

The Prince George's Post



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Maryland Residents Eligible For Free Medical Equipment

By BETHANY PROBST
Capital News Service

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (Oct. 6, 2021)—From the moment doctors said she would have to undergo intensive foot surgery, Prince George's County resident Janice Joyner knew she would have to pay for more than just a procedure.

A mobility device was needed for her recovery. However, Joyner said, Medicare couldn't cover the cost of the scooter.

"I was searching online for some kind of equipment that could help me and I didn't want to pay an arm and a leg for it," she said.

After numerous Google searches, she said she came across the Maryland Durable Medical Equipment Re-Use Program.

This program provides Maryland residents with donated equipment—such as wheelchairs, walkers, hospital beds, scooters and even pediatric

equipment that have been sanitized and repaired—at no cost.

Applicants do not have to meet any income requirements to receive equipment.

Marylanders with any disability, illness or injury can receive this equipment regardless of age, according to the program website.

Joyner said she thought the program was too good to be true.

"At first I was skeptical (wondering) 'Why is this place offering free resources?'" she said. "But everything on there was true and I was amazed."

Disability healthcare costs in Maryland can reach as high as \$21,118 per person each year, according to a 2019 Disability and Health Data report the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention issued.

After a month and a half of mobility assistance, Joyner said, she plans on returning her scooter to the program's headquarters for another person to use.

"Before, I could only hop five steps to my bathroom and back," she said. "Having this scooter made it possible for me to get out of bed."

Ten percent of Maryland adults have a mobility-related disability, according to the CDC report.

This makes it the highest reported disability among other types such as cognitive, self-care and independent living.

Program Director Ian Edwards said despite numerous attempts to raise awareness for this program, many people still don't know it exists.

"We started things up in January but with COVID fears, we weren't really sure how the program would be perceived because it is previously used equipment," he said.

Once the majority of Marylanders received their vaccines, Edwards said more equipment started going out to the public in March.

"We faced a lot of difficulties

at the start," he said. "But the equipment is (now) here and we have it ready for people who have no other means of obtaining it."

Edwards said the program has received over 5,000 items since collections began.

Although the program does not currently deliver, he said they have multiple satellite sites around the state where people can pick up equipment.

The program hosts 11 donation centers across the state, including three major landfills where people can drop off equipment.

Edwards told Capital News Service that they partnered with county landfills to set up containers and raise awareness for the re-use program.

He said while the program serves to help residents, they also want to ease financial strains among other contributors.

"Whether it's the healthcare system, hospital providers or even Medicare," he said. "If we can save them money, with the inventory we have now, we're hoping to help in any way."

Secretary of Aging Rona Kramer said Maryland is the first state to offer this statewide durable reuse program.



PHOTO COURTESY OF PROGRAM DIRECTOR IAN EDWARDS

Janice Joyner in front of the Durable Medical Equipment Re-Use Headquarters in Cheltenham, Maryland, on August 27, 2021.

"There are very few programs in the country that are this expansive," she said. "We have the most sophisticated one. We are

giving people their lives back."

More information about the program: <https://aging.maryland.gov/pages/DME.aspx>

Hoyer, Democrats Press Senate to Act on Removing Statues of Confederates, Racists From Capitol

By MICHAEL TOUMA
Capital News Service

WASHINGTON (Oct. 8, 2021)—Standing in National Statuary Hall in the United States Capitol Building, visitors are taken on a journey through 250 years of American history. While some of the room's figures, like Rosa Parks and Thomas Edison, exemplify the nation's diverse and exemplary history, others representing a darker side of the past remain.

Statues of Confederates and white supremacists in the Hall and elsewhere in the Capitol have not surrendered to widespread public pressure to remove them - even after the House passed legislation in June to do so.

House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer, D-Mechanicsville, is leading a group of Democrats—including Maryland's Democratic House members—to renew efforts to get the Senate to follow the House.

"The names and faces of those who championed slavery, sedition, and segregation have no place in this temple of American freedom and democracy," Hoyer and the other Democrats said in a Sept. 24 letter to Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-New York. "These sacred spaces should be reserved for those we revere: honorable Americans of whose deeds and legacies we can all be proud."

Hoyer and 17 other Democrats sponsored the legislation passed by the House to remove the bust of Chief Justice Roger Brooke Taney from the Capitol and replace it with a bust of As-

sociate Justice Thurgood Marshall. The measure also targets 13 other Confederate politicians and soldiers as well as white supremacists.

The bill's co-sponsors included Maryland Democratic Reps. Anthony Brown, D-Upper Marlboro; Kweisi Mfume, D-Baltimore; Jamie Raskin, D-Kensington; Dutch Ruppersberger, D-Timonium; John Sarbanes, D-Towson; and David Trone, D-Gaithersburg. All also were on the letter to Schumer.

Taney, a Maryland native and former slave owner, wrote the majority opinion in *Dred Scott v. Sandford* in 1857, contending that blacks, whether they were enslaved or free, could not sue in a court because they were not American citizens; he also said Congress couldn't free slaves in U.S. territories.

"The *Dred Scott* decision was a blot on our history and represents the tragic legacy of slavery and racism that should not be celebrated in our country," Hoyer said in a statement. "In my home state of Maryland, a statue of Chief Justice Taney was removed from the grounds of the State House, and it's past time that we follow suit in the U.S. Capitol."

Each state is allowed two statues in the Capitol to honor people who have made a significant impact in that state's and nation's history.

But among the figures immortalized in Statuary Hall is Confederate President Jefferson Davis of Mississippi. His vice president, Alexander Hamilton Stephens of Georgia, is standing nearby.

A bust of Taney stands in the Capitol's Old Senate Chamber, later used by the Supreme Court until 1935.

Not only do these statues symbolize divisive times in U.S. history, but also they stand as barriers to healing racial and political divisions, lawmakers said.

"On January 6th, we experienced the divisiveness of Confederate battle flags being flown inside the U.S. Capitol," House Majority Whip James Clyburn, D-South Carolina, said in a statement. "Yet there are still vestiges that remain in this sacred building that glorify people and a movement that embraced that flag and sought to divide and destroy our great country."

Removing the objectionable statues will "demonstrate that as Americans we do not celebrate those who seek to divide us," Clyburn said.

Hoyer's bill is part of a host of efforts around the nation, especially in the South, to remove the statues of Confederate and segregationist figures in state capitals and other public spaces.

The decision to remove the Taney statue from the Maryland State House "reflects our growth as a state as we have confronted the most difficult parts of our history," Hoyer said.

The Maryland congressman won House passage of his statue bill in July 2020, but it was never considered by the Senate, then controlled by the Republicans.

This time around in the House, 218 Democrats and 67 Republicans voted in favor of the bill, while 120 GOP lawmakers voted against it.



PHOTO CREDIT MICHAEL TOUMA/CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON—The statue of Confederate President Jefferson Davis stands in National Statuary Hall in the United States Capitol Building. Democrats led by House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer, D-Mechanicsville, want the statue and others associated with the Confederacy and white supremacy removed from the Capitol.

"The House has now advanced our legislation twice," Hoyer wrote to Schumer. "We would hope that the Senate would now move this legislation. Every moment we delay is a missed opportunity to correct historical wrongs."

Schumer's office did not respond to a request for comment.

The Prince George's County Family Justice Center, an Initiative of the Circuit Court, Awarded Nearly One Million Dollar Grant From the Department of Justice Office on Violence Against Women

By JOCELYN STEELE
The Circuit Court for Prince George's County

UPPER MARLBORO, Md. (Oct. 7, 2021)—The Circuit Court for Prince George's County is pleased to announce that the Prince George's County Family Justice Center (PGCFJC), an initiative of the Circuit Court, was recently awarded the Department of Justice - Office on Violence Against Women Improving Criminal Justice Responses to Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking Program grant. As a recipient of the grant, PGCFJC will receive \$978,436. The additional funding will help PGCFJC enhance operations and increase its physical reach within Prince George's County.

