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First Lady of Maryland Visits Summer Camp for Girls in Prince George's County

By PRESS OFFICER
Prince George's County Department of Parks and Recreation

RIVERDALE, Md. (July 10, 2023)—Monday, M-NCPPC, Department of Parks and Recreation in Prince George's County welcomed the First Lady of the State of Maryland, Dawn Moore, as the guest speaker for its She the People summer camp for girls. The informal discussion centered around the First Lady's career and experience in politics, followed by a question-and-answer session with campers.

"It was my honor to spend time with these extraordinary young ladies at the She the People Camp," said First Lady Dawn Moore. "This camp available through M-NCPPC is a great example of how our state offers opportunities outside of the classroom to help develop the next generation of public servants and leaders. Our administration is proud to support the growth and education of our students."

Now in its seventh year, She the People politics camp encourages girls to dream big and explore the endless possibilities of women in leadership. This non-partisan camp is designed to teach teenage girls about the power of civic leadership, government, and politics through a multitude of activities, discussions, debates, and field trips. Camp graduates are stimulated to get involved in their local communities and gain hands-on experience in activism, policymaking, leadership, critical thinking, and public speaking.

"M-NCPPC, Department of Parks and Recreation, offers many programs and



PHOTO CREDIT M-NCPPC

First Lady of the State of Maryland, Dawn Moore with campers.

services that allow our youth to envision the endless possibilities for their future," said Bill Tyler, Director of M-NCPPC, Department of Parks and Recreation, Prince George's County. "She the People is a great example of visioning future opportunities through real-life experiences. We thank the First Lady, Dawn Moore, for her commitment to empowering these young women and allowing them to see what greatness they can achieve."

She the People is a two-week non-partisan political summer program for girls ages 13–17. Learn more about She the People at <https://youtu.be/w1BAul4gHh8>. Visit pgparks.com for information on other summer camps and programs.

About the First Lady

Dawn Flythe Moore is First Lady of the State of Maryland. With more than 20 years of leadership experience in gov-

ernment relations, non-profit work, building corporate partnerships, community organizing, campaign strategy, and fundraising, she is passionate about empowering women, fostering economic opportunity, and championing the arts. A graduate of the University of Maryland College Park, Dawn holds a degree in Government and Politics and a certificate in Women's Studies. Learn more at <https://governor.maryland.gov/leadership/firstlady/Pages/default.aspx>.

The M-NCPPC, Department of Parks and Recreation delivers an award-winning park system through progressive, innovative leadership and a commitment to the community and the environment in Prince George's County. The Department of Parks and Recreation encourages and supports the participation of individuals with disabilities in all programs and services. For more information, visit www.pgparks.com.

Planning, Housing, and Economic Development Committee Advances Universal Design Legislation

Measure Proposed by District 5 Council Member Jolene Ivey Ensures Safe and Inclusive Housing Options for County's Disabled Residents

By PRESS OFFICER
Prince George's County Council Media

The Prince George's County Council's Planning, Housing, and Economic Development (PHED) Committee, on Thursday, July 6, 2023, favorably considered Council Bill-065-2023, Universal Design legislation sponsored by Council Member Jolene Ivey (District 5). The proposed measure requires inclusive residential dwelling options in future housing developments for County residents, regardless of their abilities, disabilities, or functionality.

"Adopting a universal design approach when building new homes provides a range of benefits and ensures that everyone can more easily function in their home. It promotes inclusivity and allows people of all ages and abilities to live together comfortably and safely, and it helps people to be able to visit with one another," said Council Member Ivey.

The bill will require elements of universal design for housing in Prince George's County after January 1, 2026. Certain exemptions and waivers will allow up to 50% of new homes in future developments to be exempt from these requirements if

it is not possible to comply because of the terrain. The bill also exempts new townhouses and "two-over-tuos."

Council Member Ivey expressed appreciation for the support of the Maryland Building Industry Association, disability and aging-in-place advocates, and the Office of the County Executive for their collaborative efforts to improve the legislation.

Former County Council Member Monique Anderson-Walker, who introduced earlier versions of Universal Design legislation during her tenure, expressed her support for the current measure during Thursday's committee meeting. "This is squarely within diversity, equity, and inclusion—we're talking about accessible housing for everybody."

This is a first step in creating buildings that are usable by as many people as possible, regardless of age, size, ability, or disability. Adopting a universal design approach when building new homes provides a range of benefits and creates an inclusive Prince George's County.

Students and Teachers in Maryland's Prince George's County Public Schools Set to Return to Classrooms This Fall With Engaging New Tools From Worldwide Edtech Leader

By PRESS OFFICER
Discovery Education

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (July 6, 2023)—Students and teachers in grades K–8 across Maryland's Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) will return to their classrooms this Fall to find new resources in their high-tech pencil cases thanks to a deepened collaboration with worldwide edtech leader Discovery Education. In the latest phase of this more than 20-year partnership, Discovery Education will provide district elementary and middle school students exciting new digital science textbooks that will help them explore their curiosity about the natural world. In addition, Discovery Education will provide teachers with stimulating professional learning experiences that will help create engaging lessons that prepare students for success beyond the classroom.

PGCPS is one of the nation's 20th largest school districts and has 198 schools and centers, more

than 131,000 students, and nearly 20,000 employees. The school system serves a diverse student population from urban, suburban, and rural communities located in the Washington, DC suburbs. PGCPS is nationally recognized for college and career-readiness programs that provide all learners with unique learning opportunities, including dual enrollment and language immersion.

PGCPS seeks to provide all PreK–12 students equitable access to exemplary teachers, science curriculum programming, instructional practices, and standards-based assessments that are reflective of research and best practices. To support this effort, the district's science curriculum team sought a digital K–8 science resource aligned to the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) and supportive of improved student achievement and heightened career and college readiness. Following a thorough review of available digital resources, PGCPS selected the Discovery Education Science Techbooks for use in elementary and middle school

classrooms.

The Discovery Education Science Techbook series is a comprehensive, research-backed science solution for grades K–12. Used in classrooms across the United States, the Science Techbooks drive engagement with exclusive phenomena and interactive content.

Virtual and hands-on investigations, STEM activities, and a variety of instructional supports enhance the delivery of impactful, blended instruction, in person or at a distance. Available with the Science Techbooks are coordinated digital and print teacher guides offering unit, concept, and lesson overviews, standards connections, and differentiation activities to inform instructional planning and guide three-dimensional learning. Teacher editions also provide flexible pacing options, embedded teacher notes, and pathways for understanding that support diverse learners.

Discovery Education's Science Techbook will be used alongside Discovery Education's award-

winning K–12 learning platform, which is currently accessible to teachers and students districtwide. Connecting educators to a vast collection of high-quality, standards-aligned content, ready-to-use digital lessons, intuitive quiz and activity creation tools, and professional learning resources, Discovery Education's K–12 platform facilitates engaging, daily instruction in any learning environment.

"Science is an essential tool for solving the greatest problems of our time and understanding the world around us, and ensuring every child receives a rich education in science should be a national priority. In Prince George's County Public Schools we have made providing all our students an outstanding science education a priority and we are elevating the discipline by offering all learners engaging opportunities to explore their inherent

See NEW TOOLS Page A3

Governor Moore Announces \$5.8 Million in Grant Awards for Maryland Nursing Programs

By PRESS OFFICER
Maryland Governor News

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (July 6, 2023)—Governor Wes Moore today announced that nine Maryland nursing programs will receive \$5.8 million to help address the state's nursing shortage. The FY24 Competitive Institutional Grant funding includes one-year resource grants, multi-year implementa-

tion grants, and planning grants to get more students out of the classroom and into the workforce.

