to develop efficient business practices, refine strategies, and overcome challenges. Benefit from their expertise and unlock new opportunities for growth.



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Gain the tools, resources, and support needed to thrive in today's competitive business landscape with Level Up. Visit our website at www.fscfirst.com/level-up to learn more and start your journey toward success.

COMMENTARY

Marian Wright Edelman
*Founder and President Emerita,
 Children's Defense Fund*



ChildWatch:

Nobody's Free Until Everybody's Free

Our nation is about to celebrate its third commemoration of Juneteenth as a federal holiday, marking the jubilant day in June 1865 when many enslaved people in Texas finally learned they were free from federal troops arriving in Galveston after the end of the Civil War. The news came more than two and a half years after President Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863, freeing all slaves in the Confederate states. While Juneteenth is still a very new federal holiday, many Black families have celebrated this day for generations, a tradition that began almost immediately in Texas following the first "Jubilee Day." We honor this date because,

in my beloved friend and role model Fannie Lou Hamer's eternal words, nobody's free until everybody's free.

Mrs. Opal Lee, the 96-year-old "Grandmother of Juneteenth" who is one of the activists who worked tirelessly to push for Juneteenth's recognition as a national holiday, remembers her own early childhood in Marshall, Texas, where Juneteenth was celebrated at the local fairgrounds with games, music, and food, and always felt like a second Christmas. But she also remembers Juneteenth in 1939, soon after her family had moved into a new white neighborhood in Fort Worth, Texas. That night a white mob set fire to their

new home, destroying the furniture and possessions her parents had just so proudly unpacked. Family friends took them in as they were forced to spend the next several years rebuilding their lives. Both memories are key pieces of the full story of American history.

Mrs. Lee, who eventually earned a master's degree in education and spent more than twenty years as an educator and counselor in Fort Worth public schools, remains committed to making sure students learn the full truth about our nation's history of injustice and violence so "we can heal from it and not let it happen again." As she says, "I'm adamant about schools actually having the truth told." Her own children's book Juneteenth: A Children's Story is just the kind of history and truth that some schools and libraries in her home state and elsewhere are desperately trying to ban and hide right now. Some current Members of Congress voted against making Juneteenth a federal holiday. But truth hidden will always be brought to light.

For more than two years after the Emancipation Proclamation slavery continued as usual in Texas, but on June 19, 1865, U.S. Major General Gordon Granger issued General Order No. 3 finally informing all people in Texas that all enslaved people were free. For decades after that, many Americans did not know what Juneteenth symbolized. Now it is a federally

recognized annual holiday that teaches all Americans about that inescapable moment in our history and officially reminds us of the ongoing struggle to make the promise of liberty and justice for all real. As Mrs. Lee also says, "We don't want people to think that Juneteenth is a stopping point, because it isn't. It's a beginning."

On June 13 Mrs. Lee was one of the honored guests at the White House's Juneteenth Concert, and as Vice President Kamala Harris opened the event, she invited her to come to the stage. Mrs. Lee greeted all the "young people"—telling the whole audience they were included if they were not yet 96—and said: "Please, could I just say this to you, young folk: Make yourself a committee of one to change somebody's mind. If people can be taught to hate, they can be taught to love. And it's up to you to do it. We are the most powerful country . . . and we must get together and get rid of the disparities, the joblessness and homelessness, and health care that some people couldn't get and others can, and climate change that we are responsible for. If we don't do something about it, we're all going to hell in a handbasket." We honor this spirit on Juneteenth as we remember again that nobody's free until everybody's free.

—June 16, 2023

Marc Morial

President and CEO, National Urban League



To Be Equal:

Juneteenth: Not a Moment of Liberation, But an Ongoing Journey of Persistence and Hope

"The slave went free; stood a brief moment in the sun; then moved back again toward slavery."
 —W.E.B. Du Bois

Just a dozen years after Major General Gordon Granger's Order Number 3 declared "an absolute equality of personal rights and rights of property between former masters and slaves," the last federal troops withdrew from former Confederate states. Their withdrawal ushered in a near-century of legally-enforced racial segregation, white supremacist terrorism, and second-class citizenship

for Black Americans.