Prior to the establishment of the PGCFJC, Prince George's County had the highest number of domestic related fatalities in Maryland. With the additional funding, PGCFJC will extend hours of operation to include evenings and weekends to better serve citizens in the County who are in crisis and need help to escape abusive situations and conditions. With more accessible hours, citizens can obtain protective orders, access safety planning crisis intervention counseling, file police reports and receive other services provided by law enforcement outside of the work week. The new enhanced hours of operation will be Friday evenings, 5-10 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m.-10:00 p.m. The projected date for the new hours of operation is Nov. 18, 2021.

"Domestic violence is not a nine to five issue, and we recognize that there is a need to expand our services and reach due to the growing demand for help by abuse victims in Prince George's County," said Dr. Denise McCain, Director of the PGCFJC. "We are elated to utilize the funding to reach more abuse victims throughout our County who need help, and this will open a larger door of opportunity for us to spread hope to citizens and potentially save more lives from the devastating and often fatal consequences of abuse."

PGCFJC will also use the newly awarded funding to open seven (7) new satellite offices to provide more accessible services to citizens across Prince George's County. PGCFJC's new office locations will include the following: Prince George's County Police Department - Districts I and VII (northern and southern Prince George's County); four municipal police departments (City of Bowie, Bladensburg, Cottage City and Mount Rainier); and Bowie State University. Officers in each location will facilitate services via virtual intake and people in need will have greater access to obtaining services such as emergency shelter, protective orders and crisis intervention.

To accommodate these new locations and enhanced operational hours, PGCFJC will use the grant award to hire additional staff that will be needed to cover evening and weekend hours. The Center will also partner with the Prince

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ChildWatch: Still Reconstructing

What I'm encouraged by is that we've had hundreds of thousands of people come to the site since we opened in 2018. And most of them say, 'I didn't know this.'

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TOWNS *and* NEIGHBORS

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

Remembering a 1951 Morningside tragedy that won't go away

On April 8, 1951, a B-25 bomber took off from Andrews, had landing gear malfunction and crashed into the home of MSgt. Samuel and Dorothea Snyder on Lombardy Street in Morningside. Their two little girls, 6-year-old Kay and 8-week-old Rene, and their uncle Irvin Guyer, visiting from New Jersey, died in the fire.

Longtime Morningsiders know the story and I've often retold it in this column. It's a story that won't go away.

About 20 years ago, I was at the Surratt-Clinton Library when the librarian told me they'd gotten a call from a man in Kansas who wanted to talk to someone about the crash. I took his number and called him. He said he had been stationed at Bolling AFB at the time and was sent to the accident scene to help with cleanup. He said he had never been able to get it out of his head.

About 10 years ago, I received a call from a woman in New Jersey who told me she was the daughter of Irvin and Violet Guyer and she wanted to talk about the death of her dad who died in the crash. We talked a long time.

And now, Washington Post's John Kelly has related the whole story in his October 3 column. I was surprised that he'd turned up the court records I'd never been able to find.

The bomber pilot, Capt. Paul V. Chapman—on orders from Andrews—had the two crewmembers bail out. Then Capt. Chapman set the plane to crash in the Chesapeake Bay—also ordered by Andrews—and he bailed out. But the B-25 coasted over Andrews and Suitland Road and into the Snyder's house. He was indicted on three counts of murder but found not guilty.

The survivors were awarded \$234,507.87, at that time the largest ever by that court.

The street where it all occurred, Lombardy Road, was renamed Poplar Road. The house was rebuilt. The Snyders moved away. They never had any more children. The sad story—which happened 70 years ago—keeps resurfacing. It won't go away.

Town of Morningside: Chief Stevenson

Morningside's new Chief of Police, Wesley Stevenson, will be sworn in Oct. 19, 6:30 p.m. at the Municipal Building.

The regular Town Meeting will be held

following the ceremony. For information call 301-736-2300.

Morningside Halloween Happenings

Halloween in Morningside begins Saturday, Oct. 30, at 6 p.m.

The Town is sponsoring a Trunk-or-Treat in the parking lot, beginning at 6. If you want to participate, call the Town at 301-736-2300 to register your vehicle. A costume contest for all ages will follow. And there'll be an outdoor showing—on the big screen—of the classic Halloween movie, *Hocus Pocus*.

The event is free; refreshments will be for sale.

By the way, Morningside does not encourage door-to-door visits by the local ghosts and goblins.

700,327

Daughter Therese, her son Michael and I drove to the National Mall on Sunday, October 3, to visit artist Suzanne Brennan Firstenberg's "In America: Remember," an art installation made up of white flags, each commemorating an American who has died of Covid.

The sea of those flags was overwhelming. Visitors—many of them mourners—walked among the flags, some writing notes on the flags. We saw the artist come through the flags to change the number on the wall. When we left, it was 700,327.

The extraordinary display was dismantled on Monday.

The next day Washington National Cathedral tolled its bells, one ring for each 1,000 Covid deaths. The mournful tolling lasted more than an hour.

Neighbors & other good people

Peg Richardson emailed that Suitland HS had its 30th Class Reunion at Colony South in 1991. She, like so many of us, is saddened over the closing and the demolition of Colony South.

Father G. Paul Herbert, pastor at St. Ignatius Church, Oxon Hill, from 2004 until he retired in 2009, died at Adventist Healthcare White Oak Medical Center in September.

There was a ribbon-cutting for the bigger and better Tucker Road Ice Rink on Aug. 28. The Arctic-themed 48,860-square-foot structure pays homage to Marylander

Matthew Henson, who explored the Arctic seven times. He was the great-great uncle of actress/philanthropist Taraji P. Henson, Oxon Hill HS graduate, class of 1966.

Changing landscape

The 7-Eleven on Auth Road—which was firebombed early the morning of May 29—looks like it's ready to reopen. At the time, the owner told a reporter that the culprits walked in like regular customers before pulling Molotov cocktails from a plastic bag and setting the building afire. Fortunately, no one was injured. I don't know if the bombers have been identified and arrested. But the refurbished store will soon reopen.

Crab DuJour is coming soon to Woodyard Crossing in Clinton. It's described as a Cajun Boil & Bar and offers dining-in or grab-and-go.

Does area code 202 mean anything to you? It's meant Washington D.C. for years. Well, there's a problem: Washington is running out of phone numbers. So, the area code for new applicants will be 771, sandwiched between 770 (in the Atlanta suburbs) and 772 (in east central Florida).

A home at 4410 Allies Road, in Morningside, just sold for \$248,000.

Mary's Covid report: Zoo cancels Halloween, Christmas

Last week I mentioned some of the big cats at the Zoo had tested "presumptive" positive for Covid. Now the Zoo reports all tigers and lions "are improving and eating." Treatment is continuing.

However, Zoo officials have announced, due to the pandemic, they will not be holding Boo at the Zoo this October or ZooLights outdoor-light decoration event in December.

Maryland reports there've been 1,077 more Covid cases, bringing the total caseload to 539,053. And 21 more Maryland families are mourning the loss of a loved one.

Milestones

Happy birthday to former Morningside Council Member Carol (Kline) DeGraba, Andrew Nicholas Smith and VFW's Nola Cook, Oct. 18; Clyde Miller, Catherine Alvis, Jody Nyers and Christina Ramsey Eckloff and Mary Flood Dawes, Oct. 23.

Happy 41st anniversary to Michael and Anita (Fulton) Freeman on Oct. 18.

Around the County

In Search of Mt. Nebo School Students

Several years ago, I began researching the historic Mt. Nebo Church, school and cemetery, as well as the post-Civil War era town of Queen Anne, located along the Patuxent River in Prince George's County, Maryland. Dr. William Lane Watkins was one of town's most prominent residents. He was the first, Black male graduate of the Boston University School of Medicine (BUSM), and became the first teacher at Mt. Nebo Colored School in 1877, while maintaining his medical practice. His tenure as teacher and principal lasted thirty years. Later, he became Recording Clerk for the Circuit Court in Upper Marlboro. He also enhanced the well-being of community members as a social worker. Watkins was actively engaged in community affairs, and exerted considerable influence in Maryland politics during Jim Crow. Because memory of his life and achievements have faded over time, Friends of Historic Mt. Nebo Preservation Corporation (FOHNMN) has sought to "reintroduce" Dr. Watkins to the world.