"This funding will create positive and lasting change in the way we educate both our nursing students and faculty, while also addressing the nursing shortage in Maryland," said Gov. Moore. "The grants allow for new and innovative ideas that will continue to develop and

expand health care opportunities in Maryland, which will positively impact our workforce and the state's economy."

During the FY24 application process, the Maryland Higher Education Commission's Nurse Support Program II application process considered innovative opportunities to integrate proven statewide programs and develop strategic partnerships. The final outcomes of this year's awards

emphasized how the proposal supported both national and state initiatives, including:

- Planning for a PhD in Nursing Education Program at the oldest HBCU in Maryland to increase the number of PhD-prepared nursing faculty teaching in Maryland;
- Building a sustainable nurse-managed health center to increase quality clinical opportunities for registered nurses

and nurse practitioner students in the state;

- Increasing enrollment in existing nursing programs and establishing new nursing programs to produce 364 additional nursing graduates;
- Developing a certificate program in Real-World Data & Pragmatic Research, as well as enhance an existing Nurse Educator Certificate program;
- Assisting a university nursing program with resources (e.g., exam software, testing) to prepare pre-licensure and nurse practitioner program students; and

Continuing to support the successful Lead Nursing Forward program with resources for website expansion.

The nine-member review panel recommended funding for six universities and three community colleges:

- Bowie State University
- Cecil College
- Community College of Baltimore County
- Frostburg State University
- Johns Hopkins University
- Notre Dame of Maryland University

See NURSING Page A3

INSIDE

- Placemaking Riverdale Is This Weekend!
 - It's Veterans Day at Baysox Stadium
 - Temporary Closure of Leonard Dyer Regional Health Center
 - Nearly 450 Use Local SoberRide® Program on Independence Day
 - Students Honored
- Around the County, Page A2

Little Chapel Food Pantry Sunday, July 16, 2023

Annual Emily Schindler Lecture Explores Treatment of Anxiety Disorders

Avoid Stolen Vehicles Community, Page A3

ChildWatch: Christine King Farris

Christine King Farris, who passed away on June 29 at age 95, embodied that legacy of servant-leadership as an educator and activist.

Commentary, Page A4

Cheverly Town Administrator Announces Nationwide Search for New Chief of Police

The Calverton School Announces New Interim Head of School

Business and Finance, Page A5

TOWNS and NEIGHBORS

In & Around Morningside-Skyline by Mary McHale 301-735-3451

Queen Mary at the Morningside Parade

I always tell you, my readers, I'll be waving a flag from under the tree at the Suitland Road Baptist Church during Morningside's Independence Day Parade. I even took two American flags to the Sisters (in the convent behind me) to encourage them to show up.

But, if you looked for me under the tree, I wasn't there.

As I walked out my door, Tony Proctor was there to drive me to the parade in his convertible. A total surprise. Then I learned I had been named Skyline's Queen of the Parade.

We drove down to the staging area where Skyline workers, including Suzanne Kenney and Joaquin Spivey, crowned and festooned me with red, white and blue streamers. Tony handed me a flag and Suzanne gave me candy to throw. Someone tossed me a bottle of water. And I was ready.

I have watched the parade from the Baptist tree for maybe 50 years. I had no idea the havoc down at the fire department, with entries pulling up, officers, organizers, and just people milling around.

After about 45 minutes, we were waded into the parade, the lead car behind the Skyline Citizens Association banner. I proudly waved the flag and tossed candy and was surprised to have several watchers call out, "Hi, Mary!"

We paraded about half an hour and then pulled into the VFW. As the parade began to disband, Tony found a way to take me home.

My regal service was over.

Town of Morningside

Drive past GI Liquors and note the "Opening Soon" sign on the boards.

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.

Morningside's upcoming meetings: Work Session, Tuesday, July 11; Town Hall Meeting, Tuesday, July 18, both at the Town Hall, beginning at 7 p.m.

Neighbors & other good people

James Holland Sr., for years Com-

mander of VFW Post 9619, Morningside, is now the new Commander of the Department of Maryland VFW. Todd Traynham is the new commander of our Post 9619. Other officers are Willie Evans, Sr., and Mr. Ballentine.

Cardinal Wilton Gregory, Archbishop of Washington, celebrated his 50th years as a priest on May 4. He grew up on the east side of South Chicago. After ordination, he served as auxiliary bishop of Chicago, bishop of Belleville, Ill; and archbishop of Atlanta, before being tapped as archbishop for the Washington Archdiocese in 2019. He was named Cardinal by Pope Frances on Oct. 25, 2020.

ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT Crabs

St. Philip's Parish is holding an All-you-can-eat Crab Feast fundraiser on Sunday, August 20, 1–5 p.m. at Sarto Hall, 3611 Stewart Rd., Forestville. The menu includes crabs, BBQ chicken, fried fish, hotdogs, beef/turkey burgers, potato salad, coleslaw, corn-on-the-cob, soda, beer, music & more. Tickets, \$75. (You can also reserve a table.) Tickets and information: Andre Jordan, 202-841-0141; Renee @ Church, 301-423-4244; or Stephanie @ School, 301-423-4740.

Places to go and things to do

To mark its 10-year anniversary, Prince George's Shakespeare in the Parks is presenting "The Tempest" Sundays through July 16. Admission, free. For place and time, go to mncppc.org. Karaoke Dance is held at VFW Post 9619, Morningside, every Friday night, 7 p.m. to midnight. Admission is free. To attend, you must be 35 or older and have a picture I.D.

Suitland Road Baptist Church hosts its annual Community Health and Wellness Outreach on Saturday, August 5, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Dr. Kelvin McCune, Pastor, invites you to participate. Suitland Road Baptist is 6412 Suitland Road. Information, call 301-219-2296.

The annual Forestville Pregnancy Center Golf Tournament is coming up August 8 at Oak Creek Golf Course. If you wish to play, go to forestville.pregnancycenter.org and click on More,

then Yearly Events, and Scroll down to "Register Now." You can register your foursome (\$500) or become a hole sponsor (\$150). Either way, you are helping to "save lives...two at a time."

Changing landscape

Five years ago this June, a gunman with a grudge against the Capital Gazette, in Annapolis, burst into the newsroom and killed five. The Gazette has moved to a new location, leaving its former pressroom a haunted, painful reminder. But now, Greg Coster and his wife Christie have bravely opened The Big Bean Coffee Shop in the newsroom. It's doing well at 888 Bestgate Road. Greg said people ask about the tragedy. "We listen."

A traditional memorial to the slain journalists has been created in downtown Annapolis, close to the Maryland State House.

Cori's Modern Kitchen & Bar has opened at 4710 Auth Place in Camp Springs. The menu includes rainbow trout, grilled or blackened, garlic spinach, fried green tomatoes, lamb chops (Hawaiian marinated & grilled). Hungry? Check it out.

A home at 6705 Pine Grove Drive, in Morningside, just sold for \$230,000.

Helen Fieldson

Helen Carapetian Fieldson, 87, lab worker for many years at Southern Maryland Hospital, died May 31. She was a voracious reader, lover of languages, opera fan and world traveler.

She was born in Tehran, Iran, and came to the U.S. for a program at Flora MacDonald College in Red Springs, N.C. She graduated with a BS in Medical Technology from Medical College of Virginia in Richmond, which is where she met her husband, Thomas L. Fieldson, MD.