Still, the celebration of Granger's order, the holiday we celebrate on Monday as Juneteenth, endured.

The Great Migrations spread the celebration of Juneteenth from Texas to the rest of the nation. The June 19, 1968, Solidarity Day celebration—organized by Greater Washington Urban League Executive Director Sterling Tucker—during the Poor People's March on Washington may have played a role in popularizing Juneteenth.

"My theory is that these delegates for the sum-

mer took that idea of the celebration back to their respective communities," the late African American folklorist William Wiggins Jr. said. "Because it was used to close the Poor Peoples Campaign, the idea was taken back by different participants in that march, and it took root around the country. It has taken on a life of its own."

Given this history, Juneteenth represents not a moment of liberation, but an ongoing journey of persistence and hope.

As President Biden said when he signed the bill designating Juneteenth as a federal holiday, "Emancipation of enslaved Black Americans didn't mark the end of America's work to deliver on the promise of equality; it only marked the beginning."

The white supremacists who rejected the promise of equality during the Reconstruction era called their movement "Redemption" and referred to themselves as "Redeemers." They undermined their political opponents and suppressed Black voters through a campaign of violence and intimidation.

The white supremacists who reject the promise of equality today are banning books, distorting history, and clamping down on the mere suggestion of systemic racism and inequities.

Among the nearly 700 measures that state, local and federal policy makers have introduced over the last two years was a little-discussed provision that would ban Illinois schools from "promoting the concept" that "meritocracy" and "a hard work ethic" are tools of oppression. In effect, the provision would stifle any suggestion that racial gaps in wealth or income, educational attainment, home ownership, civic engagement, or political representation are the result of anything other than merit and hard work.

Distortion of history is a familiar tool of white supremacy, from the "Lost Cause" mythology that Black Americans had been content—even fortunate—to live under a system of oppression, to the "anti-woke" mythology that the system of oppression doesn't exist.

Historian Elizabeth Hayes Turner described the earliest celebrations of Juneteenth as "a joyful retort" to "displays of Confederate glorification" and "valorization of the Lost Cause."

Today, Juneteenth is our own "joyful retort" to the modern-day Lost Causers seeking to distort history and deny the presence of systemic and institutional racism.

—June 16, 2023

District 7 Council Member Krystal Oriadha Announces Rent Stabilization Workgroup Members

Working Group to Explore Permanent Rent Stabilization in the County

By KONY SERRANO PORTILLO / ANGELA ROUSON

Office of Councilmember Krystal Oriadha / Council Communications

Prince George's County Council Member Krystal Oriadha (District 7), has announced the establishment of a Rent Stabilization Workgroup to explore permanent rent stabilization in the County, and its members. The workgroup was established as a part of CB-007-2023, the Rent Stabilization Act of 2023, legislation temporarily preventing rent increases above 3%.

Among the topics workgroup members are expected to explore include rent limit percentages, exemptions, parameters (such as utility fees, added fees and set asides), enforcement, and penalties. The Rent Stabilization Workgroup will hold pre-meeting informational sessions on June 23 at 1 p.m., and July 12 and 13 at 5:30 p.m. Formal meetings will begin mid-late July. Sessions will be live streamed for public viewing.

Workgroup members were selected from three areas: Rent Stabilization Act of 2023 public hearing participants, a list of members submitted by the County Council, and a list submitted by the Office of the County Executive.