FOHNMN's campaign to honor Dr. Watkins' memory has gained momentum, and plans have already begun to organize public programming at BUSM in 2022, as well as an exhibition to commemorate the 170th year of his birth at Greater Mt. Nebo African Methodist Episcopal Church in Bowie, Maryland.

We would like to invite Dr. Watkins' descendants and students who attended Mt. Nebo School to the commemorative events next year. I am writing in the hope that your readers may be able to locate them.

If you are a former Mt. Nebo School student, or want to learn more about the 2022 celebration, please contact Friends of Historic Mt. Nebo, P.O. Box 1137, Upper Marlboro, MD 20773, fohnmn3@yahoo.com or jhjmh@aol.com.

—Janis Hagey, Bowie, Maryland

Volunteers Build New Kid-Designed Playground and Multi-Sport Court at Suitland Community Center

Kids at Suitland Community Center will soon have a new playground and multi-sport court as part of nationwide effort by KABOOM! to make sure all kids have access to safe places to play

Volunteers from The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, Department of Parks and Recreation, Prince George's County, BGE, and Pepco are building a new, kid-designed playground and multi-sport court on October 12–15, 2021, at Suitland Community Center. Construction will start on Tuesday, October 12, and be completed on Friday, October 15.

WHEN: Friday, October 15, 2021

8:30–11:30 a.m. Volunteers construct playground
11:30 a.m.–1 p.m. Site reset for afternoon volunteers
1–4 p.m. Volunteers complete playground construction
4–4:15 p.m. Ribbon-cutting ceremony (times approximate)
WHERE: Suitland Community Center, 5600 Regency Ln, Forestville, MD 20747

WHO: Kathryn Lusk – Senior Director, Programs, KABOOM!, Elizabeth Hewlett – Chairman of the Prince George's County Planning Board and The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC), Rodney Oddoye - Senior Vice President for Governmental and External Affairs, BGE, Tyler Anthony – Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, Pepco Holdings

This project will provide a state-of-the-art new playground and multi-sport court for hundreds of kids in the community and those who attend programs at the center. Play is essential to the physical, social, and emotional health of every child. The COVID-19 pandemic demonstrated the need for access to parks and playspaces. M-NCPPC remains committed to providing vibrant outdoor spaces for the Prince George's County community.

In July, kids from Suitland Community Center shared drawings of their dream playspaces with project organizers. Their ideas were integrated into the new playground and multi-sport court design. Community members have been deeply involved throughout the process, all the way from design to the upcoming installation. The current playground and court have been well-loved for many years and the team is excited to provide new, customized, and safe playspaces for the kids that reinforces their learning from neighborhood schools and the center's STEAM program.

This project demonstrates the commitment of BGE and Pepco, part of the Exelon family of companies, to power a cleaner and brighter future for the communities in which they live and serve.

Through its partnership with groups like BGE, Pepco, and M-NCPPC, KABOOM! is committed to ending play-space inequity for kids, for communities, for good.

—Prince George's County Department of Parks and Recreation

Marylanders Invited to "Step into History" Across the State

Interactive Outdoor Displays Share Historic Images from the Maryland Center for History and Culture's Collection

BALTIMORE (Oct. 7, 2021)—The Maryland Center for History and Culture (MCHC) invites Marylanders to "Step into History" with interactive displays that are traveling across the state. Brand new Step into History displays are now on view at Accokeek Foundation in Piscataway Park in Prince George's County, and at the Village in Rock Hall, Maryland in Kent County.

These larger-than-life-size frames allow Marylanders to step (literally) into history and engage with the past through historic images from MCHC's museum and library collections—safely outside. The forced perspective of the displays encourages participation and imagination and is a natural photo-taking opportunity. Visitors are encouraged to share their photos on social media using the hashtag #StepIntoHistory. A list of exploratory questions inside each frame invites critical thinking and dialogue, and a QR code links to the mdhistory.org website, providing more historical context.

Step into History at Accokeek Foundation at Piscataway Park
3400 Bryan Point Road, Accokeek, MD (between the Visitor Center and the fishing pier)

The Step into History displays are scheduled to remain on view through November 2021.

—The Maryland Center for History and Culture (MCHC)

Brandywine-Aquasco

by Audrey Johnson 301-922-5384

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday to John Tyree, Camden Knight, Kaylee Davis, Madison Rae Stroman, Khia Knight, David Samuel, Ulric Thomas, Erica Barron, Denise Bouyer-Carter, Barbara Washington, Iheanyi (Junior) Mbakwe and George Taylor who are Clinton United Methodist Church members celebrating birthdays in October.

OCTOBER WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations to Sally and James Lucas, Jerre and Anne Kauffman who are Clinton United Methodist Church Members celebrating anniversaries in October.

OFFICE OF ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT

Bowie State University Office of Alumni Engagement Live at 5 Chat was with BSU Student Government President Jatiya Stewart ('23) Junior, Science Education Major. "Welcome Back to School Edition," Jatiya shared her hopes for the BSU student body, as well as her perspective on how things are going now that students are back on campus.

WASHINGTON GAS COMPANY

Maryland Energy Assistance Program (MEAP): federally funded through the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LI-HEAP), assists eligible customers in paying their winter heating bills. Eligibility factors include household size, total household income, heating source and type of dwelling.

To apply for MEAP, contact the following agencies and/or offices in your county; Calvert, Charles County, St. Mary's Counties-Southern Maryland Tri-County Community Action Committee, Inc.: 800-255-5313. Frederick County-Department of Social Services: 301-600-2410. Montgomery County-Department of Health and Human Services 240-777-4450. Prince George's County-Department of Social Services: 301-909-7000. Maryland Department of Human Services-Office of Home Energy Programs: 800-352-1446 or visit www.dhr.maryland.gov/ohp.

As an act of kindness, you can also help fellow customers who need assistance paying their gas bill through Washington Gas' Gift of Warmth Program and the Washington Area Fuel Fund. Visit www.washingtongascares.com for more information. Information from letter received to Clinton United Methodist Church members from Washington Gas DeShaundra Jones Director of Customer Experience.

BGE AN EXELON COMPANY

BGE announced partnerships with Bowie State University, Coppin State University, and Morgan State University to award scholarships to full-time STEM majors from its communities. Each school will receive grant funding of 200,000 to provide funding for \$10,000 scholarships to fifteen "BGE" scholars.

THE SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM (1960–61)

The Special Education Program is concerned with those children who differ physically, mentally, or emotionally to a degree that they need some kind of special service in their school program so that they may develop to their maximum educational level.

Since 1950, when 53 pupils were enrolled in Special Education, our program has been expanded to include, in 1960-61, approximately 2,580 pupils.

The various phases of the program are children who are blind, who are partial vision, who have impaired hearing, defective speech, mentally retarded and trainable, mentally retarded, and educable, who learn differently, orthopedically handicapped, confined to home or hospital, who require private special schools. Information from Public Schools of Prince George's County 1950–1980 (Prince George's County Retired Teachers Association Booklet).

VENTURE CAPITAL FELLOW

Marissa Curry, a Bowie State University sophomore computer science major is preparing to enter the work of venture capital as one of sixty-two students and alumni of Historically Black Colleges and Universities selected for a fellowship from HBCUvc, an innovation firm formed to develop the next generation of venture capital leaders in communities where entrepreneurs face barriers accessing capital.

The 2021 HBCU Venture Capital Fellows will be introduced to investors and fund managers across the venture capital space as part of an intensive training program to prepare them for careers in the industry. The program provides the framework for fellows to develop knowledge of how capital is formed and distributed to increase opportunities for Black and Latinx innovators.

"I am very excited to join the HBCUvc Fellows to learn more about "launching and growing startup business," says Curry who is an ELLC Fellow in the BSU Entrepreneurship Academy. "I am very interested in FINTECH, and this is an amazing opportunity to explore the related connections through venture capital."

Curry sees this as a valuable step in her journey as an entrepreneur that started with a dog-walking business when she was in the fourth grade. She now owns a candle business called @solsticex and is continuing to sharpen her entrepreneurial skills.

The HBCUvc Fellowship program provides a culturally affirming investor curriculum that teaches investment fundamentals and creates networking opportunities to open pathways into venture capital for African American, Latinx and indigenous populations.