Dr. Fieldson died in 2013. Survivors include her children and their spouses, Stephanie and Jack DeFilippo, Gregory and Sara Fieldson and Christine and Amin Ashrafzadeh; eight grandsons, and her sister Amineh Koundakjian. Fu-

See **MORNINGSIDE** Page A3

Around the County

Placemaking Riverdale Is This Weekend!

Placemaking Riverdale will take place on **July 14 and 15, 2023**, in the Plaza del Alamo parking lot at 5550 Kenilworth Avenue, Riverdale Park, Maryland.

Placemaking Riverdale is another pilot project in the placemaking series organized by the Prince George's County Planning Department in partnership with Better Block. The Planning Department is collaborating with Central Kenilworth Avenue Revitalization (CKAR CDC) to host a 2-day placemaking festival celebrating local arts and culture of the Greater Riverdale area.

—Central Kenilworth Avenue Revitalization

It's Veterans Day at Baysox Stadium With the Office of the County Executive

Prince George's County veterans are invited to join our Office of Veteran Affairs for an evening of food, fun, and baseball with the Bowie Baysox on **Thursday, July 20**, at the Bowie Baysox Stadium. The first 200 veterans are invited to reserve free tickets while supplies last. Attendees will be able to meet the liaisons from the Office of Veteran Affairs and mingle with fellow veterans. The evening will begin with a happy hour and live music at 5:30 p.m. and the game begins at 6:35 p.m. Parking is free. Register for tickets via Eventbrite.

—Community Connections Newsletter, July 7, 2023

Temporary Closure of Leonard Dyer Regional Health Center to Facilitate Renovation and Improvement

Enhancing Healthcare Services for Prince George's County Residents LARGO, Md. (June 30, 2023)—The Prince George's County Health Department announced today that the Leonard Dyer Regional Health Center, temporarily close[d] its doors beginning Monday, July 3, 2023, to undergo essential facility improvements and renovations. The Leonard Dyer Regional Health Center, located at 9314 Piscataway Road, Clinton, MD 20735, serves as a vital public health facility, providing high-quality health services to the residents of Prince George's County.

"As the local public health agency, we have a responsibility to ensure that our residents receive exceptional care," stated Acting Health Officer Sanmi Areola. "We are committed to providing top-notch healthcare services in up-to-date and well-maintained facilities."

Prince George's County remains steadfast in its commitment to delivering the best healthcare experience to its residents. The renovation project at the Leonard Dyer Regional Health Center is a testament to the County's commitment to stay at the forefront and maintain its core facilities to the highest standards. Improvements to the facility are expected to be completed in August 2023 and include the addition of the new Dyer Care Center, a crisis stabilization center that will assist residents.

Recognizing that the Leonard Dyer Regional Health Building serves as a central hub for a wide range of services, the County Health Department is providing alternative locations nearby to ensure continued access to necessary resources throughout the closure period. Residents participating in the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program can continue to receive services through the County Health Department:

- To schedule a telephone appointment, please call 301-856-9600.
- Visit the Cheverly Health Center located at 3003 Hospital Drive, Cheverly, MD 20785.
- Visit the WIC Central Avenue location at 7836 Central Avenue, Landover, MD 20785.

For more information, visit the County Health Department's website at: <https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/1588/Health-Services>

—Lauren Moses, Office of the Health Officer

Nearly 450 Use Local SoberRide® Program on Independence Day

DC area's DUI prevention effort removes potential drunk driver from area roadways nearly every 1.5 minutes on July 4

TYSONS, Va. (July 7, 2023)—Nearly 450 (447) persons in the Washington-metropolitan area used the free safe ride service, SoberRide®, this Independence Day (July 4) as opposed to possibly driving home drunk.

"For its hours of operation this Independence Day, this level of ridership translates into SoberRide removing a potential drunk driver from Greater Washington's roadways nearly every minute-and-a-half (96 seconds)," said Kurt Erickson, President of the nonprofit Washington Regional Alcohol Program (WRAP), the organization conducting the region's SoberRide® effort.

Lyft provided SoberRide® trips throughout the Washington-metropolitan area to local residents ages 21 and older who otherwise may have attempted to drive home after drinking.

WRAP also offers its free safe ride service on St. Patrick's Day, Cinco de Mayo, Halloween and the winter holidays through and including New Year's Eve.

More information about WRAP's SoberRide® initiative can be found at www.SoberRide.com.

Local Student Named to President's Honor Roll at Bemidji State University

BEMIDJI, Minn. (July 5, 2023)—**Juliana Nixon**, from Upper Marlboro, 20772, was named to the President's Honor Roll at Bemidji State University in Bemidji, Minn. for the spring 2023 semester.

Nixon was one of 422 BSU students named to the President's Honor Roll. To be eligible, Bemidji State University students must be enrolled for at least 12 credits and earn a GPA of 4.0 during the semester.

—Eric Sorenson, Bemidji State University

Area Residents Graduate From Mercer University

MACON/ATLANTA, Ga. (June 30, 2023)—Mercer University conferred bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees to more than 2,300 students at five commencements held in May in Macon and Atlanta.

The following area students were among those who graduated from Mercer during the 2022–2023 academic year:

Accokeek, Maryland: **Tracy Mills**, College of Education, Master of Education

Laurel, Maryland: **Naomi Chapman**, College of Nursing, Master of Science in Nursing

—Jennifer Falk, Mercer University

Brandywine-Aquasco

by Audrey Johnson 301-922-5384

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY ALUMNI CHAPTER

Prince George's County Alumni Chapter Bowie State University National Alumni Association, Inc. held their Annual Benefit Social Affair June 25, 2023, at Martin's Crosswinds, 7400 Greenway Center Drive, Greenbelt, Maryland 20770.

"The Prince George's County Chapter (MD) of the Bowie State University National Alumni Association was proud to have you attend our 50+ Annual Benefit Affair. We would like to also extend a hearty and sincere thanks to everyone for sharing an afternoon with us."

"As you know, there is much history present at Bowie State University. We are blessed to have many that knew and shared that history. We thank those who came before us for their sacrifice, commitment, and perseverance. In the Bowie Spirit." Addie L. Martin Chapter President.

GREETINGS

"I am honored to congratulate the Prince George's County Maryland Chapter of the Bowie State University National Alumni Association for the years-long tradition of your Annual Scholarship Dance. Your support of our beloved BSU spans over five decades and allows us to continuously serve as a model for innovation, academic excellence, and student success."

"We are thankful that the funds raised through the Scholarship Dance assist students with second semester scholarships and financial emergencies, providing these students the opportunity to experience the best of BSU."

"I wish every member of your chapter all the best in your efforts to make a positive and transformative difference in the lives of our students." Aminta H. Breaux, Ph.D., President.

GREETINGS

"As the oldest Historically Black Institution of Higher Education in the state of Maryland, with its 158-year-old rich history of exceptional graduates; please accept our congratulations as we celebrate Bowie State University's continued receipt of resources to further our rich legacy."

"The purpose of the Alumni Association is to support our alma mater, alumni, and students. It is an exciting time here at Bowie State University and your commitment fuels our efforts and enables us to achieve maximum results. Please use our website at www.bsunaa.org to learn more about the organization, the services we provide and the events we offer our members. Invite you to get involved. You can join a chapter and participate in chapter activities; attend and support BSUNAA functions; and lend your skills and expertise to the organization."

"There are so many dynamic alumni with gifts and passions, and we want to include every member in the National Alumni

Association. Our goal is to seek out our alumni and embrace their talents so that we can continue to grow strong and have a presence on a global level."

