

The Prince George's Post



A COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER FOR PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY SINCE 1932

Vol. 90, No. 16 April 21 — April 27, 2022

Prince George's County, Maryland

Newspaper of Record

Phone: 301-627-0900

25 cents



COURTESY PHOTO

Prince Georgian Stacey King and her Grandma canning tomatoes in 2019.

Alzheimer's Association Ride to End Alzheimer's Coming to the National Capital Region

Prince George's County woman on volunteer leadership team to plan, implement inaugural event to support Alzheimer's, dementia research

By CINDY SCHELHORN
Alzheimer's Association

MCLEAN, Va. (April 8, 2022)—The Alzheimer's Association will hold its first ever Ride to End ALZ in the Nation's Capital on Sunday, May 15. More than 160 riders from Maryland, Virginia and the District of Columbia, as well as from states as far away as Texas, Minnesota and Hawaii, have registered for the inaugural cycling event, which joins a growing list of Ride to End ALZ events held across the country to raise funds and awareness to advance research toward the first survivor of Alzheimer's.

Prince George's County resident Stacey King is a member of

the volunteer Community Engagement Committee responsible for planning the new event. King lost her maternal great-grandmother, paternal grandfather and other family members to Alzheimer's. Her maternal grandmother is now living with the disease.

"Alzheimer's is a horrific way to lose someone you love," said King. "This disease puts an extensive and sometimes damaging strain on families, and our society is not properly equipped to support caregivers to the extent they need. I joined the Ride committee because I wanted to get involved in raising awareness. This really is a wonderful and powerful way to raise funds to find a cure."

King has participated in other Alzheimer's Association events, including Walk to End Alzheimer's and the Ride to End ALZ in New England, where she completed her first century (100-mile) ride in 2019. When asked what she would say to encourage people to sign up for the event, King replied: "This is a great way to honor loved ones lost to Alzheimer's or other dementias by making a meaningful impact on the future of research. You realize you are not alone; it is a shared experience and we are all working towards a cure together."

The Ride to End ALZ will take place in Loudoun County, VA, with the start and finish at Morven Park in Leesburg. Check in opens at 6

a.m., with the ride starting at 7 a.m. Participants can choose a 25-mile, 45-mile, 70-mile, or 100-mile route with breathtaking views. The fully supported event will have rest stops along every route, as well as SAG (support and gear), breakfast, lunch and live entertainment.

People can register for the Ride to End ALZ at alz.org/ride. Select the National Capital option to register for the event. All participants must be 13 years of age or older. Riders are required to make a registration donation to get started and agree to raise the fundraising minimum of \$500 in order to partici-

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PHOTO COURTESY MARYLAND GOVERNOR'S PRESS OFFICE

After the event, the governor presented the county executive with a commemorative copy of the Blue Line Corridor bill (HB897) and the pen he used to sign it into law.

Governor Hogan, County Executive Alsobrooks Celebrate Advancement of Blue Line Corridor Project

By SHAREESE CHURCHILL
Office of the Governor

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (April 13, 2022)—Governor Larry Hogan joined Prince George's County Executive Angela Alsobrooks last week to mark the advancement of a transformational project to create more jobs and economic development along the Blue Line Corridor. On Tuesday, the governor enacted bipartisan legislation that commits up to \$400 million in bond authority for the project, which will make the area a major hub for business, education, and the arts.

"Yesterday in Annapolis, I was proud to enact into law a major investment to advance the Blue Line Corridor project, which will be an absolute game-changer, bringing more jobs and more economic development to the neighborhoods where I grew up and spent much of my life," said Governor Hogan. "The entire mission of my administration for eight years now has been to change Maryland for the better by investing in and revitalizing the areas of our state that had been neglected and forgotten for far too long, so that we can leave our state in better shape for future generations."

[Two weeks ago], the governor was in Largo at the University of Maryland Capital Region Medical Center to break ground on the first-ever cancer care center in Prince George's County. It is part of a new Maryland Cancer Moonshot Initiative to expand and accelerate cancer detection, screening, prevention, treatment, and research in the state. The state also continues to make progress on bringing the FBI's new headquarters to the county.

The bonding authority for the Blue Line Corridor is expressly prohibited from being used for professional stadiums.

Governor Signs Into Law Last Bills for 2022 General Assembly

By STEPHEN NEUKAM
Capital News Service

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (April 12, 2022)—A day after lawmakers worked until a few minutes before their midnight deadline to pass legislation, Maryland Republican Gov. Larry Hogan signed 79 bipartisan bills into law, capping his final legislative session in office.

Hogan and Democrats Senate President Bill Ferguson, Baltimore, and House Speaker Adrienne Jones, Baltimore County, praised each other at the bill signing Tuesday at the State House for the cross-party work done over the governor's two terms.

"For eight years, we've sent a very clear message that unlike just down the road in Washington, where there seems to be more divisiveness and dysfunction, that we actually can come together in a bipartisan way to change things for the better," Hogan said.

It took lawmakers until the last breath of the legislative session Monday night to pass what remained on their priority list, including bills to enhance the state's cybersecurity defense, raise the age that minors in the state are allowed to marry to 17 and ban the use of the harmful chemical PFAS in fire-fighting foam and other materials.

Ferguson, who soaked in the last moments of the 90-day legislative session as balloons and

confetti fell from the chamber balconies, said he was proud of the work legislators did in the face of uncertainty around the pandemic.

"We had an obligation to work together as a team on behalf of Marylanders to ensure that they had the best possible opportunity with their health care, safety and the building of our state's economy," Ferguson said.

Hogan and Democrats both leave the session with victories to brag about, with the governor securing some of his top priorities in tax relief and law enforcement investments and Democratic legislators overriding vetoes to set in law a paid family medical leave program and action to increase access to abortions.

"Paid family and medical leave will provide Marylanders with a safety net when they have a baby or have a medical emergency," Jones said. "We are preparing for some of the most restrictive abortion actions that we have seen in a generation by expanding access to reproductive care."

Next on the agenda for many lawmakers are the upcoming elections. Hogan, who is term-limited and not running for any office, joked Monday he was "looking forward to not hitting the campaign trail" and weighed

See LAST BILLS Page A3

At Clinics, Patient Escorts Are Low-Profile Figures on the Front Lines of Abortion Debate

By EMILY HAHN
Capital News Service

WASHINGTON (April 13, 2022)—Construction equipment clanged and hummed over the sound of protesters' prayers and shouting of obscenities at passersby and patients outside Planned Parenthood Carol

Whitehill Moses Center in the nation's capital.

Such scenes are common around abortion clinics throughout the metropolitan region and the nation.

Patients at clinics in the District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia are escorted in and out by volunteers with the Washing-

ton Area Clinic Defense Task Force (WACDTF) shielding them from anti-abortion protesters outside the facilities.

The escorts are lower-profile figures in the ongoing national debate over abortion.

See PATIENT ESCORTS Page A4



JOE RYAN/CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE

Del. Rachel Jones, Calvert and Prince George's, speaks to the press just after midnight Tuesday April 12 following sine die, the end of the General Assembly legislative session.

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The new laws ... included landmark efforts to slow climate change, a referendum on making marijuana legal and an effort to expand access to abortion services. Community, Page A4

Influential Physician Leader to Join University of Maryland Capital Region Health as Chief Medical Officer
"I am proud of this appointment and know that Dr. Archinard will serve our organization and community well..." Business and Finance, Page A5

Connect With NASA on Social Media this Earth Day April 22
Show off what makes life on our planet truly special—you.
Expanded Access to Higher-Blend Renewable Fuels
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TOWNS *and* NEIGHBORS

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

Gerald Atkinson, Vietnam War combat veteran and Navy Test Pilot

Gerald L. "Beak" Atkinson, 90, Camp Springs resident for 50 years, who served in the Office of the Secretary of Defense as a member of the SALT (Strategic Arms Limitation Talks) delegation in the '70s and was awarded the Legion of Merit, died Dec. 19 at home in Danville, Ky. He and his wife Arvie had recently moved there to live near their daughter.

Gerald was born in Flint, Mich., attended Central Michigan University on a basketball scholarship, the first in his family to attend college. Following graduation, he enlisted in the Navy, attended flight training at Pensacola Naval Air Station, won his Navy wings and married Arvilla Partenio.