Curry is the second BSU student to become an HBCUvc Fellow, joining Richard Clay who was a fellow in 2019. Clay is currently an investment partner with Dorm Room Fund, a student-run venture that provides start-up capital for student businesses. MEDIA CONTACT: Cassandra Robinson, crobinson@bowiestate.edu.

COMMUNITY

PGCMLS' Nicholas A. Brown Named Marketer of the Year By Library Journal

By DONNA SCOTT-MARTIN
PGCMLS

LARGO, Md. (Oct. 5, 2021)—The Prince George's County Memorial Library System (PGCMLS) is proud to announce that its Chief Operating Officer for Communication and Outreach, Nicholas Alexander Brown, has been named Library Marketer of the Year by Library Journal, a leading national trade publication for the library industry. This is the sixth annual Library Journal Marketer of the Year award, sponsored by Library Ideas. The award recognizes Brown and the Library's PR/Marketing and Digital Services teams for their impactful, innovative, and creative approach to marketing library services and engaging the community during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Nicholas Brown's creative spirit and his expert ability to promote all

services provided by the library and its partners has changed our landscape," lauded PGCMLS Chief Executive Officer Roberta Phillips. "With his foresight, our reach is broader, and the tremendous work of PGCMLS' expert staff is increasingly being recognized both locally and nationally. As a result, PGCMLS has become the go-to partner for innovative thinking and programs for educational and cultural organizations in our region. Brown continually looks to the future, surpassing trends, to ensure that the Prince George's County Memorial Library System becomes more essential to every member of our community in rich and meaningful ways," Phillips elaborated.

Thanks to Brown and his team, PGCMLS' marketing presence and expanded media reach has been reflected in increased diversified customer engagement that promotes equity of con-

tent, services and resources. A few notable examples are:

- Expanding the scope of the Library's joint virtual presentation of Ibram X. Kendi with Joe's Movement Emporium, Prince George's County Office of Human Rights, and Prince George's Community College Center for Performing Arts to reach a global live audience of 226,000+ viewers. This was accomplished in partnership with Maryland State Library and over 20 public libraries in Maryland, and the collaboration led to the establishment of the Maryland Libraries Together statewide speaker series supported by Maryland State Library.
- Robust literacy, education, digital equity, and wellness partnerships with DC United, Washington Nationals, Washington Wizards, and Washington Football Team.
- The PGCMLS Vaccine Hunter Hot-

line that offered Spanish speakers and individuals with special circumstances who needed support with securing COVID-19 vaccine appointments. This temporary operation was funded by the Capital One Foundation and the PGCMLS Foundation.

The PGCMLS This Week web video series with 7News DC's Adrianna Hopkins that promotes the Library's programs and resources for all ages. The series was introduced by Donna Scott-Martin, Media Relations Specialist, and is directed and produced by Nestor Diaz, Marketing Specialist.

Brown also led PGCMLS' efforts to expand Spanish language access to the library's programs and services, in collaboration with the Library's Public Services staff, through bilingual digital and print collateral, and promotion of the Library's Biblio Consulta call center for Spanish speakers.



PHOTO COURTESY PGCMLS

PGCMLS Chief Operating Officer for Communication and Outreach, Nicholas Alexander Brown

This award represents in part the expert creative and collaborative work of Steve Fitzgerald, Director of Dynamic Content and Engagement; Drew Clark,

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Mecca Temple No. 10 of the Desert of the District of Columbia Announces Its 2021 Scholarship Recipients

By ANTHONY JACKSON
Mecca Temple No. 10

WASHINGTON (Sept. 23, 2021)—Mecca Temple No.10 of the Oasis of Washington, Desert of the District of Columbia, and part of the Ancient Egyptian Order Nobles Mystic Shrine (AEONMS) Inc., is pleased to announce the winners of its 2021 scholarships: Lalah Choice, Jaliyah Abdul -Haqq, Alani Peters, Rachel Iman Tillery, and Jada Jones. Despite the pandemic's setbacks, our recipients graduated from high school and will be entering their first year of college. The Temple's scholarship committee reviewed several candidates and selected these five recipients to receive a \$1000 scholarship to use towards tuition and fees. All our scholarship recipients will be attending Historically Black Colleges

and Universities in the fall.

Jaliyah Abdul -Haqq of Washington, DC, graduated from McKinley Technology Senior High School. Jaliyah will be attending Delaware State University and has a strong interest in science and technology. She seeks to study biotechnology with the hopes of becoming a researcher at the National Human Genome Research Institute.

Alani Peters of Bowie, MD, graduated from Bowie High School. Alani will be attending Clark Atlanta University and plans to major in Criminal Justice. We wish her good luck as she travels to Atlanta and studies at the famed school of the Atlanta University Center Consortium (AUC Consortium).

Rachel Iman Tillery of Washington, DC, graduated from McKinley Technology High School. Rachel will be traveling to Greensboro,

NC, to study at North Carolina A&T State University. She plans to study nursing with the hopes of becoming a pediatric nurse.

Jada Jones of Upper Marlboro, MD, graduated from Archbishop Carroll High School. Jada plans to attend Spelman College in Atlanta, GA. Jada is interested in studying Economics.

Lalah Choice of Washington, DC, graduated from Duke Ellington School of the Arts. Lalah plans to study Environmental Science with a focus on Marine Science at Florida A&M University.

Mecca Temple No. 10 is one of four local units, known as Temples, established in 1893 in Washington, DC. Mecca Temple No.10 is a member of the AEONMS, Inc. The AEONMS is a fraternal, social, and charitable organization and is associated with the Prince Hall Affiliated Shrine Masonic Order. Mecca Temple No. 10 has over 200 members on its roster. Feel free to contact Noble William Q. Taylor at WQ70115@msn.com for more information about the Mecca Temple No.10's scholarship program and other charitable activities.

MANAGED LANES STUDY

The Maryland Department of Transportation State Highway Administration (MDOT SHA) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) completed the Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement (SDEIS) with the Notice of Availability published in the Federal Register on October 1, 2021. The SDEIS has been prepared to consider new information developed after the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) was published in July 2020 and presents results and recommendations relevant to the Preferred Alternative, Alternative 9 - Phase 1 South: American Legion Bridge I-270 to I-370. While the Managed Lanes Study considers ways to relieve congestion and improve trip reliability, mobility and connectivity for modes of travel, including transit, in the National Capital Region, this alternative focuses on building a new American Legion Bridge and delivering two high occupancy toll (HOT) managed lanes in each direction within Phase 1 South: American Legion Bridge I-270 to I-370. The scope of the SDEIS builds upon the analysis and information that remains valid in the existing DEIS but is limited to new information about the Preferred Alternative. It also provides an opportunity for the public, agencies and all stakeholders to review and provide comment on the Preferred Alternative and associated impacts as presented in the SDEIS.

Comments on the SDEIS will be accepted between Friday, October 1, and 11:59 PM on Monday, November 15, 2021. MDOT SHA and FHWA will conduct one virtual public hearing through two sessions on Monday, November 1, 2021.

SDEIS Virtual Public Hearing Sessions

The SDEIS and its supporting information is available on the Op Lanes Maryland website. Prior to attending a public hearing session, the public is encouraged to review the online presentation available at OpLanesMD.com/SDEIS beginning Friday, October 1. After the hearing, a transcript of public comments will be available on the website.

TWO CALL-IN TESTIMONY PUBLIC HEARING SESSIONS

Monday, November 1, 2021

SESSION 1 • 2:00-4:00 PM

SESSION 2 • 6:00-8:00 PM

Members of the public will be allotted three minutes and elected officials will be allotted five minutes, per person, for verbal testimony. Responses to questions will not be given at the hearing. MDOT SHA and FHWA will consider and respond to substantive comments in the Final Environmental Impact Statement.

PROVIDE VERBAL TESTIMONY AT THE HEARING

- Register for one of the sessions at OpLanesMD.com/SDEIS or by dialing 833-858-5960
- Advance registration is required to be admitted to the phone queue for comment—register through November 1
- Approved session time and instructions will be emailed to registrants prior to November 1

PROVIDE VERBAL TESTIMONY THROUGH VOICEMAIL

- Provide verbal testimony by dialing 855-432-1483 and leaving a single voicemail message limited to three minutes
- Advance registration is not required—voicemail testimony will be accepted throughout the 45-day period

WATCH OR LISTEN LIVE TO THE HEARING SESSIONS

- Watch the livestream at OpLanesMD.com/SDEIS (closed captioning available)
- Listen via telephone by dialing 855-432-1483

OpLanesMD.com/SDEIS

ALL COMMENTS received regardless of method of submission, will be given EQUAL CONSIDERATION.

REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE

The Maryland Relay Service can assist teletype users at 7-1-1. Individuals requiring assistance to participate, such as an interpreter for hearing/speech difficulties or assistance with the English language, should contact the Op Lanes Maryland toll-free number at 833-858-5960 by October 22, 2021.

WAYS TO COMMENT ON THE SDEIS

- Provide verbal testimony at virtual public hearing session
- Provide verbal testimony via voicemail (855-432-1483) during virtual public hearing sessions, or throughout the 45-day comment period
- Submit an electronic comment form on OpLanesMD.com/SDEIS
- Send an email to oplanesMLS@mdot.maryland.gov
- Send a written letter about the SDEIS to: Jeffrey T. Folden, P.E., DBIA, Deputy Director, I-495 & I-270 P3 Office, Maryland Department of Transportation State Highway Administration, 707 North Calvert Street, Mail Stop P-601, Baltimore, MD 21202

SDEIS Document Availability

The SDEIS and its supporting information is available on the Op Lanes Maryland website at OpLanesMD.com/SDEIS. Hard copies are available for review starting on Friday, October 1, as follows:

MONTGOMERY COUNTY LIBRARIES		
Gaithersburg	18330 Montgomery Village Avenue, Gaithersburg, MD 20879	Mon, Wed, Fri & Sat: 10 AM – 6 PM [†]
Quince Orchard	15831 Quince Orchard Road, Gaithersburg, MD 20878	Tue & Thu: 12 – 8 PM [†]
Rockville Memorial*	21 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, MD 20850	
Potomac	10101 Glenolden Drive, Potomac, MD 20854	
Davis	6400 Democracy Boulevard, Bethesda, MD 20817	
Kensington Park	4201 Knowles Avenue, Kensington, MD 20895	
Chevy Chase	8005 Connecticut Avenue, Chevy Chase, MD 20815	
Silver Spring	900 Wayne Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20910	
White Oak	11701 New Hampshire Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20904	
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY LIBRARIES		
Beltsville	4319 Sellman Road, Beltsville, MD 20705	Mon, Tue, Thu, & Fri: 10 AM – 6 PM [†]
Greenbelt*	11 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770	Wed: 12 – 8 PM [†]
New Carrollton	7414 Riverdale Road, New Carrollton, MD 20784	Sat: 10 AM – 5 PM [†]
Glenarden	8724 Glenarden Parkway, Glenarden, MD 20706	
Largo-Kettering	9601 Capital Lane, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772	
Spauldings	5811 Old Silver Hill Road, District Heights, MD 20747	
Oxon Hill	6200 Oxon Hill Road, Oxon Hill, MD 20745	
FAIRFAX COUNTY LIBRARY		
Dolley Madison	1244 Oak Ridge Avenue, McLean, VA 22101	Mon & Tue: 10 AM – 9 PM [†] Wed, Thu, Fri & Sat: 10 AM – 6 PM [†]
WASHINGTON, D.C. LIBRARY		
Juanita E. Thornton/Shepherd Park	7420 Georgia Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20012	Mon, Tue, Wed, Fri & Sat: 10 AM – 6 PM [†] Thu: 12 – 8 PM [†]

* The Rockville and Greenbelt libraries will have hard copies of the SDEIS and Technical Reports available. All other libraries will have the technical reports on USB flash drives.

[†] In the event of changes with COVID-19, please visit the library website for hours of operation.

COMMENTARY

Marion Wright Edelman

President Emerita,
Children's Defense Fund



ChildWatch:

Still Reconstructing

In a recent conversation with Ford Foundation president Darren Walker, Pulitzer Prize-winning historian Eric Foner spoke about his book *The Second Founding: How the Civil War and Reconstruction Remade the Constitution*. As Foner discussed the historic ways the 13th, 14th, and 15th Amendments shaped our nation, he noted how many of the pressing issues in America today are still fundamentally Reconstruction issues. Who is a citizen? Who has the right to vote? How should our nation deal with domestic terrorism? What does being a free American mean?

Many scholars saw the civil rights movement as a second Reconstruction era in the United States and a second try at making this country truly committed to liberty and justice for all. But just as the

progress of the first Reconstruction was followed by decades of retrenchment and reversal, we face continued attempts to take us backwards: unjust racial profiling and killing of Black youths and adults by law enforcement officers responsible for protecting them; mass incarceration of people of color; new attacks on voting rights in the name of "election integrity"; and continuing willingness of some political leaders to ignore and condone white supremacy, anti-Semitism, and domestic terrorism.

Rev. William J. Barber II, I, and many others believe we are in a third Reconstruction moment now, and the long-overdue racial reckoning last year was a leap forward along the way. As Frederick Douglass taught us, however, progress will always be met with new resistance: "Power concedes nothing without a demand. It never did and it never will." We must keep demanding our leaders ensure all children the freedom they deserve and the future they need. This month, the Equal Justice Initiative (EJI),

led by Bryan Stevenson, opened its newly expanded Legacy Museum: From Enslavement to Mass Incarceration in Montgomery, Alabama. This extraordinary new facility sits on the former site of a cotton warehouse where enslaved people once worked and complements EJI's National Memorial to Peace and Justice, a monument and sacred space honoring victims of racial terror. The Legacy Museum uses interactive exhibits, video and digital pieces, and the work of dozens of contemporary artists to take visitors on a profoundly moving journey from the transatlantic slave trade to contemporary America.

Visitors enter to the sensation of waves crashing over their heads and narrator Lupita Nyong'o describing the harrowing details of the transatlantic journey for the millions of African men, women, and children who were human cargo, two million of whom died during the crossing. In one exhibit visitors take a historical poll test intended to keep Black citizens from registering to vote with questions about the numbers of jellybeans in a jar and seeds in a watermelon. In others visitors hear first person narratives from enslaved people and the last words of lynching victims. In the Reflection Space visitors use touch screens to learn about 400 Black leaders pictured around the room. An entire museum wing is devoted to mass incarceration. The Legacy Museum seeks to serve as "an engine of education about the legacy of racial inequality and for the truth and

reconciliation that leads to real solutions to contemporary problems." This is the kind of push our nation still needs to move forward.

Bryan Stevenson said in an interview about the new museum's opening: "I do think we're at a moment where we're debating whether we're going to be honest about our history, about our past, and learn from it, reckon with it, and move forward—or we're going to double down on silence and these false narratives. What I'm encouraged by is that we've had hundreds of thousands of people come to the site since we opened in 2018. And most of them say, 'I didn't know this.' But not only have they come, they've left with a new understanding about what we have to do to make progress in this country. I don't want to talk about slavery and lynching and segregation because I want to punish America. I want us to get to a better place. I want there to be real liberation."

He added: "I believe there's something better waiting for us. There's something that feels more like freedom in this country. There's something that feels more like equality, feels more like justice. But we can't get there if we continue believing these false ideas about our greatness, about our failures—that we never made any mistakes, we never did anything wrong. And I actually hope that this moment illustrates the importance of this conversation that we're trying to have about a time for truth telling." Amen!

Marc Morial

President and CEO, National Urban League



To Be Equal:

Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill and Build Back Better Agenda Are the Essential Remedy for Decades of Tea Party and Trumpist Neglect

"These bills are about competitiveness versus complacency. They're about opportunity versus decay. They're about leading the world or continuing to let the world pass us by, which is literally happening. To support these investments is to create a rising America, America that's moving. And to oppose these investments is to be complicit in America's decline. To support these bills is to pursue a broader vision of our nation. And to oppose them is to accept a very cramped view of our future." —President Biden, October 5, 2021, Howell, Michigan.

Filibuster. Cloture. Reconciliation. The chatter surrounding President Biden's landmark infrastructure investment and Build Back Better agenda seems endlessly focused on the legislative process, on political maneuvering, on faceless numbers taken out of context.