"Again, I salute each of you for this successful event. We ask that you join the BSUNAA to continue our legacy of excellence, promote our history of academic superiority, and build on our active contributions to our endowed treasure." Bulldog4Life, Darren M. Swain President.

BULLDOGS GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN 2023

IN LOVING MEMORY: Pearl Lee Edwards, Courtney Pringle, Elmore Adams, Elbe Davis, Sr., and Alberta Butler.

CONGRATULATIONS JASON MITCHELL

Congratulations Jason Mitchell on your new position as the Associate Athletic Director for PolyTechnic High School in Pasadena, California. Poly Tech is the first nonprofit, coeducational and independent school in Southern California. Jason is the son of Larry and Patricia Mitchell, and grandson of the late James Garnell and Ruth Turner of Brandywine, Maryland.

4TH ANNUAL CRABBY CRAB FEAST & BUFFET

The annual Crabby Crab Feast & Buffet will be on Saturday, August 26, 2023, from 7 p.m.–11 p.m. hosted by Shelley Hardy at 16111 Livingston Road, Accokeek, Maryland 20607-2227. Tickets are \$85 pp and up. DJ SHABLAT on the 1's and 2's, raffles, games, and surprises.

All you can eat is Crabs, Cheeseburgers, Sausage with peppers and onions, fried chicken, fried fish, steamed spicy Shrimp, corn on the cob, hush puppies, pasta salad, mixed green salad. Drinks: Sweet tea, Lemonade, Water. Limited open bar (Beer and Wine) is free for the night while it lasts. You do not want to miss this grand event. Purchase tickets at: <https://eventbrite.com/e/510485986327>. Share, share, share!!

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations to Bonnie and Daniel Droter, Karl and Romonia Pinkney, Ugo and Mamou Mbakwe, Anthony and Joelle Oghogho who are Clinton United Methodist Church members celebrating Wedding Anniversaries in July.

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

Happy Birthday to Timothy Edwards, Robert Miley, Ezra Prah, Barbara Burdette, Elizabeth King, Deserae Hughes, Alma Pinkney, Trevor Bourne, Franklyn Issac, Khari Dee, Princess Mitchell, Prince Iheanyi Mbakwe, Ayden Anthony Jones, Osama Omoregbe, Wayne Baker, Mamou Mbakwe, Shirley Young, Sally Davis, Amina Hughes and Etinosa Omoregbe who are Clinton United Methodist Church members celebrating birthdays in July.

COMMUNITY

Civics in Summer Presented by STAND UP! at Marietta House Museum

By STACEY HAWKINS
Marietta House Museum

Have a great and meaningful afternoon at Civics in Summer with like-minded teens who advocate for social justice in our community. This **Saturday, July 15** from noon to 3 p.m. take part and be heard on issues including stopping gun violence, human trafficking, and book bans in our schools and in our neighborhoods. From tug-of-war to game shows, people of all ages will learn more about how they can evoke change in their communities.

Set on the beautiful grounds of

Marietta House Museum in Glenn Dale, Prince George's County, teens can attend round table discussions, compete in field games, enjoy locally made food, and see art by local teens. Free admission. Wemuststandup on Instagram and on Eventbrite.

For more information, please call 301-464-5291 or email mariettahouse@pgparks.com.

Marietta House Museum is located at 5626 Bell Station Road, Glenn Dale, MD. 20769, and is a property of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission.

Maryland State Police, Vehicle Theft Prevention Council Stress Heightened Awareness to Avoid Stolen Vehicles

By OFFICE OF MEDIA COMMUNICATIONS
Maryland State Police

PIKESVILLE, Md. (July 3, 2023)—The Maryland State Police, along with the Maryland Vehicle Theft Prevention Council, are reminding motorists of the importance of taking proper precautions to ensure vehicles do not get stolen.

The warnings come as **July is National Vehicle Theft Prevention Month**. Consider the following:

- Every 47 minutes, a vehicle is stolen in Maryland, while in the United States, on average, a vehicle is stolen every 32 seconds.
- In most cases, vehicles are stolen for the resale or distribution of parts, transportation purposes, and for the commission of other crimes or exportation.

According to the Maryland Vehicle Theft Prevention Council, **52 percent of vehicles are never recovered**. In 2021, there were **11,143** vehicles stolen in Maryland while **937,936** vehicles were stolen in the United States, costing vehicle owners more than \$8 billion.

Of the vehicles stolen in Maryland, **50%** had the keys still inside, **60%** were left unlocked and **95%** of the vehicles stolen had no anti-theft device.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) reports that vehicle thefts nationally have increased by more than **25 percent between 2019 and 2022**. Much of this can be attributed to a surge in thefts of Hyundai and Kia cars, many of which lack an immobilizer. The manufacturers have since offered a free security software update.

The software upgrades were announced following a viral TikTok social media challenge that showed viewers how to hotwire the vehicles. About 3.8 million Hyundai and 4.5 million Kia vehicles are eligible for the update, according to the NHTSA. To see if your vehicle is eligible for the free updates, contact Hyundai at 1-800-633-5151 or Kia at 1-800-333-4542.

One of the primary goals of National Vehicle Theft Prevention Month is to highlight how vehicle thefts can be prevented with some basic steps. As a driver, you can take steps to keep your vehicle and belongings safe. Here are ways you can help prevent motor vehicle theft:

- Utilize an anti-theft device.
- Park in well-lit areas.
- Close and lock all windows and doors when you park.
- Put away your valuables.
- Do not leave your keys in your vehicle.
- Do not leave the area while your vehicle is running.

The Maryland General Assembly created the Vehicle Theft Prevention Council in 1994 as a statewide planning and dedicated funding resource. The Council embraces a statewide strategy directed at public awareness, vehicle theft by juveniles, law enforcement, and prosecution through a grant award process. Efforts by the Vehicle Theft Prevention Council have led to a more than 71 percent reduction in vehicle thefts in Maryland between 1994 and 2021. Those efforts have saved Maryland motorists close to \$240 million over that span.

Nursing from A1

- Prince George's Community College
- Salisbury University
- University of Maryland, Baltimore

"This joint effort between the Maryland Higher Education Commission, the Maryland Health Services Cost Review Commission, and the higher education institutions in Maryland is changing the way we approach the education to workforce pipeline," said Maryland Higher Education Commission Acting Secretary Dr. Sanjay Rai. "The ideas submitted will not only increase enrollment and establish accelerated nursing programs, but will also create new programs to educate geographically underserved nursing students in western Maryland."

For more information, visit nursesupport.org.

Morningside from A2

neral was at Soorp Khatch Armenian Apostolic Church, Bethesda, with burial at St. Thomas Church Cemetery, Upper Marlboro.

Milestones

Happy Birthday to Norma Wright and Gary Lewis, Jr., July 16; my granddaughter Claire Mudd, Michael Busky and Chief Stephen Armhold, July 17; Allyssa Frederick and Russell Butler, July 18; Mike Fowler Sr., Eddie Hall, Kaye Proctor, Donna Buchin, Dorothy Gessner and Tina Nichols, July 20; Mary Hay, July 21; Jeff Frederick, Ryan Simms and David Cook, July 22.

Happy Anniversary to my daughter and son-in-law Sheila and John Mudd, their 33rd on July 20; Percy and Barbara Crawford, their 51st (!) on July 22, and Steve and Tessie Johnson, their 23rd on July 22.