Rent Stabilization Workgroup Members:

- District 7 Council Member Krystal Oriadha, representing the Prince George's County Council (District 7) Deputy Chief of Staff, Kony Serrano, will serve as her proxy on an as needed basis)
- Aspasia Xypolia, Director of the Prince George's County Department of Housing and Community Development
- Moha Thakur, Public Policy and Mid-Atlantic Initiatives Manager at the National Housing Trust
- Shola Giwa, Senior Director of Asset Management, National Housing Trust
- Bryan Dickson, Senior Managing Director, New Point Real Estate Capital
- Jeff Jayce, Senior Vice President, Bozzuto Development Company
- Phuc Tran, Vice President and Asset Management, Jair Lynch Team
- Jorge Benitez, Lead Organizer, CASA
- Carletta Lundy, Branch Secretary, NAACP
- Michael Bodaken, Professor of Public Policy, University of Maryland
- Kia Jefferson, Prince George's County Resident and Housing Justice Coalition Member
- Deloris Prioleau, Prince George's County Resident and Housing Justice Coalition Member

- Carlos Lancaster, Laurel MD Real Estate Agent, Exit Right Realty, representing the Prince George's County Association of Realtors
- Ashley Powerll, Apartment and Office Building Association (AOBA) of Metropolitan Washington
- Cheryl Cort, Policy Director, Coalition for Smarter Growth
- Jessica Quincosa, Esq., Executive Director, Community of Legal Services of Prince George's County
- Lori Parris, Senior Advisor to the Director of the Department of Permitting, Inspections, and Enforcement of Prince George's County
- Gloria Brown, Director, Department of Social Services of Prince George's County
- A representative of the Housing Association of Nonprofit Developers (HAND)
- John Maneval, Principal, Oculus CAS LLC
- Brad Frome, Partner, RISE Investment Partners

Council Member Oriadha will serve as the workgroup Chair, and Aspasia Xypolia will serve as Vice Chair. The workgroup will be facilitated by Enterprise Facilitation.

Statement: District 8 Council Member Edward Burroughs III Responds to County Executive's Veto of Crime Initiative Budget Amendment

With great disappointment, I share that County Executive Angela Alsobrooks has vetoed a crime initiative passed by the County Council in collaboration with States Attorney Aisha Braveboy. The Emerging Adults program would work to create safer neighborhoods and save lives by reducing recidivism among Prince Georgians, ages 18-26, who have committed crimes.

Proposing and ultimately passing this initiative was personal for me. In an unthinkable, unimaginable act that rocked my family, his friends, and our community, this March, my cousin was murdered at the age of 23. Thanks to great police work, two suspects, both 22-year-old males from Capitol Heights, Maryland, were quickly arrested. I learned that one

of the suspects was on probation after previous convictions in two gun-related cases. Sadly, too many Prince Georgians are having the same experience.

Many of the homicides that occur in our County are at the hands of people, ages 18 to 26, with prior convictions. County data shows that at the end of 2020, nearly 40% of those incarcerated in our County jail were young adults, and after serving time for lesser crimes, 54% of them were rearrested on charges that include murder, attempted murder, armed robbery, and carjacking.

The U.S. Department of Justice studied inmates from 30 different states over nine years following their release, and the 2018 results were stunning: 68% were rearrested within 3

years; 79% were rearrested within 6 years; and 83% were rearrested within 9 years.

Recidivism impacts every one of us - more crime in our neighborhoods, more victims, less economic development, and more of our residents feeling the need to move out of our County in search of safer places to raise their families.

While juvenile offenders are offered a myriad of services while incarcerated, there is no similar support for this critical population of emerging adults, even though statistics show 43% of them will be less likely to commit another crime when they participate in programs

Save Rate from A3

every shelter in America followed by additional research, data analysis, and technology development. The dataset is the most comprehensive on U.S. sheltered animals, and is based on data collected directly from shelters, state and local coalitions, government websites, and FOIA requests. From this, 95% of the animal intake in U.S. shelters is known, 5% is estimated. Best Friends has the most recently available annual data for 85% of shelters nationwide.

*A 90 percent save rate is the nationally recognized benchmark to be considered "no-kill," factoring that approximately 10 percent of pets who enter shelters have medical or behavioral circumstances that warrant humane euthanasia rather than killing for lack of space.