He reported to Oceana, Va., to Fighter Squadron 84, and was later sent to the University of Michigan for his master's in nuclear engineering. CDR Atkinson flew a tactical reconnaissance aircraft in combat missions over North Vietnam and in the Paris Air Show in 1965. He attended U.S. Naval Test Pilot School at Patuxent River Naval Air Station where he was named Top Test Pilot in his graduating class. In 1971 he earned a PhD in nuclear engineering from the University of Michigan.

In retirement, Gerald worked for high-tech research corporations in the Washington area, and was assistant professor of computer science, teaching artificial intelligence at the Naval Air Test Center at Patuxent. He was creator, editor and publisher of "Eternal Vigilance: A Journal of American Culture."

He's survived by Arvilla, his wife of 67 years; children Sue, Gregory, Sally, Jess and Julie; 11 grandchildren; two great-grands and two siblings. Funeral Mass was in Danville, Ky, with burial April 7 at Arlington and a Memorial Mass at St. Philip's, Camp Springs, April 8.

Jerry (as I called him) and Arvie were lively members of my St. Philip's Book Club.

100th birthday

Donald Young, of Camp Springs, is turning 100 on May 5. His daughter Donna sent this message, "Because we

are unable to have a big party, we are requesting that friends and family send in video greetings for his birthday. To collect the videos, we are using the VidDay site. Please visit this link to see your invitation: <https://share.vidday.com/b-qby2rr>. We are requesting videos be sent to the VidDay site by 04/28/2022 at 12 p.m. in order to have some time to finalize the collection of videos. We did something similar for Dad's 90th birthday, and he was very touched by all the videos."

Town of Morningside

The Town rents out its meeting space for special occasions. They have hosted everything from baby showers to repasts—and even a wedding! The books have just opened up for April through June. If you'd like information, call the Town Admin. Office at 301-736-2300. Dates are going fast!

Morningside Town Meeting, Tues., April 19, 7 p.m. at the Town Hall.

Morningside election, May 2, for Mayor and two Council Members.

Mad Hatters Tea Party for Mother's Day, May 7, 10 a.m.

Spring Clean-up 2022, Sat., May 14 & Sunday, May 15, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day.

Changing landscape

County Exec Angela Alsobrooks has just announced that "\$2.5 million in funding from the FY 2022 Federal Appropriations process will support improvements on Suitland Road between Silver Hill Road and Town Park Road." More about this next column.

The Regional Cancer Center in Largo is scheduled to open in spring 2024 and will provide high-quality comprehensive cancer care services. County Council Chair Calvin Hawkins welcomed the exciting news, "Breaking ground for a world-class Cancer Center is a momentous step forward in one of our most significant undertakings in Prince George's County."

Milk & Honey Café is coming to 8821 Woodyard Road, Suite 104, in Clinton.

Wendy's in Penn Mar is back open

after being closed for months. Grand Opening is April 23. Thanks to Wayne Gordon for this information.

A home at 4107 Maple Road in Morningside recently sold for \$344,000.

Shouldn't we convert our tennis courts to pickleball courts?

If you get AARP's magazine, you might have read "Pickleball for Life" in the February–March 2022 issue.

I first learned about the game when daughter Kathleen Shearer, out in West Chester, Ohio, started playing it with a senior group. She says it's really fun. Well, she was always good at Ping-Pong.

I did a little research ("pickleball near me") and learned you can go to the Westphalia Community Center in Upper Marlboro (301-516-5300) where pickleball is played Tuesdays, 1 to 3 p.m. I asked if many turn out to play and was told there's a "regular crowd."

Interested in getting started? An Onix Pickleball Starter Set for all ages and levels is available for \$19.98 at some shops. Also, more elaborate sets for more advanced players. I'd advise calling ahead or going online.

According to AARP, four pickleball courts could fit on a standard tennis court. The paddle is elongated, three times the size of a ping-pong paddle. "It offers more spin, reach and power—and it's great for socially distant high fives." The balls have between 26 and 40 holes.

As I look at the usually empty tennis courts in Morningside and Skyline, I think at least one of them should be converted to pickleball courts. Pickleball is catching on, especially with seniors. In fact, it's the "fastest growing sport in the country."

And you can play pickleball in a wheelchair!

Condolences

To the family of Victor P. Branham Sr. whose funeral was April 11 at From the Heart Ministries. I'll have more about Victor next week.

See **MORNINGSIDE** Page A3

Around the County

Bowie State Athletics Inducts Inaugural Chi Alpha Sigma Class

BOWIE, Md. (April 12, 2022)—The Department of Athletics at Bowie State has officially announced that they have established the university's first chapter of Chi Alpha Sigma, the first and only national honor society of scholar-athletes in collegiate athletics. Bowie State inducted its inaugural class into the Maryland Xi Chapter of Chi Alpha Sigma National College Athlete Honor Society on Apr. 11, consisting of 20 student-athletes across 13 varsity sports.

Bowie State joins Loyola University of Maryland, Morgan State, Notre Dame of Maryland, Salisbury, St. Mary's, Coppin State, and Stevenson from the state of Maryland.

BSU's Chi Alpha Sigma chapter will give the university an opportunity to honor those four-year collegiate student-athletes that have excelled in both the classroom and in athletic competition. To be eligible to join the honor society, the student-athlete must participate in a sport at the varsity intercollegiate level, achieve junior academic standing or higher after their fifth full-time semester, display strong moral character, and earn a 3.4 or higher cumulative grade point average.

Established in 1996, Chi Alpha Sigma continues to provide outstanding student-athletes with an opportunity to become connected within a fraternal association that aligns their educational and athletic successes for a lifetime.

A complete list of Bowie State's 2022 Chi Alpha Sigma inductees is listed below.

Football: Quinton Bobo, Keshane Hincley, Uvel Paul, Jr.
Women's Volleyball: Neysha Washington
Women's Basketball: Drew Calhoun, Katerra Myers
Men's Basketball: Anthony Carpenter, Khalil Williams
Women's Bowling: Taylor Harris, Erin Pearson
Women's Tennis: Aria Mason
Men's Track and Field: Joshua Carter, Frederick Eiland, II, Movado Gray, Dyshawn Payne, Zion Tyler
Women's Track and Field: Kevona Jones, Kayla Little
Softball: Brittany Brewer, Breanna Harvey

For the most up-to-date information on Bowie State University Athletics and its 13 varsity sports teams, please visit www.bsubulldogs.com.

—Jolisa Williams, Bowie State University Athletics

Maryland FFA Foundation Announces Recipients of the Gift of Blue

HAVRE DE GRACE, Md. (April 5, 2022)—The Maryland FFA Foundation is pleased to announce their annual recipients of the Gift of Blue Program. This program benefits those deserving and active FFA members in grades 9–11. Each chapter is eligible to request up to three FFA jackets at a cost of \$10/jacket.

This year, 66 students received their own FFA jacket and matching tie/scarf in a presentation during a ceremony at the State Spring Judging Event on April 2, 2022 at Westminster High School. The event hosted over 460 members, advisors, parents and volunteers. The Maryland FFA Foundation has sponsored this generous event for the past seven years awarding 648 jackets to deserving members totaling over \$33,000 through their foundation.

Region 3: Gwynn Park High School: Tyler Aldrich, Kaelyn Bush, Ethan Smith (FFA Advisor: Leasa Gudderra)

The Maryland Agricultural Education Foundation is a 501c3 non-governmental nonprofit established in 1989. Through the Maryland FFA, teacher workshops, scholarships, grants, Mobile Labs and Showcases, and revenues from the Ag Tag license plate sales, the Foundation pursues its mission to promote the understanding and appreciation of the importance of agriculture in everyone's daily lives. The Maryland FFA Association's staff team is partially funded through a \$40,000 federal Perkins Grant facilitated by the Maryland State Department of Education. The Maryland FFA Association has 2,000 members in 42 Chapters throughout the State. For more information, visit www.mdffa.org or contact Naomi Knight at nknight@maefonline.com

Department of Parks and Recreation, Prince George's County Announces Return of Dallas Black Dance Theatre to Publick Playhouse

RIVERDALE, Md. (April 12, 2022)—The Department of Parks and Recreation in Prince George's County, part of the M-NCPPC, is proud to announce the return of the Dallas Black Dance Theatre to Publick Playhouse in Hyattsville. For over 40 years, the Company has mesmerized audiences with spell-binding performances that keep audiences coming back for more. Their repertory combines classical and contemporary modern works by Alvin Ailey, Elisa Monte, Milton Myers, Asadata Dafora, Dianne McIntyre, Matthew Rushing, Christopher L. Huggins, Ben Stephenson, Twyla Tharp, and others. The touring artists are a diverse multiethnic troupe of well-trained, exciting, and skillful dancers.