Little Chapel Food Pantry Sunday, July 16, 2023

By PRESS OFFICER
St. Philip's Episcopal Church

The next Little Chapel Food Pantry at St. Philip's Episcopal Church will be this **Sunday, July 16, 2023**, from 9

a.m. to Noon or until supplies run out, at the corner of 6th and Prince George Streets, next to the playground behind the church off of Main Street, Laurel, MD. Frozen items and fresh produce are also available with non perishables, while supplies last.

Annual Emily Schindler Lecture Explores Treatment of Anxiety Disorders

By ELYZABETH MARCUSSEN
Hospice of the Chesapeake

PASADENA, Md. (July 6, 2023)—Chesapeake Life Center invites the community to the 18th annual Emily Schindler Memorial Lecture, "Contemporary Integrative Treatment of the Anxiety Disorders," presented by Dr. Sally Winston. The lecture will be held from 9 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. **Friday, Sept. 22**, at Bowie State University, Bowie, Maryland.

In this workshop, Winston will discuss how to distinguish the different presentations of anxiety disorders so treatment can be tailored to the individual. Winston also will introduce a new conceptualization of generalized anxiety disorder as a close relative of obsessive-compulsive disorder, or OCD. Participants will be able to offer clients psychoeducational information to instill hope, insight and motivation as well as to reduce anxious bewilderment.

This annual lecture was created in 2005 through a gift to the Schindler family from the Saint Agnes Cancer Center. Emily Schindler was an 18-year-old freshman at Frostburg State University and a member of the SPY swim team in Severna Park, Maryland, when she was tragically killed in a car accident in 2004. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. and



PHOTO COURTESY HOSPICE OF THE CHESAPEAKE

Dr. Sally Winston

a light breakfast will be provided. Maryland Board social workers can earn three Category 1 continuing education credits. Pre-registration is required and can be completed at <https://education.hospicechesapeake.org/item/2023-schindler>. The cost is \$40. For details, call 888-501-7077 or email griefinfo@hospicechesapeake.org.

About the presenter:

Dr. Sally Winston is a clinical psychologist and a master clinician who has spe-

cialized in the treatment of anxiety disorders and obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD) for the past four decades. She founded and is Executive Director of the Anxiety and Stress Disorders Institute of Maryland, a freestanding center located on the grounds of Sheppard Pratt Hospital in Towson. She was the inaugural recipient of the prestigious Jerilyn Ross award of the Anxiety and Depression Association of America in 2011 and served as chair of the ADAA Clinical Advisory Board. She has co-written four books with Dr. Martin Seif, which have been translated into at least a dozen languages worldwide. She and Seif write a blog for Psychology Today.com called "Living with a Sticky Mind." Winston resides in Timonium, Maryland, and maintains an active psychotherapy practice.

Chesapeake Life Center, a program service of Hospice of the Chesapeake, serves hospice family members and the community with bereavement services and activities designed to enhance the quality of life for those grieving the loss of a loved one. Chesapeake Life Center is authorized by the Board of Social Work Examiners in Maryland to sponsor social work continuing education learning activities and maintains full responsibility for this program. This training qualifies for Category 1 continuing education units.

Exhibition: BETWEEN TWO FIRES Work by Sue Carrie Drummond

By KATE TAYLOR DAVIS
Pyramid Atlantic

HYATTSVILLE, Md. (July 3, 2023)—Materiality is central to Mississippi-based artist Sue Carrie Drummond's work. In *Between Two Fires*, she examines clothing as material culture, extracting tacit narratives from garments and the bodies that wear them. Her work explores delicate fabrics and their ability to ensnare the viewer and the wearer.

The exhibition features meticulously layered work using different process combinations, including hand dyeing, screenprinting, stitching, book making, and handmade paper with blowouts, the last being a process for which Drummond is particularly known.

The exhibition runs through August 13, 2023 in Pyramid's Helen C. Frederick Gallery. Gallery hours are Wed.–Thurs., 10–8 p.m. and Fri.–Sun., 10–6 p.m. Pyramid is located at 4318 Gallatin Street, Hyattsville, Maryland 20781.

Of her work, Drummond shares, "Garments and cloth are the primary

sources from which I draw out information about lived experiences, both personal and communal, that speak to identity, relationships, and performance. Until fairly recently we created garments by hand. The investment of time and labor to produce by hand means that each garment was further cherished, maintained, and retained for longer periods of time. For this reason, I am drawn to labor-intensive processes that require meticulous attention and repetition such as papermaking, printmaking, and handwork."

Sue Carrie Drummond is a papermaker, printmaker, and book artist. She's currently an Associate Professor of Art and Chair of the Art Department at Millsaps College in Jackson, MS. Drummond regularly shows her work in juried and curated exhibitions across the country and many of her pieces are included in special collections nationwide such as the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Library of Congress, Yale University, and Cornell University. She also has pieces in the permanent collection at the Bainbridge Island Museum of Art in Bainbridge Is-

land, Washington, and the Lauren Rogers Museum of Art in Laurel, Mississippi. Drummond received her MFA in Book Arts and Printmaking at The University of the Arts in Philadelphia, PA in 2015. She graduated Phi Beta Kappa with Honors from Millsaps College in 2012 with a Bachelor of Arts in Studio Art and minors in Art History and Museum Studies.

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.

New Tools from A1

curiosity about the natural world as they learn to think critically, solve real-world problems, and build pertinent skills that prepare them for an exciting future," said Dr. Godfrey Rangasamy, PGCP's K–12 Science Supervisor. "Discovery Education's Science Techbook has been proven to meet this mission in classrooms nationwide, and we are excited to begin to integrate it into teaching and learning in our elementary and middle school classrooms."

In addition to digital resources, all PGCP's educators using Discovery Education services will receive dedicated professional development from Discovery Education's team of professional learning experts. These learning opportunities for teachers help school systems recognize the full return on their edtech investment. Through these interactive professional development sessions, participants will learn best practices for integrating their new digital resources into instruction. Effective professional development maximizes the power of these resources, increases student engagement

in learning, and supports the continued academic development of all students.

Also, all PGCP's educators enjoy access to the Discovery Education Network. A global community of education professionals, the Discovery Education Network connects members across school systems and around the world through social media, virtual conferences, and in-person events, fostering valuable idea sharing and inspiration.

"Discovery Education is excited to launch this new phase of collaboration with our long-time partners in Prince George's County Public Schools," said Coni Rechner, Discovery Education's Senior Vice President of State & Strategic Partnership. "In addition to creating a compelling science curriculum supporting the success of the youngest learners, the district is showing tremendous leadership by using our services to support efforts to engage K–8 students in STEM and career exploration. Prince George's County Public Schools is creating a model that I believe will be replicated nationwide, and we are proud to support their efforts."

For more information about Discov-

ery Education's award-winning digital resources—which can be purchased with federal stimulus funds—and professional learning services, visit www.discoveryeducation.com, and stay connected with Discovery Education on social media through Twitter and LinkedIn.

Discovery Education is the worldwide edtech leader whose state-of-the-art digital platform supports learning wherever it takes place. Through its award-winning multimedia content, instructional supports, and innovative classroom tools, Discovery Education helps educators deliver equitable learning experiences engaging all students and supporting higher academic achievement on a global scale. Discovery Education serves approximately 4.5 million educators and 45 million students worldwide, and its resources are accessed in over 100 countries and territories. Inspired by the global media company Warner Bros. Discovery, Inc. Discovery Education partners with districts, states, and trusted organizations to empower teachers with leading edtech solutions that support the success of all learners. www.discoveryeducation.com.