Best Friends Animal Society is a leading animal welfare organization working to end the killing of dogs and cats in America's shelters by 2025. Founded in 1984, Best Friends is a pioneer in the no-kill movement and has helped reduce the number of animals killed in shelters from an estimated 17 million per year to around 378,000. Best Friends runs lifesaving programs across the country, as well as the nation's largest no-kill animal sanctuary. Working collaboratively with a network of more than 4,200 animal welfare and shelter partners, and community members nationwide, Best Friends is working to Save Them All®. For more information, visit bestfriends.org.

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See VETO Page A6

BUSINESS AND FINANCE

Social Security Matters

Ask Rusty:

Will Work Earnings Affect My Social Security at Age 80?

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

Dear Rusty: I am 80 years old, and I receive monthly Social Security benefits, but I'm thinking about returning to work. At this age, am I limited in how much income I generate without affecting my benefit? If so, how much can I earn without affecting it? **Signed: Spry Octogenarian.**

Dear Spry Octogenarian: Since you have already reached your full retirement age (FRA) for Social Security's purposes, you can earn as much income from working as you like without your monthly Social Security payment being affected. Social Security's earnings test applies only to those who collect benefits before reaching their full retirement age, which is somewhere between age 66 and 67, depending on year of birth.

However, although the earnings test will not apply to you, it's important to know that Social Security benefits are subject to income tax if your annual combined income from all sources (also known as your "Modified Adjusted Gross Income" or "MAGI") exceeds certain thresholds. Your income tax filing status is an influencing factor—if you file as a single and your MAGI is more than \$25,000, or if you file as "married/jointly" and your MAGI is more than \$32,000, then 50% of the SS benefits you received during the tax year becomes part of your overall taxable income. And if your MAGI as a single filer is more than \$34,000 or, as a married filer more than \$44,000, then up to 85% of the SS benefits you receive during the tax year becomes part of your overall taxable income at your standard IRS income tax rate. Thus, returning to work may result in Social Security benefits unexpectedly becoming taxable income.

For complete clarity, your "MAGI" is your regular Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) on your income tax return, plus 50% of the Social Security benefits you received during the tax year, plus any other non-taxable income (except Roth IRA withdrawals) you may have had.

So, while your earnings from working at age 80 (and beyond) will not affect your monthly Social Security benefit payment, you may—depending on your total income or "MAGI"—find that your Social Security benefits will become taxable if your combined income from all sources exceeds the above thresholds. And if your benefits will become taxable, you may wish to consider having income taxes withheld from your monthly Social Security payments, which you can do by submitting IRS form W-4V to your local Social Security field office.

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

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Morningside from A2

Animal Society (BFAS) for a day of fun, community resources, and same-day pet adoptions on Saturday, June 24 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Animal Services Facility & Adoption Center, 3750 Brown Station Road, Upper Marlboro.

Milestones

Happy birthday to Michael Taylor and Larry Frostbutter, June 25; Angela Booth and Mable Hemmes, June 26; Charles "Chuckie" Henry, Rose Hoffman, Veda Curcio, Shawn Kumra and Cathryn Cordero Pracht, June 27; Mike Dudding, Erica R. Webb, EvaMarie Anthony and my granddaughter Leah Katherine Mudd, June 28; Faith "Dycki" Brown, Alexis Schuler and my great-grandson Wesley McHale, June 29; Linda Carson and Karen (Beardmore) Ellis, June 30.

Happy 37th anniversary to Jack and Kimberly Hay, on June 28; and to Carl and Sue (Stine) Mason, their 38th on June 29.

Welcome to Summer 2023!

Anniversary from A1

healthcare, but also creating a better quality of life for all Prince George's County residents."

See David Iannucci's 40th Anniversary Video Testimonial on YouTube: www.youtube.com/watch?v=m1J51Zchgl0

Prince George's County Economic Development Corporation has played a vital role in helping businesses thrive. From providing assistance with financing and real estate to offering economic development programming, specific industry sector support, and business resources, the organization has been a valuable partner for companies looking to establish or expand operations in the region.

As Prince George's County has grown and

evolved, so has the Economic Development Corporation. Today, the organization continues to drive the county's economic success, working tirelessly to attract new businesses, create jobs, and foster a vibrant and diverse business community.