Scheduled events at Publick Playhouse from April 27–May 1 include:

Master Classes

April 27, 7–8 p.m.: African Dance for Youth Ages 8–14
April 27, 8:15–9:15 p.m.: African Dance for Teens and Adults; Ages 15 and up

April 28, 6–7:30 p.m.: Liturgical Dance for Youth Ages 8–14
April 28, 7:45–9:15 p.m.: Liturgical Dance for Teens and Adults; Ages 15 and up

Cost: \$20/student; \$10/observer

Platinum Performances for Ages 60 and Better

April 28, 11 a.m.–12 Noon

April 29, 11 a.m.–12 Noon

Cost: \$10/person

Weekend Performances

April 29, 8–10 p.m.

April 30, 8–10 p.m.

May 1, 4–6 p.m.

Cost: \$30/person; \$25/Seniors, Students, Children

Register for all programs through ParksDirect.

Brandywine-Aquasco

by Audrey Johnson 301-922-5384

COUNTY COUNCIL NEWS

Prince George's County Council Member Derrick Leon Davis, who has represented District 6 residents on the Council since winning a Special Election in 2011, has resigned his Council seat effective Friday, April 15, 2022. Council Member Davis was elected in November 2014 to serve his first four-year term of office as the Council Member for District 6 and was re-elected to serve a second four 2-year term in the November 2018 General Election. His current term was set to expire on December 5, 2022.

CELEBRATING EARTH DAY DURING APRIL

Join the County's Department of the Environment and celebrate Earth Day throughout the month of April. View and download the Earth Month calendar highlighting some in-person and online activities in Prince George's County at bit.ly/pgcearthmonth2022.

COUNTY'S FIRE/EMS GRADUATES

Council Chair Calvin S. Hawkins, At-Large, and District 4 Council Member Todd M. Turner joined County Executive Angel Alsobrooks and Fire Chief Tiffany Green at National Harbor on Friday, April 8 for the County's Fire/EMS Career Recruit School Classes 62 and 63 graduation ceremony. In his address congratulating the graduates, Chair Hawkins said, "I want to extend our deepest gratitude to the men and women of the Prince George's County Fire and Emergency Medical Services Department for keeping us safe and rescuing us in emergency situations. It is your hard work and commitment that contributes to the remarkable quality of life that makes Prince George's County such an incredible place to live."

KING FAMILY

April 6, Facebook's "Live at 5" welcomed to the Virtual Alumni House another committed Bowie State University family that is part of the rich BSU history. The BSU Legacy Family has a loyalty to the institution and takes pride in their connection to BSU. To all of you, we thank you. We are grateful and excited to profile and celebrate the BSU legacy of your family on our platforms the entire month of April. Share your BSU Legacy Family Story. Join the Virtual BSU Alumni Community. Follow the virtual conversation on all social media platforms. Facebook: @BSUOAE, Twitter: @BSUAlumniOffice, Instagram: @Bowiealum.

BSU AT A GLANCE

Want to stay in the loop with BSU? Make sure you check your inbox every Saturday at 7 a.m. for the latest issue of BSU at a Glance. Highlighting BSU news, events, and alumni profiles, BSU at a Glance is a quick read to keep yourself up to date with your alma mater. We are #BSU4LIFE!

CLEAN SLATE REVIVAL

Nottingham Myers and Christ United Methodist Churches Cooperative Parish. Do you want to be made well? You are invited to join us for a Clean Slate Revival May 2–4 at 7 p.m. Guest Speaker will be Rev. Michael Parker Journey United Methodist Church (John 5:6). Do not miss this spiritual reawakening. Christ United Methodist Church 22919 Christ Church Road Aquasco, Maryland 20608. Rev. Shemaiah Strickland.

MARYLAND HOUSE & GARDEN PILGRIMAGE

Maryland House & Garden Pilgrimage Prince George's County, Maryland Saturday, April 30, 2022, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Spend the day visiting some beautiful sites, many privately owned and not open to the public.

This year's tour will focus on Central Prince George's County. This region consists of Mitchellville, Bowie, Glenn Dale, and Upper Marlboro.

A delicious box lunch from St. Thomas Parish will be available at "Holy Family Catholic Church" 12010 Woodmore Road, Mitchellville, Maryland 20721. Reservations are suggested. The cost is \$13.00 per person and your check will be your guaranteed box lunch of choice.

Tour information, reservations and advanced ticket purchasing, www.MHGP@AOL.ORG. email: MHGP@AOL.COM. Phone: 410-8216933

Pleasant Hills, 7001 Croom Station Road, Upper Marlboro 20772. The house was constructed in 1807 for the Sasser family, who owned the property up until 2012. Owners: Dr. Brian Emerson and Mr. Christopher Lorence.

Patuxent River Farm is requiring a vaccination card, including a booster shot, to be presented to gain access to the interior spaces. As always, the health and safety of all pilgrims are our top priority. Patuxent River Farm, 4700 Old Crain Highway, Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772. Built-in 1903 as the one-room "Patuxent Elementary School," Patuxent Farm of 2020 is the result of five separate expansion campaigns. T. Owner: Mrs. Eugene Bowie Roberts, Jr.

Beechwood, 2301 South West Crain Highway, Upper Marlboro, Marlboro 20772. The original house at Moores Plains was built at the beginning of the 19th century by George Hilleary on a track known As Moores Plains. Owners: Mr. Jack Thompson, Junior, and Mr. Michael Macknight.

Mount Lubentia, 603 Largo Road, Upper Marlboro 20774. The track of land known as "Norway" was inherited by Enoch Magruder from his father in 1739. It was part of a much larger land grant, "Largo," originally granted by the Crown to Enoch's grandfather, Ninian Beall, Owners: Michael Conley and Mark Krikstan, the ninth great-grandson of Ninian Beall. More beautiful sites to follow in my next article. Information from Christopher Lorence, Patch Upper Marlboro, Md. (patch.com/maryland/UpperMarlboro).

COMMUNITY

In-Person and Online Grief Programs Offered

By ELYZABETH MARCUSSEN
Hospice of the Chesapeake

Pet Loss: Online Workshop

For adults mourning the loss of a beloved animal friend, Chesapeake Life Center will offer a free **Pet Loss Workshop** from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday, May 19.

This workshop is sponsored by Perfect Pet Resort and will be held via Zoom. 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.

Registration is required and can be completed online at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/pet-loss-workshop-sponsored-by-perfect-pet-resort-tickets-306440621147>.

Summer programs for grieving children and teens

Chesapeake Life Center will offer four different summer grief programs for children and teens that are filled with adventure, music and horses.

Rhythm & Grieve is a workshop for elementary-school children ages 6 to 12 that incorporates music to help children express their grief through sound, art, and movement. Kids will start by engaging their bodies through music and yoga. They will then make their own drum to honor their loved ones, creatively express their emotions, and connect with others. Get ready for grief out loud, from 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. June 11 at Yoga Barn in Severna Park, Maryland.

Take Flight will take place at the College Park Airport and the Aviation Museum in College Park, Maryland, and is an interactive workshop experience for elementary-school children ages 6 to 12 to explore their grief, make friends, and have a lot of fun! Through art, play, conversations, and support, children will develop new ways that help with the difficult task of grieving, while learning they are not alone. It will be held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. July 16 and includes an activity in the aviation museum.

Grieving with Horses is a workshop for teens and preteens to spend a

day at Maryland Therapeutic Riding in Crownsville, Maryland. Horses are incredibly sensitive to human emotions and their emotional intelligence can be a helpful tool in one's journey through grief. No horse experience is needed and all activities are unmounted. There will be two different days to attend based on age groups. Pre-teens ages 11 to 13 entering sixth to eighth grade can attend from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Aug. 12 while teens ages 13 to 18 entering high school can attend from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Aug. 19.

Attendance restrictions and requirements will be updated using the most recent Centers for Disease Control guidelines and organizational policies prior to each event. The cost for each program is \$40, and includes meals, and activities. Scholarships are available; inquire upon registering. Space is limited.

Registration is required and on a first-come, first-served basis. Register by calling 888-501-7077 or emailing griefinfo@chesapeakelifecenter.org. Visit www.hospicechesapeake.org/ events for a complete listing.