COMMENTARY

Marian Wright Edelman

Founder and President Emerita,
Children's Defense Fund



ChildWatch:

Christine King Farris

"I am convinced that, to a certain extent, genealogy and DNA combined to set the arc of my life, and the lives of my two siblings—at birth. I understand why the calling to participate in the freedom struggle was literally 'in our blood' . . . Generations of my family who came before us tilled the soil and gave us their shoulders to stand on. We have tried to respond to the call of conscience and the will of God.

"Every now and then, I have to chuckle as I realize there are people who actually believe ML just appeared. They think he simply happened, that he appeared fully formed, without context, ready to change the world. Take it from his big sister, that's simply not the case. We are the products of a long line of activists and ministers. We come from a family of incredible men and women who served as leaders in their time and place, long before ML was ever thought of. My brother was an ordinary man, called by a God in whom he had

abundant faith."

These are the words of a proud sister describing the family legacy that shaped her life and her younger brothers' lives, and, in "ML"'s case, helped prepare Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. to make history. Christine King Farris, who passed away on June 29 at age 95, embodied that legacy of servant-leadership as an educator and activist. She taught generations of students at Spelman College and helped establish the Martin Luther King, Jr. Center for Nonviolent Change in Atlanta, where she served as a founding board member, vice-chair, and treasurer. At the King Center last week, her son, Isaac Farris, Jr., said, "Mother was not the type of person to need attention or be out front. But she was there at every march. She was there, working behind the scenes, supporting her brother . . . She was there, throughout it all."

In her memoir *Through It All: Reflections on My Life, My Family, and My Faith* she said that

just like her brothers' callings to become ministers on the front lines of the battle for human and civil rights, her calling to be an educator was "in the blood" too. In a tribute Spelman noted "even before she graduated from the Spelman nursery in 1931 (as a three-year-old,) Christine King Farris' mother, grandmother, and great-aunt had all matriculated at the institution." The Kings' grandmother attended Spelman Seminary during the first decade after its founding, and their mother, Alberta Williams King, graduated from Spelman's secondary school. Christine was following in their footsteps when she enrolled as a Spelman undergraduate at age 16.

At Spelman she was voted "Most Distinguished Student" before graduating with her degree in economics in 1948 on the same day Martin received his degree in sociology from Morehouse College. At the time, Georgia was among the states that provided vouchers to pay for Black students' graduate education at schools out of state rather than integrating their own—as she put it, "thus insuring the preservation of the all-white halls of the University of Georgia." This allowed her to go to New York to attend Columbia University, where she earned two masters' degrees in education. She began her career as an educator in the Atlanta public school system and then returned to Spelman, where she served for 56 years as a professor of education and Director of the Learning Resources Center. At her retirement in May 2014 she became Professor Emerita and Spelman's longest-serving faculty member.

She was behind the scenes during key events

like the Montgomery Bus Boycott and took part in historic demonstrations like the 1965 Selma to Montgomery voting rights march and the 1966 March Against Fear in Mississippi. She was also at her brother's side after his assassination, flying to Memphis to claim his body. She was never able to bear to return to the city. A little over a year after Dr. King's assassination, their brother A.D. King was found dead in his home swimming pool. Then in 1974, Christine King Farris was in the sanctuary at Ebenezer Baptist Church when a gunman burst in and shot and killed her mother as Mrs. King sat at the organ playing "The Lord's Prayer." As her niece, Rev. Bernice King, said last week, "I was just amazed at her ability to go through all of the tragedy that she went through and still stand strong and still be full of faith and love." Rev. King also said, "She experienced profound tragedy and was sustained by love, faith in God, and hope for humanity. She kept teaching, kept growing, kept mothering so many. Her life was a testimony."

Besides her memoir, Christine King Farris also wrote the children's books *My Brother Martin* and *March On! The Day My Brother Martin Changed the World*. Throughout her life she was committed to sharing her family's story and reminding younger generations that transformative leaders like her brother are not born as magical superheroes, but as real people, the products of the families and communities around them, who rise up to the work they are called to do. This lesson will be her legacy.

—July 7, 2023

Reins Loosened Slightly on Chesapeake Bay Crab Harvest

By JEREMY COX and TIMOTHY B. WHEELER
Bay Journal News Service

The Chesapeake Bay's watermen are getting green lights to catch a few more blue crabs, a year after dismal population numbers led to steep cutbacks in their allowance.

The region's fishery managers are far from confident that a surfeit of blue crabs now lurks beneath the Bay's surf. But they say that results from the just-released wintertime survey were promising enough to relax some of the restrictions.

"We're being cautious, but I think we're being responsible," said Ed Tankard, a board member with the Virginia Marine Resources Commission, which voted June 27 to ease certain bushel limits.

In Maryland, the state Department of Natural Resources announced on the same day a raft of industry-friendly changes to its crab controls, including modestly increasing the allowable harvest of female crabs and lifting limits on the harvest of males over Labor Day weekend.

Those moves came a few weeks after the panel that regulates the Potomac River's fishing industry agreed to roll back bushel limits on female crabs to 2021 levels.

Crabbers, though, say they are disappointed that regulators didn't give them more slack. Although the 2022 winter survey revealed the population to be at its lowest ebb on record, the commercial harvest went on to exceed expectations.

"We happened to have good fortune last year," said Robert T.

Brown, president of the Maryland Watermen's Association. "Mother Nature was kind to us. [But] it seems like when Mother Nature is good to us, we get punished and penalized for it."

This year, the winter survey, released May 18, estimated that the population had rebounded by 40%, increasing to about 323 million crabs. But that was still well below the historic average for the survey, which began in 1990.

"We manage based on trends," Alexa Galván, a VMRC fishery management planner, told the agency's board. "So, we are a little concerned about the [overall population] trend of being well below average in the last three years."

In Virginia, regulators are offering a bit of relief to harvesters of all categories but are giving the biggest increases to the largest operations.

The VMRC sets restrictions based on the size of an operation's permitted catch size. Under the standards approved at the board's June 27 meeting, crabbers in the largest permit category will get to increase their daily harvests from 27 to 36 bushels per day. Except for the smallest class of permit-holders, the rest of the fishery will be allowed to keep an additional bushel per day as well.

Those changes apply only to the "low-bushel" periods from Oct. 1–Nov 30 and from March 17–May 15 next year. The board made no modifications to the crab season's peaks of July 5–

Sept. 30 this year and May 16–July 4 next year.

Last year, the largest harvesters in Virginia saw the biggest bushel cuts. Those licensees account for 13% of the operations but 38% of the catch, Galván said.

This year's modest boost in the Bay's crab population in the wintertime survey made it possible for the agency to raise the overall catch limit, officials say. So, they set aside the bulk of that number for the largest category of harvesters to help offset the cuts they sustained last year.

Chris Moore, a Virginia-based scientist with the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, said that although the bushel increases could theoretically lead to heavier fishing pressure, the reality is that crabbers usually don't max out their quotas. VMRC research shows that, from 2015–2022, nearly 9 out of 10 commercial outings during the height of the season returned to shore with 75% or less of their bushel limit.

"I think it was important to create an equitable conservation benefit across all pot categories," Moore said. "This basically restored equity."

The agency's industry-dominated Crab Management Advisory Committee had unanimously supported the changes during its May meeting. But several crabbers urged the VMRC board to consider steps to allow more crabs to be brought ashore.

Peter Nixon, a Norfolk crabber and longtime advisory committee member, said he only sided with staff recommendations because he thought it was



PHOTO BY ALICIA PIMENTAL/CHESAPEAKE BAY PROGRAM

A scientist at the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center in Edgewater, MD, holds a juvenile blue crab. This year's winter survey of blue crabs found that the population of juveniles remained below average for the fourth year in a row.

important to improve parity among the permit classes. He called on the board to lift the decade-old ban on dredging during the winter, arguing that it would provide crabbers with a much-needed source of income while only marginally raising the overall catch.