"One of the most exciting things about Prince George's County is the transformations we've seen over the last 40 years is the creation of a skilled, educated, diverse workforce, one of the county's strengths," Iannucci continued. "It is one of the leadership opportunities we bring to the entire region. We want the Washington Metropolitan area to understand the exciting economic opportunities in Prince George's County, both in the private and public sectors; this is the place to be: Prince George's County."

MedStar Southern Maryland Hospital Center Receives Prestigious Baby-Friendly Designation

By CHERYL RICHARDSON
MedStar Health

CLINTON, Md. (June 13, 2023)—MedStar Southern Maryland Hospital Center is proud to announce that it has achieved the highly prestigious international Baby-Friendly designation after a rigorous review process conducted by Baby-Friendly USA, the organization responsible for bestowing this certification in the United States.

This distinguished honor demonstrates that MedStar Southern Maryland is adhering to the highest standards of care for breastfeeding mothers and their babies. These standards are built on the Ten Steps to Successful Breastfeeding, a set of evidence-based practices recommended by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) for optimal infant feeding support in the precious first days of a newborn's life.

"This designation is the culmination of a lot of hard work and determination across our organization, all with a goal of helping families get off to a good start," said Ariam Yitbarek, MHA, BSN, RN, vice president, nursing, and chief nursing officer at MedStar Southern Maryland. "We are proud to offer an environment that supports best practices shown to increase breastfeeding exclusivity and du-



ration and are committed to give moms who choose to breastfeed the best chance for success."

The positive health effects of breastfeeding are well documented and widely recognized by health authorities throughout the world. For example, the Surgeon General's 2011 Call to Action to Support Breastfeeding stated that "Breast milk is uniquely suited to the human infant's nutritional needs and is a live substance with unparalleled immunological and anti-inflammatory properties that protect against a host of illnesses and diseases for both mothers and children."

MedStar Southern Maryland joins a growing list of more than 20,000 Baby-Friendly hospitals and birth centers throughout the world, 604 of which are in the United States. These facilities provide an environment that supports breastfeeding while respecting every woman's right to make the best decision for herself and her family.

"We are extremely proud to be recognized for the hard work of our team mem-

bers throughout the Baby-Friendly process," said Stephen Michaels, MD, FACHE, hospital president. "MedStar Southern Maryland is committed to providing the support, education and resources moms need to successfully initiate breastfeeding and continue breastfeeding when they leave our care."

MedStar Southern Maryland Hospital Center, located in Clinton, Maryland, is a 182-bed acute care hospital serving the Washington, D.C., metro and Southern Maryland area. The hospital is focused on caring for patients and their loved ones utilizing advanced technology under the guidance of expert clinicians. Quality, Safety, Wellness, and Patient Satisfaction are achieved through a spirit of patient centered services that connect us to the community we serve. For more information, visit MedStarHealth.org.

As the accrediting body and national authority for the Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative (BFHI) in the United States, Baby-Friendly USA is responsible for upholding the highest standards in infant feeding care by coordinating and conducting all activities necessary to confer the prestigious Baby-Friendly designation and ensure the widespread adoption of the BFHI in the US. Learn more about Baby-Friendly USA and the BFHI at www.babyfriendlyusa.org.

Opening from A1

"We are particularly excited to celebrate our first development in Prince George's County. We thank the Housing Authority of Prince George's County, Foundation Development Group, and our other project partners for their invaluable collaboration in bringing this community to fruition."

"The Housing Authority of Prince George's County (HAPGC) is pleased to partner with Homes for America, Inc. to redevelop its vacant site, formerly located at 1313 Southern Avenue, Oxon Hill, MD. Through this collaboration, seniors can now enjoy a library/computer room, a fitness/wellness room, a multi-purpose gathering space and other amenities," said Ron McCoy, Acting Executive Director for HAPGC. "Partnerships like Homes at Oxon Hill help fulfill HAPGC's vision of creating more affordable housing for the residents of Prince George's County Maryland."