Amerigroup Maryland and Hyattsville-based Community Youth Advance Announce Partnership



PHOTO COURTESY AMERIGROUP MARYLAND AND COMMUNITY YOUTH ADVANCE

Amerigroup Maryland recently partnered with Community Youth Advance (CYA) to support the nonprofit's educational efforts for children and teenagers across Prince George's County. Amerigroup presented CYA with a check for \$2,500 to extend mentorship and leadership opportunities. Above, left to right, Lori Hammond, Director of Marketing at Amerigroup Maryland, Jhae Thompson, Executive Director at Community Youth Advance, Lanise Thompson, Amerigroup outreach director.

DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT

SATURDAY
APRIL 23

*Public restrooms are not available.

8 am to 1 pm
or while supplies last

This mulch is primarily derived from the Christmas tree collections.

Prince George's County Organics Composting Facility
6550 Maude Savoy Brown Rd.,
Upper Marlboro, MD
(From Crain Highway, proceed on Maude Savoy Brown Road to Facility)

Source Reduction Tip:
Reduce water usage, prevent soil erosion, and reduce the use of herbicides in your home gardens by applying mulch.

- The event is for County residents only, proof of residency may be required.
- All attendees are encouraged to wear a face covering and follow social distancing guidelines.
- Self-loaders must bring their own shovels, pitch forks, bags, containers and/or tarps to secure/transport the material.
- Only non-commercial vehicles, 3/4-ton maximum weight are permitted. No business vehicle signage will be permitted, all commercial signs should be covered or removed prior to entering the site.

For more information, visit mypgc.us/mulchmadness

AMERICAN PICKERS to Film in Maryland

By PRESS OFFICER
Cineflix

The American Pickers are excited to return to Maryland! They plan to film episodes of The History Channel hit television series throughout your area in June 2022.

AMERICAN PICKERS is a documentary series that explores the fascinating world of antique "picking" on The History Channel. The hit show follows skilled pickers in the business, as they hunt for America's most valuable antiques. They are always excited to find sizeable, unique collections and learn the interesting stories behind them.

As they hit the back roads from coast to coast, the Pickers are on a mission to recycle and rescue forgotten relics. Along the way, they want to meet characters with remarkable and exceptional items. They hope to give historically significant objects a new lease on life while learning a thing or two about America's past along the way. The Pickers have seen a lot of rusty gold over the years and are always looking to discover something they've never seen before. They are ready



PHOTO COURTESY CINEFLIX PRODUCTIONS

Danielle and Mike from the documentary series American Pickers.

to find extraordinary items and hear fascinating tales about them.

We at American Pickers continue to take the pandemic very seriously and will be following all guidelines and protocols for safe filming outlined by the state and CDC. Nevertheless, we are excited to continue reaching the many collectors in the area to discuss their years of picking and are eager to hear their memorable stories!

The American Pickers TV

Show is looking for leads and would love to explore your hidden treasure. If you or someone you know has a large, private collection or accumulation of antiques that the Pickers can spend the better part of the day looking through, send us your name, phone number, location, and description of the collection with photos to: americanpickers@cineflix.com or call 646-493-2184 facebook: @GotAPick

CITY OF LAUREL NOTICE OF A PROPOSED REAL PROPERTY TAX INCREASE

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Laurel in Prince George's County proposes to increase real property taxes.

- For the tax year beginning July 1, 2022, the estimated real property assessable base will increase by 4.29% from \$3,481,232,427 to \$3,630,676,667.
- If the City of Laurel maintains the current tax rate of \$0.71 per \$100 of assessment, real property tax revenues will increase by 4.29% resulting in \$1,061,054 of new real property tax revenues.
- In order to fully offset the effect of increasing assessments, the real property tax rate should be reduced to \$0.6808, the constant yield tax rate.
- The City of Laurel is considering not reducing its real property tax rate enough to fully offset increasing assessments. The City of Laurel proposes to adopt a real property tax rate of \$0.71 per \$100 of assessment. This tax rate is 4.29% higher than the constant yield tax rate and will generate \$1,061,054 in additional property tax revenues.

A public hearing on the proposed real property tax rate increase will be held at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, May 9, 2022. The meeting will be held remotely via Zoom video teleconference. Please use the following link to join the video teleconference.

<https://cityoflaurel.org.zoom.us/j/81074057739?pwd=SG5NbFU0TzIxNTdiQ1ZYRixxWlArdz09>

Passcode: 430290

Webinar ID: 810 7405 7739

The hearing is open to the public, and public testimony is encouraged. Participants who join the video/audio conference will be enabled to speak by the meeting chair. Speakers will be allowed to address the Council for two (2) minutes. Public Comment may also be submitted by 2pm on May 9, 2022. Comments received will be read by City of Laurel staff during the public comments portion of the meeting.

Persons with questions regarding this hearing may call 301-725-5300, extension 2236 for further information.

Kimberley A. Rau, MMC
Clerk to the Council

Alzheimer's from A1

pate. The registration donation will be counted towards that minimum.

One hundred percent of proceeds from the Ride will support Alzheimer's research. As the largest nonprofit funder of Alzheimer's research, the Alzheimer's Association is committed to accelerating the global progress of new treatments, preventions and, ultimately, a cure. Learn more about research at alz.org/research. Participants can raise funds for the Ride in a variety of ways, from online donations to creative fundraising asks, such as King's canning workshops for friends.

"My grandmother was a mega canner. Growing up, I have memories of her pantry being filled with jars of pickles, jams, and beans," said King. "She sent me strawberry jam while I was in Australia completing my undergraduate degree. When I graduated and returned home, I realized she re-

ally wasn't canning anymore; she had just been making those jars of jam for me. She taught me how to can, and we've made many batches of jams and sauces together. Even now, she will help me, and the act of prep work or washing jars always sparks some great memories and stories. It is wonderful to be able to share how I got into canning, which in part feels like carrying on a bit of her legacy."

For more information on Ride to End ALZ Nation's Capital, visit alz.org/ride or contact Brenda Buchanan, director of the Ride at 512-572-0153 or at bbuchanan@alz.org.

The Alzheimer's Association leads the way to end Alzheimer's and all other dementia—by accelerating global research, driving risk reduction and early detection, and maximizing quality care and support. Our vision is a world without Alzheimer's and all other dementia®. Visit alz.org or call 800.272.3900.

Last Bills from A1

in on the chances of his party in November.

"I think people in the legislature are going to have to defend their record," Hogan said. "I think Republicans are going to be able to stand up and say the things they were fighting for, and Democrats have to explain why they didn't take action on some things."

Hogan, who put to bed rumors of a possible U.S. Senate run earlier this year, did not comment on his political future, including a potential White House bid in 2024.

"There's plenty of time," he said. "I'm sure I'll find something to do after that. I'll let you know when I decide."

Editor's Note: See page 4 for a summary of new laws.

Morningside from A2

Milestones

Happy Birthday to Cindy Pitts, Jim Reilly, David Titus, Barbara Sparks and Margaret White, April 23; Edna Lucas, April 24; Sue Stine McConkey-Mason, Daisy Young, Kenia Spivey and my great-grandson David McHale, April 25;

Christy Miller (Cooper) and G.A. DeFelicis, April 26; Michael Call, April 27; Cathy Miller, Hazel Ball, Beverly Gotshall Marquis,

DJ Fowler and Jessica Phipps, April 28.

Happy anniversary to Janet and Brian Spivey, on April 23; and to Jan and Cindy Smith on their Golden Anniversary, April 28.

COMMUNITY

Patient Escorts from A1

"I would like to point out that we are protecting freedom of speech. I mean, we are not there to counter them," said Megan, a WACDTF volunteer trainer who asked that her last name be withheld because she was concerned for her safety. "They can stand there and say whatever they want, and we're not getting in ...we're not shutting them down. We are there for the patients."

WACDTF was created in the 1980s to create a "peaceful and reassuring presence for patients, their companions, and staff" through volunteer work, according to the group's website. The clinics invite the volunteers to escort and aid patients.

The group volunteers at clinics in Maryland, Virginia and Washington. There are similar patient escort groups around the country.

A federal law, called the Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances (FACE) Act, passed in 1994, allows protesters at abortion clinics on public property.

A 2014 U.S. Supreme Court ruling set a precedent that a buffer zone on public sidewalks is a violation of First Amendment rights and thus unconstitutional.