What we're not hearing enough about: parents

desperately searching for child care only to encounter year-long waiting lists and abrupt shutdowns due to understaffing. School children forced to do their homework in parking lots because they have no internet access at home, and their school buildings are closed because they have no heat. Senior citizens who rely on Medicare skipping life-sustaining medications because they can't afford their prescriptions. The millions of homes and businesses stranded without electricity because storms knocked out an inadequate and shoddily-maintained power grid.

Decades of neglect and failure to investment in America's physical infrastructure and public institutions — a trend that accelerated when Tea Party members of Congress forced drastic cuts to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, and intensified during the Trump era—have left us with dilapidated schools and crumbling bridges. Childhood asthma

linked to poor air quality causes 13.8 million missed days of school annually. A water main breaks every two minutes, losing enough treated water each day to fill over 9,000 swimming pools. We're the only developed country in the world that doesn't mandate paid family leave, and our failure to invest in child care costs us \$57 billion a year.

Black Americans have borne the brunt of this neglect. Income inequality grew at a faster rate during the Trump era than during any of the last five administrations. The typical Black family holds about \$12.50 in wealth for every \$100 held by the typical white family. The Black unemployment rate remains nearly twice the rate for whites, and Black women are the least recovered from pandemic job losses.

The infrastructure investment and Build Back Better agenda—which largely incorporate the National Urban League's Main Street Marshall Plan—represent a historic opportunity to transform our economy while enhancing racial equity.

There are five million fewer Americans working than in February 2020, and 2.7 million people have been out of work for six months or more, even as employers struggle to fill a record number of job openings. Taken together the infrastructure and budget reconciliation packages, could create 2 million jobs by mid-decade, according to Moody's Analytics. Over the course of the 10-year budgeting window, the combined legislation would provide fiscal support for more than 4 million jobs per year, according to the Economic Policy Institute.

In fact, Moody's found that the educational provisions of the legislation—universal pre-K, two years of free community college, expanded Pell Grants and

other education benefits—would boost the economy beyond the 10-year budget window "given greater educational attainment and higher labor force participation."

The two initiatives would invest about \$4.1 trillion in America's physical and human infrastructure over the last 10 years—almost exactly what the Main Street Marshall Plan called for. To put this number into perspective, the cost of the War on Terror since September 11, 2001, is about \$8 trillion. The reckless 2017 Trump tax code revisions—which every Republican Senator and all but a dozen Republican House members eagerly supported—carried a \$2.3 trillion price tag. What's more, while the tax code revisions were enacted without a plan to pay for them, the infrastructure and Build Back Better plan would be funded by tax hikes on the wealthy, tougher tax enforcement and other revenue raisers. A modest tax hike on the wealthiest 0.05% of Americans alone would bring in at least \$3 trillion in revenue over 10 years.

The post-World War II Marshall Plan spurred the fastest period of growth in European history. Industrial and agricultural production skyrocketed. The poverty and starvation of the immediate postwar years disappeared, and Western Europe embarked upon an unprecedented two decades of growth that saw standards of living increase dramatically. We have not only the opportunity but the moral obligation to replicate that success in 21st Century United States.

So when you hear politicians and talking heads opining about Senate and House procedures and legislative vehicles, know what's really at stake: the future of you, your family, our community and the nation. It's time to Build Back Better.

Hoyer, Cardin, Van Hollen, and Brown Announce Nearly \$10 Million in American Rescue Plan Funding to Support Bowie State's Public Health IT Workforce Program

WASHINGTON (Oct. 4, 2021)—Today, Congressman Steny H. Hoyer (MD-05) along with Senators Ben Cardin (D-MD), Chris Van Hollen (D-MD), and Congressman Anthony Brown (MD-04), announced \$9,899,758 in American Rescue Plan funding for Bowie State University to improve COVID-19 data collection and boost participation of under-

represented communities in the public health workforce through the Public Health Information and Technology (PHIT) Workforce program.

This funding comes from the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), through the American Rescue Plan, and will help Bowie State University recruit and train participants, get

paid internships and placement into public health agencies for those participants to enter and diversify the PHIT workforce. The PHIT Workforce program specifically sought to award funds for Historically Black Colleges and Universities and other Minority Serving Institutions to hire public health workers from the hardest-hit and highest-risk communities

the institutions serve.

"The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated the systemic health inequities in our country. We have seen large gaps in public health reporting especially around race and ethnicity data, bolstering the need for a public health workforce representative of its community," the lawmakers said. "The best way to ensure that we

are equipped for the next public health emergency is to increase skilled training and to diversify our future workforce to truly reflect those they are serving in the health care system."

The lawmakers previously called on the state of Maryland to release complete COVID-19 demographic data on race and ethnicity, broken down by zip code, to ensure Maryland's response targets towards those most heavily impacted.

The PHIT Workforce Program aims to train more than 4,000 in-

dividuals over a four-year period through an interdisciplinary approach in public health informatics and technology. Under the \$80 million PHIT Workforce Program, ONC will award up to \$75 million to cooperative agreement recipients and use the remaining \$5 million to support the program's overall administration. Award recipients will need to ensure their training, certificate, degree, and placement programs are sustainable to create a continuous pipeline of diverse public health information technology professionals.

Grant from A1

George's County Office of the Sheriff and the Prince George's County Police Department to ensure that deputies and officers are assigned to PGCFJC's headquarters to secure the facility and ensure that victims and survivors have immediate access to law enforcement services.

In July 2016, the Prince George's County Family Justice Center (PGCFJC), an initiative of the Circuit Court was established to improve

the systems' response to survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, human trafficking and elder abuse with the co-location of 22 local government, criminal justice and community-based organizations under one roof for a "one-stop shop" survivor-driven resource. Partnering organizations include law enforcement, prosecutor's office, social and family service agencies, health department, local hospital (domestic violence/sexual assault unit), local domestic violence, sexual assault and human trafficking

service provider agencies and civil legal law firms. Other nonprofit organizations provide temporary housing, mental health services, outreach/education and support for elderly victims of domestic abuse. The implementation of this coordinated community response to Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) provides a holistic, victim-centered and trauma-informed service delivery process that makes the path to safety and healing more efficient and efficacious.

Marketer from A3

Graphic Designer; Nestor Diaz, Marketing Specialist; Brian Habib, Web Development Specialist; Olivia "O" Horvath, Digital Services Specialist; and Donna Scott-Martin, Media Relations Specialist; along with the Library's Program Services, Intercultural Services, and Development departments.

Nicholas Alexander Brown is a Honduran-American library executive, arts producer, and musician based in Prince George's County, Maryland. He currently serves as the Chief Operating Officer for Communication and Outreach at the Prince George's County Memorial Library System. He previously served as director of special productions & initiatives at Washington Performing Arts. In 2019,

Brown was named to the Library Journal Movers & Shakers—Innovators list for his work in programming and community engagement. Brown served on the Librarian of Congress' strategic programming team (Office of Special Events and Public Programs). He held the position of music specialist/concert producer for the Library's Music Division from 2012–2018, programming the historic Concerts from the Library of Congress series. Brown co-produced the Library of Congress Bibliodiscotheque series, featuring Gloria Gaynor and Tim Gunn. He is currently an adjunct faculty member in the Department of Library and Information Science at The Catholic University of America and a past president of the District of Columbia Library Association. Brown previously worked in the

Office of the President and Provost at Harvard University, served in the 215th Army Band, has performed internationally as a conductor, French horn player, and chorister, and held internships in the Office of the First Lady at The White House (Obama Administration) and in the Boston Symphony Orchestra Press Office.

The Prince George's County Memorial Library System (PGCMLS) helps customers discover and define opportunities that shape their lives. The Library serves the 967,000+ residents of Prince George's County, Maryland through 19 branch libraries, a 24/7 online library, and pop-up services throughout the community. PGCMLS is a responsive and trusted community-driven organization. pgcmls.info/about-us.

The Prince George's Post

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BUSINESS AND FINANCE



PHOTO COURTESY PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®
The 2021 REALTOR® of the Year, Shameeka Price

Prince George's County Association of REALTORS® Honor 2021 REALTOR® of the Year Shameeka Price

By ERICA KALEDA
Prince George's County Association of REALTORS®, Inc.