The VMRC left the door open to further easing, directing the crab advisory committee to meet in late August to re-evaluate the restrictions for the fall based on fresh data.

In Maryland, the seafood industry had sought the Labor Day reprieve to help meet the surge in demand over the Sept. 1–4 period, said Michael Luisi, assistant director of DNR Fishing and Boating Services. The agency's staff offset that increase by adding four days at the beginning of October to limited harvesting.

Last year was the first time that Maryland officials had restricted the male harvest during August and September. Keeping

those measures in place again this year will help ensure that the male catch doesn't exceed the benchmark set to safeguard ample numbers for reproduction, Luisi said.

The male crab population hit a recorded low in last year's winter dredge survey. This year's small increase wasn't big enough to persuade regulators to relax their harvest limits.

"We're happy [the male population] increased," Luisi said, "but it still hasn't reached average yet."

Maryland fishery managers also kept in place the reduction in bushels for recreational crabbers. They were cut from two to one last year.

The Potomac River Fisheries Commission, the bi-state panel

that oversees fishing in that Bay tributary separating Maryland and Virginia, agreed June 8 to raise female bushel limits. Watermen with 400-pot licenses are seeing their daily limits rise from 12 to 16 bushels; 500-pot licenses are going from 16 to 20 bushels.

In addition, the commission decided that, starting in 2024, each person involved in recreational crabbing will need to obtain a sport crabbing license. Currently, the panel issues recreational licenses to a boat and a single person assigned to that vessel. The main goal of the change is to be better able to quantify recreational participation, officials say.

Scientists in the Chesapeake region aren't sure what has been causing the dip in the number of crabs in recent years. Theories include predation from invasive species, declining water quality and a dearth of males to fertilize the females.

Researchers are so concerned that last year they agreed to undertake the first comprehensive stock assessment of the species since 2011.

Jeremy Cox is a Bay Journal staff writer based in Maryland. You can reach him at jcox@bayjournal.com. Timothy B. Wheeler is the Bay Journal's associate editor and senior writer, based in Maryland. You can reach him at twheeler@bayjournal.com. This article first appeared June 29, 2023, on BayJournal.com and was distributed by the Bay Journal News Service.

WSSC Water Completes Innovative Wastewater Treatment Study

Project Funded by The Water Research Foundation Effectively Removes Nitrogen and Phosphorus in Wastewater While Reducing Energy and Chemical Costs

By PRESS OFFICER
WSSC Water

LAUREL, Md. (July 6, 2023)—Working to reduce operating costs and greenhouse gas emissions—while meeting strict permit requirements to protect the Chesapeake Bay—WSSC Water, Brown and Caldwell and Northwestern University recently completed an innovative pilot study at WSSC Water's Seneca Water Resource Recovery Facility (WRRF). The \$300,000 research project,

Demonstration of Progressive Carbon Efficient Nitrogen with Biological Phosphorus Removal in a Conventional BNR Facility, was funded by The Water Research Foundation.

The conventional method of removing nitrogen and phosphorus from wastewater relies on high energy and chemical use to achieve results. Based on research, the team was able to modify the treatment process to remove nitrogen and phosphorus from wastewater while reducing energy and chem-

ical costs. Through this demonstration process and subsequent full-scale implementation, the Seneca WRRF is on track to save approximately \$575,000 per year in energy and chemical costs as it continues to meet strict nutrient removal requirements.

"Implementing strategies to reduce our carbon footprint while saving money is a win-win," said WSSC Water General Man-

See STUDY Page A6

The Prince George's Post

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BUSINESS AND FINANCE

Social Security Matters

Ask Rusty:

Why Can't I Collect Survivor Benefits From My Deceased Wife?

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 a 62 year old widower that is still working full time. While my late spouse was in hospice, I was able to get her to apply for Social Security disability and she received one payment before she passed away two years ago. I was told that I could collect a survivor benefit, so I called my local Social Security office, but they told me that I could not collect any type of benefits from my wife and that all the money she paid into SS for all of those years was basically gone for good. Would you please advise what I can do and if this is true? I was also told that Social Security's agents will do everything they can to avoid paying out benefits. **Signed: Frustrated Widower**

Dear Frustrated Widower: I suspect that the reason Social Security said you were not eligible for benefits as a widower is because you are working full time. At age 62, you are subject to Social Security's "earnings test" which limits how much you can earn while collecting early Social Security benefits. The 2023 earnings limit is \$21,240 and, if that is exceeded, SS will take away \$1 in benefits for every \$2 you are over the limit. If your earnings are high enough, that could make you temporarily ineligible to collect benefits until 1) your earnings are less, or 2) you reach your full retirement age (FRA) when the earnings test no longer applies.

Assuming you have not yet claimed your personal SS retirement benefit, you are still eligible to collect a survivor benefit from your wife when your earnings are less or after you reach your full retirement age. One strategy you may wish to consider, if you plan to keep working full time, is to wait and claim only your surviving spouse benefit at your FRA (67), thus allowing your personal SS retirement benefit to continue growing until you are 70 when your personal SS retirement benefit will be about 75% more than it would be now. Although your survivor benefit reaches maximum at your FRA, your personal benefit doesn't reach maximum until age 70, so it's possible to collect your smaller survivor benefit from your wife first and claim your higher personal benefit later.

You were apparently given some confusing information when you contacted Social Security. If you haven't already claimed your own SS retirement benefit, you are still eligible for a surviving spouse benefit from your

wife but likely cannot collect a widower benefit at this time because you're working full time. However, that doesn't mean you can never collect a survivor benefit; only that you can't collect it at this time because of the "earnings test." The earnings test goes away when you reach age 67, so you can claim only your survivor benefit at that time (or before if you no longer work full time) and allow your personal SS retirement benefit to continue to grow (to age 70 if you like).

From our experience with the Social Security Administration, the skill level of SSA representatives varies but we have never suspected their goal was trying to avoid paying benefits due. Nevertheless, depending on the agent you spoke with, the information provided may have been less clear about the best claiming strategy for you—which is why the AMAC Foundation's Social Security Advisory Service exists. Our advisors are all highly experienced and strive to provide you with complete and clear information which enables you to make an informed choice about how and when to claim the Social Security benefits you are entitled to. I hope we have succeeded.

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/joinamac.

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Cheverly Town Administrator Announces Nationwide Search for New Chief of Police

By PRESS OFFICER
The Town of Cheverly Maryland

CHEVERLY, Md. (June 30, 2023)—Cheverly Town Administrator Dylan Galloway recently announced a nationwide search to select the next chief of police for the Cheverly Police Department. Earlier today, Town Administrator Galloway accepted the resignation of Chief Carl Miller. This is effective immediately.

Miller served as the Cheverly Police Chief beginning in March of 2022. He had been the interim chief of police since November 2021.

As the selection process proceeds for the new chief, Town Administrator Galloway will oversee administrative management of the police department until an interim chief of police is named in the coming days.

"I assure the residents of Cheverly that I, the Mayor, the Town Council, and the men and women of the police department are committed to their safety. It is our highest priority. The search for our next chief will be open to candidates across the country. We will look for a chief who is forward-thinking, and ready to embrace the values of the Cheverly community," said Town Administrator Galloway.