As a result, the atmosphere around abortion clinics sometimes can feel confrontational.

Anti-abortion protesters sometimes approach the patient escorts, but the escorts are trained to ignore them and not engage.

When protesters do confront volunteers, they have been called murderers, or baby killers or told they are lacking morality, according to clinic escorts. Some volunteers have been told they are going to Hell, aiding Satan or guarding the gates of Hell, said Megan and another volunteer who requested anonymity due to safety concerns.

Betty Phelps, an anti-abortion protester and member of Grace Bible Church in Seabrook, Maryland, said she doesn't really have any strong opinions about the clinic escorts but she prays "for their hearts to be changed and consider the life of the baby."

"I think part of doing the job is not really listening to the nonsense," the other volunteer escort said. "Like it just...it all becomes



EMILY HAHN/CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE

COLLEGE PARK, Md. - Betty Phelps, an anti-abortion protester, stands outside the Metropolitan Family Planning Clinic in College Park on March 19.

the same kind of...cycles of rhetoric and you just kind of have to tune them out."

Volunteers said they generally see more protesters on the weekends than during the week. Many of them are "regulars," according to Megan.

"The protesters are there to upset and manipulate you. That is

what they consider, like, the success of their...they call it a sidewalk ministry," said Samatha Clark, a WACDTF volunteer and abortion dula.

Clark has been an abortion clinic escort for five years. She started volunteering because she believes abortions are "a valid, normal medical procedure." Clark wants to protect all patients from what she called the "level of abuse" they receive from protesters outside of clinics.

Clinic escorts also said more protesters were in the Washington area during the March for Life on Jan. 21 during the anniversary of the 1973 Roe v. Wade Supreme Court ruling that effectively legalized abortion.

New abortion restrictions have been enacted across the country. Last September, Texas enacted a stricter abortion access law which bans most abortions after a heartbeat is detected. Oklahoma, Missouri, Kentucky and other states in the last two years have written similar bills banning abortion of fetuses once a heartbeat can be detected or other limitations prohibiting abortions.

Maryland's abortion law states that a woman may legally terminate her pregnancy if the procedure is conducted by the 26th week, before the fetus is viable; or the abortion is to protect the life of the mother, or a fetus has a genetic defect "or serious deformity or abnormality."

The Supreme Court is expected to rule in June or July on the constitutionality of a Mississippi law that bans abortions after 15 weeks of pregnancy. Anti-abortion advocates anticipate that the conservative majority on the high court either will uphold the Mississippi statute.

Despite the charged surroundings at some abortion clinics, people still volunteer to be patient escorts.

Some days ago at Washington's NoMa Planned Parenthood, a woman walked through a phalanx of protesters and went straight to a WACDTF volunteer in a bright orange vest.

The woman asked how she could become a volunteer herself. She was handed a pamphlet on how to join the escort group.

Maryland General Assembly Closes 2022 Session With Sweeping Legislation

By LOGAN HILL
Capital News Service

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (April 12, 2022)—The 2022 Maryland General Assembly wrapped up late Monday with lawmakers pushing a handful of bills across the finish line just before the deadline at midnight Tuesday, although most of the major legislation had already passed in time for an override of a potential veto.

The new laws, many of which passed over Republican Gov. Larry Hogan's objections, included landmark efforts to slow climate change, a referendum on making marijuana legal and an effort to expand access to abortion services.

Abortion Rights Expansion

Nurse practitioners, midwives and other nonphysician medical professionals will be able to perform abortions in Maryland after the Democrats overrode Hogan's veto to pass the Abortion Care Access Act.

The bill includes \$3.5 million a year to train medical professionals in safely performing abortions. The measure will also require most health insurance plans to cover abortions at no cost to patients. The law takes effect July 1. Insurance provisions will apply to all policies, contracts and health benefit plans issued, delivered or renewed in Maryland on or after Jan. 1, 2023.

Paid Family and Medical Leave

Another bill vetoed by Hogan and subsequently overridden, the Time to Care Act of 2022, establishes the Family and Medical

Leave Insurance Program for Maryland workers who need to leave work temporarily for specific reasons.

For example, the insurance program will offer workers up to 12 weeks paid time off to welcome newborn babies, take care of sick or ailing relatives, recover from personal medical care or prepare for a military deployment.

The program will be funded by a payroll contribution—split equally between workers and employers—for companies with more than 15 employees. The legislation did not specify how much workers and businesses would contribute to fund the program.

Weekly benefits for workers claiming leave from the fund will be based on prior earnings and will be capped at \$1,000 per week, although that figure will be adjusted in the future based on inflation.

The program is set to begin distributing benefits as early as 2025.

Climate Change

Lawmakers also passed a sweeping bill to curb the state's greenhouse gas emissions. The Climate Solutions Now Act of 2022 establishes a net zero statewide greenhouse gas emissions goal by 2045. It also requires existing large buildings to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 20% by 2030 and reach net zero by 2040.

The bill is also taking aim at emissions from vehicles. The new law "establishes the intent of the General Assembly, to have all passenger cars in the state's vehicle fleet be zero emissions by 2031 and other light-duty vehicles in

the state fleet be emission-free by 2036.

Retirement Tax

Taking effect July 1, the new law creates a tax credit for most retired Marylanders. The credit will be worth up to \$1,000 for an individual and \$1,750 for a married couple. The tax cut was one of Hogan's early goals when the session began.

To qualify, residents must be at least 65 and their federal adjusted gross income may not exceed \$100,000 as an individual or \$150,000 as a married couple. In some cases, retirees may pay no state income tax.

Work Opportunity Tax Credit

The Work Opportunity Tax Credit is another Hogan initiative that passed the General Assembly. It was created to provide incentives to employers and businesses that hire and retain workers from underserved communities with longstanding obstacles to entering the workforce, according to a press release from Hogan's office.

Targeted groups for the credit include individuals who receive Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, veterans, residents of empowerment zones or rural renewal counties, formerly incarcerated individuals and those who have been convicted of a felony. Also included are individuals experiencing long-term unemployment, supplemental Social Security income recipients, individuals who receive SNAP benefits, and those with mental or physical disabilities.

It is scheduled to take effect July 1 and will apply to each tax year from 2022 to 2028.

Family Budget Boosters

Another Hogan-led tax break, this handful of bills creates sales tax exemptions for products for child care needs.

Diapers, car seats and baby bottles, as well as critical health products such as those for dental hygiene, diabetic care and medical use are included in the exemption.

"Struggling Marylanders need a break," House Speaker Adrienne Jones, D-Baltimore County, said. "This package will deliver a critical boost to family budgets and will help put more Marylanders back to work."

Sports

The legislature authorized up to \$400 million for improvements



JOE RYAN/CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE

Sen. Jim Rosapepe, D-Prince George's and Anne Arundel, smiles during a rare moment of joviality during an intense night as legislators worked to pass bills during a 14-hour session on the last day of the 2022 General Assembly session.

to rapid transit and other facilities around sports venues, such as FedEx Field where the Washington Commanders NFL team plays, in bonds for Prince George's County. The bill takes effect June 1, 2022.

Rapid Transit

A bill approved unanimously in the Senate will improve control over bus and rail transit service.

The Greater Baltimore Transit Governance and Funding Commission will be created to study and make recommendations related to funding, control and performance of mass transit in the greater Baltimore region.

The bill takes effect June 1 and a final report by the commission is due Dec. 1, 2023. The bill is scheduled to terminate on Dec. 31, 2023.

Juvenile Justice

Lawmakers also took aim at reforming juvenile justice with numerous bills. Despite Hogan's objections, Democrats passed new requirements that police must contact parents and provide an attorney before interrogating juveniles.

Additionally, they passed new regulations effective June 1 that will limit the circumstances under which a child younger than age 13 is subject to the jurisdiction of the juvenile court. Legislators set limits on probation terms imposed by juvenile courts and the use of detention and out-of-home placements. The bill creates a permanent commission on juvenile justice reform and best practices, while also establishing numerous reporting requirements.

Children as young as 10, however, could still be charged with extremely serious offenses, like murder.

Recreational Marijuana Legalization

Medical marijuana is already

sonal use. Another bill authorizes the Maryland Medical Cannabis Commission to study and report on long-term use effects annually. If the referendum to legalize marijuana is approved, it would trigger other legislation that allows those previously convicted for cannabis possession to ask to have their records expunged and could lead to the release of prisoners convicted on solely cannabis charges.