LANDOVER, Md. (Sept. 30, 2021)—Please join us in celebrating the 2021 REALTOR® of the Year, Shameeka Price, Broker of Capital Structures Real Estate in Mitchellville, MD. Ms. Price has been a REALTOR® and member of the Prince George's County Association of REALTORS® (PGCAR) for 16 years, where she has served in many different roles, including 2021 Association President.

Each year, PGCAR members nominate one REALTOR® who has best served the real estate profession and the community. REALTOR® of the Year (ROTY) winners are selected for possessing numerous qualities including high principles of integrity, adherence to the REALTOR® Code of Ethics, exceptional service to clients, imaginative and creative advertising programs, community service, notable business accomplishments, and state, local and/or national association activity.

At an event attended by her fellow colleagues, Mistress of Ceremonies, Bershaw Shaw, featured on Real Housewives of New York

made the announcement: "The REALTOR® who has demonstrated significant business-accomplishments, faithfulness to the Code of Ethics, leadership, civic and community involvement, and local, state and National Association activity to a degree which makes her truly worthy of the title PGCAR "REALTOR® of the Year" is our 2021 President Shameeka Price."

Congratulations, Shameeka, and thank you for all you do in the Prince George's community and for the Prince George's County Association of REALTORS®.

The Prince George's County Association of REALTORS® is the voice for real estate in Prince George's County, Maryland, representing more than 3,900 real estate professionals in the national capital area. PGCAR is an affiliate of the Maryland and National Association of REALTORS®. We are proud to serve our members and our community and work to ensure professionalism in the industry. Our volunteers and staff work to offer services to real estate professionals and to provide avenues for our members to become more successful. We proudly work to promote and protect home ownership and private property rights.

Governor Hogan Appoints Cheryl S. Landis to the Maryland House of Delegates

By SHAREESE CHURCHILL
Office of the Governor

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (Sept. 29, 2021)—Governor Larry Hogan today announced the appointment of Cheryl S. Landis to the Maryland House of Delegates, representing Legislative District 23B. She was nominated by the Prince George's County Democratic Central Committee.

"I am confident that Ms. Landis will represent her constituency admirably in her new role as delegate," said Governor Hogan. "I offer her my sincere congratulations and look forward to working with her in the upcoming legislative session."

Ms. Landis worked for the Prince George's School System for 30 years, serving for 27 years as the Strategic Business

Partnerships Coordinator. Following her retirement, she was the Education Coordinator to former Prince George's County Executive Rushern Baker. Landis is active in her home county, and is chair of the Prince George's Democratic Central Committee, as well as a Democratic National Committee-woman for Maryland.

Prince George's County Observes National Disability Employment Awareness Month

A virtual hiring event will be held October 18 through October 22

By JERMONI DOWD
Prince George's County Dept. of Family Services

CAMP SPRINGS, Md. (Oct. 1, 2021)—The Prince George's County Department of Family Services, Aging and Disabilities Services Division, Project Hire Apprenticeship Program announced today its participation in National Disability Employment Awareness Month, an annual awareness campaign that takes place each October. The purpose of National Disability Employment Awareness Month is to educate the public about disability employment issues and celebrate the many

and varied contributions of America's workers with disabilities. This year's theme is "America's Recovery: Powered by Inclusion."

"We are Prince George's Proud to recognize October as National Disability Employment Awareness Month," said Prince George's County Executive Angela Alsobrooks. "We all have a duty to continue to strive for an inclusive community. As we commemorate the 76th anniversary of National Disability Employment Awareness Month, we will continue to take

See **DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT** Page A7



Our new hospital is about to **changeUP** everything.

Amazing health care can do so much more than help you feel better. It can lift up an entire community. Our new, state-of-the-art hospital in Largo is now open - which means this entire community is about to rise. Here, you'll have access to more top specialists, a comprehensive Heart & Vascular Institute, a beautiful new maternity center with the latest advances for moms and babies, and so much more. As part of University of Maryland Medical System, we're stepping up the strength of all that we offer ... because when we stand strong, so do you.

See how we are changing up health care for you at UMcapitalregion.org/changeUP.



AREA EVENTS

Prince George's Arts and Humanities Council Celebrates National Arts and Humanities Month Throughout October

Interactive and Inspiring Events Celebrate Local Arts and Culture in Prince George's County

By R. JOSHUA REYNOLDS
PGAHC

LARGO, Md. (October 1, 2021)—As October 1 marks the start of National Arts and Humanities Month (NAHM), Prince George's Arts and Humanities Council (PGAHC) has announced a full schedule of events to highlight the arts and culture sector in the County. Events will run from October 2 to October 30 and will feature activations, performances, seminars, and interactive experiences. PGAHC will continue to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month in addition to NAHM. PGAHC's CEO and Chief Curator, Rhonda Dallas, shared her excitement about celebrating this important month.

"We are honored to be able to host a range of events to celebrate culture in the County," said Dallas. "While we celebrate and support culture year-round at PGAHC, National Arts and Humanities Month is a time that the nation collectively pauses to reflect on the contributions of the arts and culture sector. I encourage all to attend PGAHC's events as well as to be intentional about supporting local artists and arts organizations."

National Arts and Humanities Month (NAHM) is a coast-to-coast collective celebration of culture in America. Each year since 1993, NAHM has helped give millions of Americans the opportunity to explore new facets of the arts and humanities in their lives and has encouraged them to begin a lifelong habit of active participation. PGAHC has been an active participant in NAHM and is excited to offer a series of events.

PGAHC's celebration of NAHM will include the following events:

Oct. 14: Movie Night @ Arts'tination: 'The Waiting Room'

Oct. 15: Live Latin Jazz featuring Federico Peña at Arts'tination

Oct. 16: Art Healing Workshop facilitated by Sherri Lumpkin at Arts'tination

Oct. 16: NAHM Virtual Forum hosted by Office of the Poet Laureate

Oct. 16: Virtual Masterclass with Sunny Hostin in collaboration with the Iota Gamma Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.

Oct. 21: Virtual Creative Community Conversations

Oct. 21: Movie Night @ Arts'tination: 'Gaslight'

Oct. 23: Mud Cloth Painting Workshop facilitated by Karen Arrington at Arts'tination

Oct. 24: Social Media for Artists Workshop facilitated by Kia Kelliebrew at Art-stination

Oct. 28: Movie Night @ Arts'tination: 'Big 50: The Delrhonda Hood Story'

Oct. 30: "Voices" Latino Literary Forum w/Dialect of Prince George's at Arts'tination

Information and registration for all events are available at www.pgahc.eventbrite.com.

Prince George's Arts and Humanities Council (PGAHC) seeks to create a world-class cultural environment where diverse high-quality arts and humanities programs are available for all Prince George's County residents and visitors. PGAHC is dedicated to promoting artistic excellence and expanding arts opportunities for all citizens of Prince George's County through an energetic program of advocacy, education, and financial support. Visit us at www.pgahc.org/donate-today to learn how to support local artists, our programs, and opportunities.

Enlightenment v. Enslavement Virtual Presentation

By STACEY HAWKINS
Marietta House Museum

Please join Marietta House Museum online on **Thursday, Oct. 21, 6:30-7:30 p.m.** for a fascinating talk to open a new permanent exhibition, "Enlightenment v. Enslavement: Interpreting Gabriel Duvall's Library". Marietta's assistant curator, Katherine Brodt, will introduce the new exhibit "Enlightenment v. Enslavement," installed in the historic Duvall Law Office. This talk offers a unique opportunity to talk online with Kate as she explores conflicting themes in Gabriel Duvall's ideology.

Gabriel Duvall owned nearly 1,000 books. Excerpts from his notebooks reveal his interest in law, politics, history, philosophy, classics, and religion. But what do Duvall's books tell us about him as a person? Do they help explain how Duvall and his contemporaries, men who supposedly believed in the right to freedom, could enslave hundreds of people over their lifetimes?

This lively discussion will invite questions from the audience and give guests a sneak peek of the exhibit, that is set against the original bookshelves in Gabriel Duvall's law office. The exhibit will highlight the types of books read by Duvall and his contemporaries—including Thomas Jefferson and James Madison—that shed light on their inspirations and motivations for creating early American law.