To learn more about the Cheverly Police Department, visit:
<https://www.cheverly-md.gov/cheverly-police-department>

The Calverton School Announces New Interim Head of School

By PRESS OFFICER
The Calverton School

HUNTINGTOWN, Md. (July 6, 2023)—The Calverton School Board of Trustees has selected an Interim Head of School for the 2023–24 school year—an outstanding candidate from within the Calverton family.

Dr. Allison Trentman is a 2003 graduate of The Calverton School. She returned to Calverton during the 2022–2023 academic year as the Student Support Specialist. Over the past year, Allison has partnered with the three Division Heads and teachers across the school to provide academic and counseling support to students. A long-term advocate for student success, Allison has held leadership positions in the Fairfax County Public Schools system, including supporting 31 schools with intervention program implementation, and within the Apple Tree Early Learning Public Charter Schools in Washington, DC, overseeing programs that impacted 1300 students across 11 schools. She has also held an adjunct faculty appointment at George Mason University.

Dr. Trentman holds a B.A. in Psychology from the University of Richmond and an M.A. and Ph.D. in Educational Psychology from the University of Minnesota. She and her husband Tom, also a Calverton graduate, will have three children attending Calverton next academic year.

During the selection process, Allison shared her desire to give back to Calverton, the school that provided her with many opportunities during her 10.5 years of enrollment.

"I will take great care to lead Calverton through an uncertain time, aiming to make it stronger than where we are today. I am committed to engaging with every member of our community to ensure that Calverton thrives, and our students grow as



PHOTO COURTESY THE CALVERTON SCHOOL

Dr. Allison Trentman

well-rounded learners led by outstanding faculty and staff."

The Calverton School Board of Trustees is undertaking a national search for a new Head of School—a critical process that will take time as they seek the most qualified candidate.

Founded in 1967, The Calverton School, Southern Maryland's leader in college preparatory education, is an independent day school located in Huntingtown, Maryland, approximately 45 minutes southeast of Washington, DC; 30 minutes south of Annapolis, Maryland; and 25 minutes north of Solomons, Maryland. The school enrolls more than 300 students in preschool through grade 12 from Calvert, Charles, St. Mary's, Anne Arundel, and Prince George's counties. The Calverton School is fully accredited by the Association of Independent Maryland Schools (AIMS).

ENVIRONMENT

Earth TALK™ Bird Houses & Bird Feeders: Bad For Local Ecosystems?

Dear EarthTalk:

Is putting out birdhouses and/or bird feeders good or bad for the local ecosystem?

—Mary B., Bowie, MD

While putting up a bird house or bird feeder is a great way to attract birds to your property, the jury is out as to whether such attractions help or harm local biodiversity and overall ecosystem health.

On the plus side, birdhouses provide much-needed shelter for birds, especially in areas where natural nesting sites are scarce. They can also help to attract birds to your yard, which can be a fun and educational experience for children and adults alike. Bird feeders can provide a valuable source of food for birds, especially during the winter months when natural food sources are scarce. This can help to boost bird populations and reduce the risk of starvation.

However, there are also some potential downsides to providing artificial nesting and feeding sites for birds. One concern is that it can lead to overpop-

ulation of certain bird species. When birds have an abundance of food and nesting sites, they can reproduce more quickly, which can lead to an overpopulation of their species. This can have negative consequences for the ecosystem, such as competition for food and habitat with other species.

And while hosting a birdhouse or feeder may be fun and educational, the birds you would attract aren't the ones struggling in regard to conservation status. "The species most in trouble are seabirds, shorebirds and tropical forest dwellers," reports Emma Greig of the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. "This means that although feeding birds may not be harmful to the species that use feeders the most, it also isn't helpful to the species that most need our help."

Another concern is that bird feeders can attract pests and diseases. Birds can carry diseases that can be harmful to humans, such as salmonella. They can also attract rodents, such as mice and rats, which can also carry diseases. Finally, bird feeders sometimes attract predators, such as cats, raccoons and

hawks, which can prey on the birds that are attracted to the feeders, which can reduce the bird population.

Overall, whether or not putting out birdhouses and bird feeders is good or bad for the local ecosystem depends on a number of factors, such as the type of birds that are being attracted, the location of the feeders, and the overall health of the ecosystem. If you are considering putting out birdhouses or bird feeders, it's important to do your research and make sure that you are doing it in a way that is beneficial to the birds and the environment.

For starters, choose the right type of birdhouse for the birds you want to attract, and place it in a safe and sheltered location. Also make sure it is somewhere you can access it safely as it can use regular cleanings to prevent the spread of disease. And be sure to not overfeed the birds, as you don't want to make them dependent on your handouts for sustenance. Monitor the bird population and remove any feeders if they are attracting pests or predators or causing other problems.



IMAGE CREDIT: PEXELS.COM.

If you think you are doing Mother Nature a favor by putting up a bird feeder or bird house, think again.

CONTACTS: Analysis: Do Bird Feeders Help Or Hurt Birds? allaboutbirds.org/news/analysis-do-bird-feeders-help-or-hurt-birds/; To Feed or Not to Feed Wild Birds, fws.gov/story/feed-or-not-feed-wild-birds; Bird Feeders: Good or Bad for Wild Birds and the Environment? owlcation.com/stem/Bird-Feeders-

Good-or-Bad-for-Wild-Birds-and-the-Environment.

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COUNTY CHURCH DIRECTORY

UNITED METHODIST

WESTPHALIA Christian Community Church

"A CHURCH ON THE REACH FOR GOD"
9363 D'Arcy Road
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Sunday Worship:
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Saturday Worship:
6:30 p.m.

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www.fhbp.org

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Stephen L. Wright, Sr., Pastor

5018 Lakeland Road
College Park, MD 20740
301-474-3995
www.fbc-cp.org

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

UNITED METHODIST

Union United Methodist Church

14418 Old Marlboro Pike,
Upper Marlboro, MD

Church (301) 627-7389

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

Reverend Twanda E. King, Pastor
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Matthew 28:19-20

Sunday School 9:00 a.m.
Morning Worship 10:00 a.m.

Soulful Thursdays
Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

BAPTIST

Forest Heights Baptist Church

We exist to strengthen your relationship with God.
6371 Oxon Hill Road
Oxon Hill, Maryland 20745

Sunday School (Adults & Children) - 9:30 A.M.
Worship Service - 11:00 A.M.
Wed. Prayer Service & Bible Study - 7:00 P.M.
Office (301) 839-1166
Fax (301) 839-1721
E-mail: FHBC@verizon.net
Pastor: Rev. Waymond B. Duke

COMMUNITY CHURCH

WORD OF GOD COMMUNITY CHURCH

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

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

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

Study from A4

ager and CEO Kisha L. Powell. "This research project is a perfect example of the nexus of innovation and operations that our employees—Team H2O—display daily. I thank our partners for helping to advance this research and The Water Research Foundation for funding this pilot."

"We congratulate WSSC Water for their unwavering commitment to providing safe and reliable water to its customers and returning clean water to local waterways," said Brown and Caldwell's Dr. Pusker Regmi, a principal research investigator. "This study is a game changer for the water industry as we collaborate with utilities and academia to find the most effective, sustainable, and economical ways to enhance nutrient removal practices while protecting the environment."

WSSC Water's Seneca WRRF, located in Germantown, Maryland, is designed to treat 26 million gallons of wastewater per day. The innovative, cost-saving process is expected to expand to the other five WRRFs WSSC Water operates. The findings of the research, combined with numerous international awards for wastewater excellence, continue to position WSSC Water at the forefront of science-based nutrient removal approaches.

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