Gun Control

A ban on virtually untraceable "ghost guns" will become law later this year. Hogan declined to veto or sign the bill after it passed the General Assembly, which allows it to become law without his signature.

These guns are unregistered and do not have a serial number. They will be banned for purchase on June 1. Owners must turn the unlawful guns already in their possession over to law enforcement by March 1, 2023.



JOE RYAN/CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE

Sen. Paul Pinsky, D-Prince George's, the lead sponsor of the General Assembly's landmark climate change legislation, rubs his eyes as the legislative session moves into the 13th hour.



JOE RYAN/CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE

Rebecca Coppola and husband John Becher, with their daughters Sage Coppola Becher and Clio Coppola Becher outside their Baltimore row house. Coppola said because they didn't have paid family leave, she needed to cobble together disability pay, paid sick leave and paid days off to supplement the 12 weeks she cared for her first newborn in 2020.

The Prince George's Post

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Contents © 2022, The Prince George's Post

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Prince George's County, Md. Member National Newspaper Publishers Association, and the Maryland, Delaware, District of Columbia Press Association. The Prince George's Post (ISSN 10532226) is published every Thursday by the New Prince George's Post Inc., 15207 Marlboro Pike, Upper Marlboro, Md. 20772-3151. Subscription rate: 25 cents per single copy; \$15 per year; \$7.50 senior citizens and students; out of county add \$1; out of state add \$2. Periodical postage paid at Southern Md. 20790. Postmaster, send address changes to Prince George's Post, P.O. Box 1001, Upper Marlboro, Md. 20772-3151.

BUSINESS AND FINANCE

Influential Physician Leader to Join University of Maryland Capital Region Health as Chief Medical Officer

By JANIA MATTHEWS
University of Maryland Capital Region Health

LARGO, Md. (April 12, 2022)—Tom-meka Archinard, MD, MBA, FACEP has been named the new Senior Vice President & Chief Medical Officer for the University of Maryland Capital Region Health (UM Capital), effective June 1. After a national search, Dr. Archinard was selected to join the senior executive team to lead the overall clinical vision, direction and partnership with medical staff across UM Capital Region Health. She is expected to help drive the mission of the organization to provide advanced clinical care and community leadership with vigor while meeting the highest standards of patient quality and safety.

Dr. Archinard most recently served as a Clinical Associate Professor at the University of Alabama Birmingham Department of Emergency Medicine and as Associate Director of UAB Freestanding Emergency Department in Gardendale, AL. She previously was the Regional Di-

rector for Island Medical Management with oversight of Huntsville system partner Emergency Rooms.

"I am proud of this appointment and know that Dr. Archinard will serve our organization and community well," says Nathaniel Richardson, Jr., President and CEO, UM Capital Region Health. "We are at an exciting juncture in the UM Capital journey and I know Dr. Archinard will meet challenges with poise and leverage her leadership and clinical expertise with great intention."

With more than 20 years of experience, Dr. Archinard has focused her career on creating cultures of inclusiveness where administrators, physicians, advance practice providers work hand-in-hand with other clinical teams that result in respectful and successful working relationships. She was a founding faculty member for the Emergency Medicine Residency at Rutgers in Newark, NJ (formerly known as UMDNJ). She established EM clerkships for medical students from the Alabama College of Osteopathic Medicine, PA and NP students from the

University of Alabama at Birmingham, University of Alabama at Huntsville, and Samford University. She helped found a fellowship that created an alternative path to emergency board certification for internists and family medicine doctors in underserved and critical access areas in Alabama.

"I am at a stage in my career where I have a track-record of success in managing large clinical teams," says Archinard. "I am now poised to contribute my leadership skills while serving at an organization that takes pride in being a provider of clinical excellence to the Prince George's County community and surrounding area."

Currently, Dr. Archinard is certified in Lean Six Sigma, Green Belt Six Sigma and a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc., the Golden Key Graduate National Honor Society, American College of Emergency Physicians and the American Association for Physician Leadership.

Interestingly, Dr. Archinard pursued her undergraduate studies on an athletic

scholarship in basketball and track. As a medical resident she took up competitive boxing and trained for competition in the female Golden Gloves of New York. She continues that fighting spirit as a Breast Cancer Survivor bringing a unique point of view as both physician and patient.

Dr. Archinard received her B.S. from Newcomb College of Tulane University; her M.D. from Wake Forest University School of Medicine at Bowman Gray; Emergency Medicine training at King's County SUNY Downstate in Brooklyn and a M.B.A from Harbert School of Business at Auburn University. She is an ABEM board certified emergency physician.



PHOTO COURTESY UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND CAPITAL REGION HEALTH
Tom-meka Archinard, MD, MBA, FACEP

Providing primary and specialty health care services to Prince George's County and the neighboring area, University of Maryland Capital Region Health was established in September 2017 upon formal affiliation with the University of Maryland Medical System (UMMS), and is committed to improving health outcomes in the communities it serves. University of Maryland Capital Region Health operates the University of Maryland Capital Region Medical Center in Largo, University of Maryland Laurel Medical Center, University of Maryland Bowie Health Campus,

and the University of Maryland Capital Region Medical Group with practice locations in Cheverly, Suitland, Bowie, Laurel and the National Harbor. Together, community physicians and University of Maryland School of Medicine (SOM) faculty provide clinical expertise across a range of specialties and programs. Visit www.umcapitalregion.org.

Family-Owned H.J. Poist Gas Company Launches New Branding Initiative

"We are a decades-old family-owned business that has always operated with honesty, integrity, transparency and a relentless focus on our customers."

By RAY FELDMANN
H.J. Poist Gas Company

LAUREL, Md. (April 12, 2022)—H.J. Poist Gas Company, a mainstay of the Laurel, MD business community for the past 85 years, launch[ed] a new branding initiative [last week] that will more effectively communicate the company's longstanding commitment to their customers and the

community at large.

H.J. Poist made the announcement of the new initiative via email to the company's customers and on its social media platforms.

"We are a decades-old family-owned business that has always operated with honesty, integrity, transparency and a relentless focus on our customers," said H.J. Poist owner Virginia Poist Underwood. "We have been serving our

local community by combining caring and a personal touch with the best technical know-how in the industry since my grandfather founded the company in 1937.

"The new branding initiative we are launching today will better convey those core values to our customers and to the community," she added. "We have redesigned our logo and launched a new website, honoring our history and po-

sitioning us for the future. Our new tagline, 'Peace of Mind. Brought to you by H.J. Poist,' is our customer promise."

As part of the new branding initiative, H.J. Poist leadership has also launched a new website that features a refreshed company logo, new signage for the façade of its Main Street building in downtown Laurel, new truck designs, and a new messaging campaign.

In addition to launching its new branding initiative, H.J. Poist also announced that it will be participating in the City of Laurel's Main Street Festival event on Saturday, May 7, where the new façade sign

will be officially lit. The propane gas company also will attend the City's Fourth of July celebration activities.

"Since our inception in 1937, we have always believed in being part of the community where we live and work," Underwood said. "That includes participating in community events, as well as supporting organizations such as Wounded Warriors, Special Olympics Maryland, Platoon 22, and Habitat For Humanity."

Founded in 1937, the H.J. Poist Gas Company provides propane and other industrial gases to homes and businesses in central Maryland. Headquartered on

Main Street in Laurel, MD, the company began as the H.J. Poist Furniture & Appliance Company at its current location selling furniture and propane appliances, and also repaired appliances. After several years, the company began specializing in the sale and service of propane gas. From planning, equipment installation and maintenance, to flexible delivery and payment options, H.J. Poist remains the go-to, one-stop shop for propane serving the community with care, expertise, fair pricing and true 24/7 support.

Visit www.hjpoist.com for more information.

FY23

TOWN OF CHEVERLY NOTICE OF A PROPOSED REAL PROPERTY TAX INCREASE

The Mayor and Council of the Town of Cheverly proposes to increase real property taxes for real property excluding apartments.

1. For the tax year beginning July 1, 2022, the estimated real property assessable base will increase by 3.9% from \$744,613,456 to \$773,623,491 for real property excluding apartments.
2. If the Town of Cheverly maintains the current tax rate of \$.4899 per \$100 of assessment, real property tax revenues will increase by 3.9% resulting in \$142,120 of new real property tax revenues.
3. In order to fully offset the effect of increasing assessments, the real property tax rate should be reduced to \$.4715, the constant yield tax rate.
4. The Town is considering not reducing its real property tax rate enough to fully offset increasing assessments. The Town proposes to adopt a real property tax rate of \$.4899 per \$100 of assessment for real property excluding apartments. This tax rate is 3.9% higher than the constant yield tax rate and will generate \$142,120 in additional property tax revenues.