Homes at Oxon Hill is a five-story elevator building that includes a mix of one and two-bedroom apartments. Apartments feature in-home washers and dryers, dishwashers, fully-equipped kitchens, open-living floorplans and nine-foot ceilings. Community amenities include a community room, library, cybercafé and exercise room as well as multi-purpose indoor gathering spaces with kitchenette, outdoor gathering spaces and walking paths for residents. Homes at Oxon Hill is within walking distance to the Metro Green Line and the United Medical Center and convenient to shops, restaurants, parks, places of worship and more.

Financing for Homes at Oxon Hill comes from the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development who provided \$24.6m tax exempt bonds enhanced by Fannie Mae and Citi Bank, which also provided a construction loan; \$12.8m of Low-Income Housing Tax Credits, syndicated by Enterprise Community Partners; \$3.5m of Rental Housing Works funds; \$600k Partnership funds and \$489k of MEEHA Grant funds. Prince George's County Department of Housing



PHOTO COURTESY HOMES FOR AMERICA

Apartments feature in-home washers and dryers, dishwashers, fully-equipped kitchens, open-living floorplans and nine-foot ceilings.

and Community Development provided \$1.5m in HOME funds. Housing Authority of Prince George's County owns the ground lease.

The development team partners include Quinn Evans Architects, Harkins Builders, Soltesz Civil Engineer, Pando Alliance and Humphrey Management.

For more information on the Homes at Oxon Hill or to inquire about available apartments, visit <https://homesatoxonhill.com/>, call 888-720-3365 or email HomesAtOxonHill@hrellc.com.

Homes for America (HFA) is a nonprofit housing development corporation which specializes in developing and preserving affordable rental housing. All of our housing is enhanced with supportive services for the residents; we seek to provide great housing and to create communities which enrich the lives of the residents. Since we have been in existence HFA has created 81 rental communities with over 6,400 units in Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and Delaware. For more information, visit <https://www.homesforamerica.org>.

The Housing Authority of Prince George's County, Maryland (HAPGC) was established in 1969 to provide Prince George's

County residents with low to moderate incomes with safe, decent, and affordable housing. The HAPGC receives federal funds directly from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to administer the Housing Choice Voucher program (HCV) and Public Housing Programs. Most of the affordable housing assistance is in the form of rental units that must meet rigorous housing quality standards. The HAPGC also provides its participant families with programs that encourage them to become self-sufficient which may potentially lead to homeownership opportunities. The Housing Assistance Division (HAD) and Rental Assistance Division (RAD) administers and implements the federal rental assistance and public housing programs for the County. For more information, visit <https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov>.

Foundation Development Group (FDG) focuses on acquisition and development of multi-family and senior rental communities in Maryland, Pennsylvania and Virginia. FDG performs all aspects of the development process, including site selection, acquisition, land development approvals, site and architectural design, financing, and construction administration. For more information, visit <https://foundationdevelopmentgroupllc.com>.

PGCEDC recently celebrated the 5th anniversary of Innovation Station Business Incubator (ISBI), the county's elite business accelerator agent and entrepreneurial ecosystem hub. This dynamic business resource has a host of successful company graduates and members that continue to operate in the county community and the global marketplace. The celebration was on February 28, 2023, five years from its founding.

"We are incredibly proud to celebrate 40 years of service to the business community of Prince George's County," said Ebony Stocks, Executive Vice President of Prince George's County Economic Development Corporation. "Our success is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our team, as well as the support of our partners and stakehold-

ers over 40 years. We look forward to continuing to serve the county for many years to come."

As the Prince George's County Economic Development Corporation marks this important milestone, it is a time to reflect on the organization's many achievements and to look forward with optimism and excitement to the future.

Prince George's County Economic Development Corporation (PGCEDC)'s mission is to cultivate and promote a strong local economy that supports the growth and prosperity of entrepreneurs and businesses, dedicated to strengthening communities through business development and job creation. For more information about the services the EDC provides to local companies, visit www.pgcdec.com. #PGCEDC40