The exhibit includes quotes from the books that these men knew well, examples of their own writing, and contemporary reactions to the lack of equality in American legislature. Reconstructing the contents of Duvall's library gives us the opportunity to see the words that influenced him and, hopefully, understand the conflicting themes of enlightenment and enslavement at the heart of his ideology.

The exhibit can be viewed in-person on regularly scheduled tours. Marietta House Museum's guided tours including the law office are Tues.-Fri. 11 a.m., 1 p.m., 3 p.m. Please register in advance for the tours by calling 301-464-5291. Marietta is located at 5626 Bell Station Road, Glenn Dale, MD 20769 and is a property

To register for Enlightenment v. Enslavement the Online Presentation, please register for this event on Parks Direct or email stacey.hawkins@pgparks.com. For the presentation: Ages 8 & up; \$5/person



PHOTO COURTESY MARIETTA HOUSE MUSEUM

ABOVE: The historic Duvall Law Office. RIGHT: The Law marker outside the Law Office.



Maryland Zoo Celebrates 38th Annual ZooBOOO!

Presented by Chase

By JANE BALLENTINE
The Maryland Zoo

BALTIMORE (Sept. 30, 2021)—For the 38th year, The Maryland Zoo brings growls and ghouls together at ZooBOOO! presented by Chase. ZooBOOO! will take place **October 29 through the 31**, from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. ZooBOOO! includes safe Halloween trick-or-treating, visits from our Animal Ambassadors, two costume contests each day sponsored by Mount Washington Pediatrics, carnival games, crafts, the STIFEL "not-so-spooky" hay maze, family entertainment and much more!

The Zoo's African Journey habitats set the stage for one of the most popular Halloween traditions—the Elephant Pumpkin Smash! Watch as the African elephants enjoy their fall treats in a big way at 11 a.m. each day of the event weekend.

Guests, especially the young ones, are encouraged to wear costumes to ZooBOOO! And, back by popular demand, trick-or-treat candy chute stations will be located through-

out the Zoo! There are still a few COVID-related protocols still in place for this event:

- Timed ticketing reservations are required to enter the Zoo. ZooBOOO! is included with 1 admission. Tickets went on sale Friday, October 1.
- Per Baltimore City mandate, masks are required indoors for all individuals age 2-years-old and up, regardless of vaccination status. Indoor locations include Wild Things Gift Shop, Chimp Forest, Giraffe House, Penguin Education Center, and the Tundra Buggy; the Cave, the Tree and box turtle tunnel habitats in The Maryland Wilderness, as well as all restrooms.

Thank you to our generous sponsors Chase, Mount Washington Pediatrics, STIFEL and Goetze's Candy Company. This event is rain or shine. For updates on ZooBOOO! presented by Chase and other upcoming Zoo events, please visit www.marylandzoo.org and www.facebook.com/marylandzoo.

Founded in 1876, The Maryland Zoo in Bal-



PHOTO COURTESY THE MARYLAND ZOO

Young guests are encouraged to wear costumes to ZooBOOO!

timore is the third oldest zoo in the United States and is internationally known for its contributions in conservation and research. More than 1,500 animals are represented in the Zoo's varied natural habitat exhibits in areas such as the award-winning Penguin Coast, Polar Bear Watch, the Maryland Wilderness, African Journey and the Children's Zoo. Situated in Druid Hill Park near downtown Baltimore, the Zoo is accredited by the Association of Zoos & Aquariums. Visit www.marylandzoo.org.

HOSPICE OF THE CHESAPEAKE NEWS

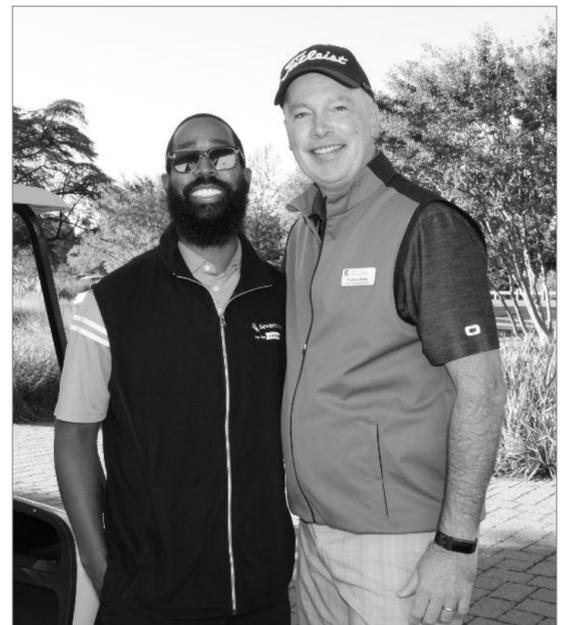


PHOTO CREDIT ELYZABETH MARCUSSEN

Jerray Slocum of Severn Bank and Hospice of the Chesapeake President and CEO Mike Brady pose before the start of the tournament Sept. 30, 2021, at Queenstown Harbor Golf Course.

What a Comeback! Golf Tournament Returns and Raises More Than \$200K

By ELYZABETH MARCUSSEN
Hospice of the Chesapeake

PASADENA, Md. (Oct. 6, 2021)—After having to postpone last year's tournament and facing event restrictions imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic, the success of this year's Hospice of the Chesapeake Golf Tournament faced a lot of obstacles. To the committee that plans this event, it was a challenge they eagerly accepted. Their hard work helped to make the 2021 Golf Tournament the most successful in its history.

A long list of sponsors and golfers helped raise more than \$200,000 for the nonprofit that serves Anne Arundel, Charles and Prince George's counties, \$35,000 more than when it was last held in 2019. No doubt the venue and a perfect-weather day filled with food, drinks and giveaways helped to make it another record-breaking year. Held Sept. 30 at Queenstown Harbor Golf Course, the tournament offered hospitality that began with an omelet bar in the morning, oysters and shrimp along with grilled lunch at the turn and an awards banquet to cap off the day.

The great success of this tournament was made possible by the generous support of its sponsors: All Green Management, Masters Sponsor; First National Bank, Greenberg Gibbons and The Michael Stanley Foundation as Presenting Sponsors; and Brown's Toyota of Glen Burnie, Carpet and Wood Floor Liquidators, Charter Financial, Crescent Cities Charities, Inc, Tech USA, Waterfront Engineering, Design and Construction, Inc., and Whitehall Management as Heritage Harbor Sponsors.

The event is planned by the Hospice of the Chesapeake Golf Committee, an incredible group of volunteers who try to outdo their efforts each year to create a memorable outing focused on supporting the programs and services the nonprofit provides for those living with and affected by advanced illness. Judging by this year's fundraising success, they once again surpassed all expectations.

Caring for life throughout the journey with illness and loss is the mission of Hospice of the Chesapeake. For details, visit www.hospicechesapeake.org.

Workshop Offers Ways to Cope for Those Mourning The Loss of Their Pet

By ELYZABETH MARCUSSEN
Hospice of the Chesapeake

PASADENA, Md. (Oct. 6, 2021)—For adults mourning the loss of a beloved animal friend, Chesapeake Life Center will offer its free Pet Loss Workshop from **10 a.m. to noon Nov. 13**. This workshop is in partnership with Perfect Pet Resort and will be held in person at their location at 840 W. Bay Front Road, Lothian, Maryland. It will include a welcome, a time to share individual stories, an introduction to the grief process, an art activity to honor your beloved pet, brainstorming and suggestions for healthy coping.

Per Center for Disease Control and Anne Arundel County guidelines, the number of people allowed to participate is limited to allow for physical distancing. Face masks must be worn at all times. Childcare is not provided, and children are not permitted.

Registration is required and can be completed online at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/pet-loss-workshop-tickets-172308307787>. For questions, contact 888-501-7077 or griefinfo@chesapeakelifecenter.org.

Visit www.hospicechesapeake.org/events for a complete listing of in-person and virtual groups and workshops for adults and children.

Chesapeake Life Center, a program service of Hospice of the Chesapeake, serves hospice family members and the community with bereavement services and activities aimed at enhancing the quality of life for those grieving the loss of a loved one. Visit www.chesapeakelifecenter.org