A public hearing on the proposed real property tax rate increase will be held at 7:00 p.m., on May 10, 2022, at the Town Hall 6401 Forest Road, Cheverly Maryland and remotely via video teleconference. To join the Zoom video conference:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83462253907?pwd=aTBFYU5uWkFnakd4TTVGNTBwYk10UT09>

To join with audio only: (301-715-8592) US, Meeting ID: (834 6225 3907)

The hearing is open to the public, and public testimony is encouraged.

Participants who join the video/audio conference will be enabled to speak by the meeting chair. Speakers will be allowed to address the Council for three (3) minutes. Public Comment may also be made via emailing (townclerk@cheverly-md.gov). All electronic comments must be submitted by 6 PM on May 10, 2022. Comments received will be read by Town of Cheverly staff during the public comment portion of the meeting.

Persons with questions regarding this hearing may call (301) 773-8360 for further information.

You are invited to a Zoom webinar.

When: May 10, 2022, 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83462253907?pwd=aTBFYU5uWkFnakd4TTVGNTBwYk10UT09>

Webinar ID: 834 6225 3907 Passcode: 276192

Or One tap mobile: US: +13017158592,,83462253907# or +16465588656,,83462253907#

Wawa Celebrates Grand Opening of New Lanham Store



PHOTO CREDIT WAWA

LANHAM, Md. (April 7, 2022)—Wawa, Inc. announced the grand opening of its newest store located at 10620 Martin Luther King Jr. Highway, Lanham, MD 20706 on Thursday, April 7. Wawa recognized local first responders with its signature Hoagies for Heroes hoogie-building competition. Local first responders from Prince George's County Sheriff's Office and Prince George's County Fire/EMS competed to see who could build the most hoagies in three-minutes. Wawa concluded the Hoagies for Heroes competitions by presenting checks for \$1,000 to each department's charity of choice. The grand opening of the Lanham location is the seventh to open this year out of the 54 total stores projected to open across Wawa's operating area in 2022.

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STATIONARY ENGINEER APPRENTICESHIP

Applications for the IUOE Local 99 Apprenticeship Program will be accepted during the period of May 2-6, 2022 inclusive. Applications must be completed in person by the applicant at Engineer Center 9315 Largo Drive West, Upper Marlboro, MD 20774 from 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Applicants MUST wear a mask at all times, while inside the facility. \$35 application fee includes drug screen. For additional information go to www.iuoeocal99.org.

Equal Opportunity M/F



ENVIRONMENT

USDA Awards \$1.6 Million Biofuel Infrastructure Grant to Royal Farms to Expand Access to Higher-Blend Renewable Fuels for People in Rural Delaware and Maryland

Funding Will Add 40 million Gallons of Biofuels to the Market Annually

By PRESS OFFICER
USDA Rural Development

GAITHERSBURG, Md. (April 12, 2022)—United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development Under Secretary Xochitl Torres Small today announced that USDA is awarding a \$1.6 million biofuel infrastructure grant to Royal Farms to expand the availability of higher-blend renewable biofuels for people in rural Delaware and Maryland.

USDA is making the award under the Higher Blends Infrastructure Incentive Program. The investment will increase the availability of biofuels derived from U.S. agricultural products by 40 million gallons annually and will prioritize climate-smart solutions that will help people in rural communities build back better.

"People across rural America are seizing economic opportunities through investments in clean energy for people across rural America, and USDA, under the leadership of President Biden, Vice President Harris and Secretary Vilsack, proudly supports that work. Today's announcement also moves the country closer to President Biden's goal of net-zero carbon emissions by 2050," Torres Small said. "The biofuels and biobased products sectors have demonstrated that efforts to combat climate change go hand in hand with strong economic development, especially in rural communities.

With support from Congressman Trone, fuel options like biofuels provide new market opportunities for producers and small businesses, reduce energy costs for consumers, and support good-paying jobs for people throughout rural Maryland."

Royal Farms will use the grant to install 110 dispensers at 17 fueling stations in Hanover, Hyattsville, Upper Marlboro, Pikesville, Frederick, Catonsville, White Marsh, Baltimore, Glen Burnie, Windsor Mill, Capitol Heights and Odenton in Maryland and in Bear, Del.

Background:

The Higher Blends Infrastructure Incentive Program is intended to increase significantly the availability of higher blends of ethanol and biodiesel by expanding the infrastructure for renewable fuels derived from U.S. agricultural products.

Through this program, USDA helps transportation fueling and biodiesel distribution facilities offer higher ethanol and biodiesel blends to customers by sharing the costs to install fuel pumps, equipment and infrastructure.

For additional information, visit rd.usda.gov/hbiip or contact HigherBlends-Grant-access@usda.gov.

Under the Biden-Harris Administration, Rural Development provides loans and grants to help expand economic opportunities, create jobs and improve the quality

of life for millions of Americans in rural areas. This assistance supports infrastructure improvements; business development; housing; community facilities such as schools, public safety and health care; and high-speed internet access in rural, tribal and high-poverty areas. For more information, visit www.rd.usda.gov. If you'd like to subscribe to USDA Rural Development updates, visit our GovDelivery subscriber page.

USDA touches the lives of all Americans each day in so many positive ways. In the Biden-Harris Administration, USDA is transforming America's food system with a greater focus on more resilient local and regional food production, fairer markets for all producers, ensuring access to safe, healthy and nutritious food in all communities, building new markets and streams of income for farmers and producers using climate-smart, food and forestry practices, making historic investments in infrastructure and clean energy capabilities in rural America, and committing to equity across the Department by removing systemic barriers and building a workforce more representative of America. To learn more, visit www.usda.gov.

If you'd like to subscribe to USDA Rural Development updates, visit our GovDelivery subscriber page: <https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDARD/subscriber/new?email=&commit=Sign+Up>

Montgomery County's First 'Litter Trap' Installed in Anacostia River Tributary

By LINDSAY GREENWOOD
Chesapeake Bay Trust

The Anacostia Riverkeeper, the Montgomery County Department of the Environment, and the Chesapeake Bay Trust today announced the installation of the County's first "litter trap" that will catch trash flowing down a stream or river. The trap will float in the Lockridge Drive Tributary and capture litter. Using the stream current, it will guide debris into the trap and prevent it from flowing downstream to the Anacostia River and into the Chesapeake Bay.

"Plastic bottles make up 60 percent of all the trash that is found floating on the Anacostia River, and while the best way to reduce trash in our waterways is not to litter at all, this litter trap is another way to make sure that we are not leaving environmentally harmful trash behind," said County Executive Marc Elrich. "I want to thank the Chesapeake Bay Trust and Anacostia Riverkeeper, our partners in finding innovative ways to clean up our streams and creeks. We are proud to support funding for projects such as the litter trap and to work with these local groups committed to cleaning their communities. These programs provide jobs, create awareness, and build community support for protecting our environment."

Anacostia Riverkeeper is working with the Montgomery County Conservation Corps for maintenance, monitoring and data collection as the litter is collected and sorted.

"Anacostia Riverkeeper is thrilled to celebrate the installation of this first Bandalong Litter Trap in Montgomery County, making

a total of eight in the watershed," said Riverkeeper Trey Sherard of Anacostia Riverkeeper. "Trash, especially plastic, is such an enormous problem in the Anacostia and worldwide that we hope this is the first of many trash traps coming to the County as we continue to partner with the Department of Environmental Protection, Chesapeake Bay Trust, and Montgomery County Conservation Corps. What a wonderfully appropriate way to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Clean Water Act."

This trash trap project was funded via the Montgomery County Watershed Restoration and Outreach Grant Program. It is a partnership between the County and the Chesapeake Bay Trust that funds public outreach and stewardship projects, community-based restoration water quality implementation projects and litter-reduction projects throughout the County. The grants are funded entirely through the Montgomery County Water Quality Protection Charge and are administered by the Chesapeake Bay Trust, a regional grant-maker specializing in engaging nonprofit entities in restoration and outreach work.

"Our successful partnership with Montgomery County makes it possible to support diverse groups taking actions that both enrich their local communities and positively impact our natural resources," said Jana Davis, president of the Chesapeake Bay Trust. "Innovative grantee projects, such as the litter trap, help improve healthy streams and rivers for all to enjoy."

Since January, over \$560,000 in grant funding was awarded to 15 projects through

out Montgomery County and since the program's inception in 2014, over \$3.4 million has been awarded through the grant program.

Projects have included public outreach; stewardship and community-based restoration efforts such as planting native plants and trees, promoting, and implementing green infrastructure practices, community training programs, and removing impervious surfaces; and trash reduction in the Anacostia River Watershed through litter trap maintenance and monitoring.

Anacostia Riverkeeper (www.anacostia-riverkeeper.org) works to protect and restore the Anacostia River for all who live, work, and play in the watershed. We rely on law and advocacy to improve water policy. We deploy green infrastructure to improve water quality. We create meaningful encounters with the river for all citizens in order to open opportunities for enjoyment of the Anacostia River.

The mission of the Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection (www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dep) is to enhance the quality of life in our community by protecting and improving Montgomery County's air, water, and land in a sustainable way while fostering smart growth, a thriving economy, and healthy communities.

The Chesapeake Bay Trust (www.cbtrust.org) is a nonprofit grant-making organization established by the Maryland General Assembly dedicated to improving the natural resources of Maryland and the Chesapeake region through environmental education, community engagement, and local watershed restoration.

Connect With NASA on Social Media this Earth Day April 22

Life on Earth is chaotic and complex, and endlessly beautiful.

While NASA tirelessly looks outward searching for life among the stars, we also study our own planet for lessons on understanding life here and in the universe. Earth is home to a breathable atmosphere, a water cycle, frozen ice caps, and rich ecosystems teeming with microbes, plants, and animals. It's also home to us, 7.9 billion humans.

Connect with us this Earth Day on April 22 by posting on social media an image of yourself, your pets, your favorite place, or even just text and tag it with #NASAEarthling to show off what makes life on our planet truly special—you.

We even have a simple sign to print out or display on your mobile device to tell the world: "I'm a #NASAEarthling from [your place] and I love my planet."

You can use this template for your photo or decorate your digital image with text and emojis, and if you want, share your general location (state, province, country).

On Earth Day, our collective images will show the stunning breadth and variety of life that persists, survives, and thrives right here on Earth.

Download a template in English, French or Spanish at <https://www.nasa.gov/feature/esnt/2022/connect-with-nasa-on-social-media-this-earth-day>.

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<https://nasa.6connex.com/event/NASAScience/NASA-at-Earth-Day/login>

—Ellen Gray, NASA



CREDITS: NASA

A mockup example of an Instagram social media post for Earth Day 2022.

Board of Public Works Approves Funding for Clean Water and the Chesapeake Bay

Grants and loans will reduce pollution, energy consumption

By PRESS OFFICER
State of Maryland

BALTIMORE (April 6, 2022)—The Maryland Board of Public Works approved more than \$23 million in grants and loans today to reduce water pollution and save energy. The board is composed of Governor Larry Hogan, Treasurer Dereck E. Davis and Comptroller Peter Franchot.

"These are smart investments to protect public health and the environment," said Maryland Environment Secretary Ben Grumbles. "Moving ahead with the Piscataway sewage treatment plant bio-energy project and upgrading sewer and wastewater treatment systems will help us to green and grow the state's economy and lead in the race to protect and restore Chesapeake Bay watersheds."

The following projects in Prince George County were approved: **Piscataway Wastewater Treatment Plant Bio-Energy project**

A \$15 million Water Quality State Revolving Loan Fund loan to the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission, in addition to previous loans of more than \$128 million and a previous \$3 million Energy Water Infrastructure Program grant, will help fund the design and construction of bio-energy facilities at the Piscataway Wastewater Treatment Plant, which will receive sludge from other WSSC wastewater treatment plants. The project will include a process to precondition sludge prior to anaerobic digestion, an anaerobic digestion facility and a facility to produce dewatered "Class A biosolids," which can be beneficially reused as fertilizer on farms and sold to home gardeners. Also, a combined heat and power facility will be built to capture the

See CHESAPEAKE BAY Page A7

Earth TALK™ Environmental Impacts of Ukraine War

Dear EarthTalk:

What kind of environmental toll is Russia's war on Ukraine taking?

—James P., Philadelphia, PA

Russia's war on Ukraine is one of the worst humanitarian crises facing Europe since World War II. As Russian military forces continue their violent, murderous invasion, environmental organizations worldwide are raising additional concerns of the war's far-reaching devastation to the environment.

Russia's military activities threaten Ukraine's environment through air, water and soil pollution. Toxic materials are released not only from munitions,

but from the destruction of infrastructure, ranging from buildings and roads to pipelines and chemical storage sites. Ukraine's highly industrialized landscape intensifies the country's risk of toxic pollution from destruction in and around industrial facilities like fuel storage facilities and hazardous waste storage sites. The Donbas region of eastern Ukraine knows this impact all too well: That area was the site of fighting after Russia's annexation of Crimea in 2014, and is still suffering toxic contamination from leaking industrial facilities and munitions.

Ukraine is home to Europe's largest nuclear facility, the Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant, and fighting near the plant has caused fires to



IMAGE CREDIT: MANHAI, FLICKRCC

Russia's war on the Ukraine is creating untold environmental mayhem in the form of air, water and soil pollution.

break out. Russian occupancy of the Chernobyl nuclear site, also located in Ukraine, is also deeply concerning. "Few regions on Earth are as poorly

equipped to handle military conflict as the Chernobyl nuclear power plant," Senior White House Correspondent Alexander Nazaryan says. Russian movement in the area has launched radioactive dust from soil into the air, spiking radiation levels within the zone. While experts say there is no immediate danger to surrounding vicinities, the potential of nuclear disaster makes this war even more dangerous to the environment.

The country's already deteriorating water infrastructure is further threatened by the war. On top of Russian forces cutting off vital water resources that civilians need for drinking and sanitation, damages to wastewater infrastructure are causing untreated sewage to pollute water supplies. On the other end of the spectrum, artillery fire compacted with dry conditions due to climate change make the region susceptible to wildfires.

See EARTHTALK Page A7

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Chesapeake Bay from A6

biogas from the digestion to produce steam and electricity for the plant. Odor control, process water treatment, generators, and boilers are also included in the project. The project will recover renewable energy and reduce energy, chemical and sludge disposal costs. Energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy and biogas can help the Chesapeake Bay by reducing nitrogen pollution and greenhouse gas emissions. The project will be constructed in accordance with coastal and non-coastal resiliency guidelines developed as part of the Coast Smart Program to reduce climate change risks to such projects.

WSSC Sewer Basin Reconstruction Program

Bay Restoration Fund grants totaling \$7,747,811 to the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission will help fund a broad program to repair, replace and rehabilitate sewers and manholes on or near state, local and county road right-of-ways throughout Prince George's and Montgomery counties.

These grants are for improvements in the Beaverdam Sewer Basin, the Northwest Sewer Basin, the Parkway Sewer Basin and the Piscataway Sewer Basin, all in Prince George's County. These projects are consistent with Maryland's climate change adaptation and resiliency objectives through the reduction of runoff that is exacerbated by increased precipitation or flooding events.

EarthTalk from A6

"There is an urgent need for ecological monitoring to assess and minimize the environmental risks arising from the armed conflict," says UN Environment Program analyst Leila Urekenova.

The war is impacting climate change talks as well. Since Russia is one of the top three fossil fuel suppliers in the world, some green groups worry the climate change agenda will be sidelined. Already, the crisis is showing that other countries, especially the U.S., need to be less dependent on foreign fuel, and fossil fuels in general. Climate analysts hope, if anything good can come from the war, it will be the advancement of renewable energy investment to secure energy independence from nations like Russia.

In its present state, the environmental toll of the Russian war on Ukraine seems boundless. However, the full environmental impact may not be seen for generations to come. As Benjamin Franklin warned, "Wars are not paid for in wartime, the bill comes later."

CONTACTS: Ukraine invasion: rapid overview of environmental issues, ceobs.org/ukraine-invasion-rapid-overview-of-environmental-issues/; The Impact of Russia's Invasion of Ukraine on Climate Change Policy, news.columbia.edu/2022/03/07/the-impact-of-russias-invasion-of-ukraine-on-climate-change-policy/.

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

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