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The Prince George's Film Office to Host Inaugural Prince George's Film Festival

Festival to celebrate and support local filmmakers, digital creators, and film enthusiasts

By PRESS OFFICER
Prince George's Arts & Humanities Council

LARGO, Md. (Aug. 17, 2022)—The Prince George's Film Office is excited to announce its today that it will host its first signature event first film festival, the Prince George's Film Festival (PGFF 2022). Under the auspice of the Prince George's Arts and Humanities Council, this festival is purposed to bolster filmmakers and provide a platform to showcase their films and provide a dedicated space to network with peers and industry representatives and creatives. "We are excited to partner with Experience Prince George's and Bowie State University to expand the possibilities for film and film-

makers in the County," says Rhonda Dallas, Prince George's Arts and Humanities Council, CEO and Chief Curator. "The goal of PGFF 2022 is to not only showcase Prince George's County as a blossoming film making destination, but also highlight the best of cinema in Prince George's County and support filmmakers, animators, digital artists, digital creators, and film enthusiasts by creating a transformational attendee experience."

PGFF 2022 will take place September 22–25 and will convene local and national filmmakers, film enthusiasts, actors, producers, animators, writers, digital creators, and County stakeholders throughout Prince George's County for a celebration of film. "We are thrilled to present four days of dy-

namic programming including virtual film screenings, receptions, social networking opportunities, relevant panel discussions and Q&As with notable filmmakers, awards, a digital art exhibit, and much more." says Donna Foster, General Manager of the Prince George's Film Office. "The Prince George's Film Office is the go-to resource for filmmakers and digital creators in the County. PGFF 2022 is purposed to bolster this community and provide a platform to showcase their films and network with industry representatives, creatives, and film lovers."

PGFF 2022 venues include the MGM

See FILM FESTIVAL Page A2

Amazon's North East Fulfillment Center Makes \$9,000 Back-to-School Shoe Donation With the Help of The Mel Johnson International, Inc.

By IAN ALLEN-ANDERSON
Amazon

Employees from Amazon's North East Fulfillment Center partnered with The Mel Johnson International, Inc. and handed out more than 600 backpacks and \$9,000 worth of shoes to help the youth in the Lanham, MD community head back to school. Amazon volunteers partnered with The Mel Johnson International Inc., an organization that provides financial, physical, and mental wellness for underserved communities through family and community involvement. Several students went home with a pair of highly-coveted Yeezy's to start the new school year.

"At Amazon, we look to leverage our scale for good and use our ability to innovate quickly to strengthen communities around the world where our employees live and work. By working side-by-side with community partners, we believe it's meaningful and impactful to give back locally, and we'll continue to look for ways to give back to Maryland community" said, Denise Cotton, Amazon North East Fulfillment Center Area Manager.

On average, an educator spends \$500 a year out of their own pocket on needed school supplies for their students. As part of Amazon's Global Month of Volunteering campaign, Amazon is delivering activations across 14 countries and surprising thousands of school districts to ensure educators and students have the most desired needs met as they head back to school. From filing thousands of backpacks with needed school supplies to hosting virtual reading sessions and book fairs at local schools, Amazon is partnering in various ways with local nonprofit organizations across North America to donate over \$1,000,000 and deliver 75,000 books to benefit 28,000 youth for school districts where it operates. Learn more <https://www.aboutamazon.com/news/community/amazons-global-month-of-volunteering-includes-hundreds-of-partners>.



PHOTO COURTESY AMAZON NORTH EAST FULFILLMENT CENTER

Employees from Amazon's North East Fulfillment Center partnered with The Mel Johnson International, Inc. and handed out \$9,000 worth of shoes to help the youth in the Lanham, MD community head back to school.

Prince George's County Receives \$25 Million in Grants to Launch "Proud to Charge" Zero Emissions Transportation Sustainability Initiative

By PAULETTE L. JONES
Prince George's County Department of Public Works and Transportation

LARGO, Md. (Aug. 16, 2022)—The U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Transit Administration (FTA) has awarded \$25 million in grants, with an additional \$6.25 million local match, to fund the "Proud to Charge" Zero Emissions and Sustainable Transportation Program in Prince George's County. The Department of Public Works and Transportation (DPW&T) is a recipient of the FTA's FY22 Buses and Bus Facilities, and Low- and No-Emission Vehicle Program grants. These awards will bring necessary change to Prince George's County by enhancing access to transit, improving County infrastructure, and support-

ing new workforce development opportunities for Prince Georgians.

"As a County, we are taking major steps to transition to an environmentally sustainable transit fleet and provide training opportunities in the tech workforce," said Prince George's County Executive Angela Alsobrooks. "With these grants, we will create even more sustainable modes of transportation for Prince George's County residents, increase access to transit, and make a positive impact on our environment as we work to combat the effects of climate change."

"With these awards, we're helping communities across America—in cities, suburbs, and rural areas alike—purchase more than 1,800 new buses, and most of them are zero-emission," said U.S. Transportation Secre-

tary Pete Buttigieg. "Funded through President Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, this announcement means more good jobs for people across the country, cleaner air in our communities, and more affordable and reliable options to help people get to where they need to go."

The Low-No Grant award will contribute to DPW&T's ongoing implementation of the "Proud to Charge" program by allowing the purchase of 20 zero-emission vehicles, the modernization of bus garages to utilize charging systems, and the redesign of bus routes. The program will accelerate advancement of DPW&T's initiative to reach, if not exceed, the goal of a 70% electric bus fleet

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PHOTO BY MCONNERS COURTESY OF MORGUEFILE.COM

COUNTY SCHOOLS START AUG. 29

Town of Fairmount Heights Backpack Giveaway

The Town of Fairmount Heights will be hosting a Back To School Giveaway.

Free backpacks and school supplies for grade Pre-K through 12th.

Sponsors include Kysha Merritt, DTLR, Homeside Mortgages, and DMV Home Inspections.

When: Saturday, August 27, 2022, 3–6 p.m.

Where: 6100 Jost Street, Fairmount Heights, MD 20743

Contact Info: Councilmember Jacqueline Wood-Dodson 301-407-5217.

Shoes Giveaway at The Library for Prince George's County Children

By SILVANA QUIROZ
PGCMLS

A parent or guardian must accompany the children.

LARGO, Md. (Aug. 19, 2022)—

Children in Prince George's County will be able to participate in different initiatives as part of the Prince George's County Memorial Library System (PGCMLS) Back to School events. "One of our core values is collaboration, so we are thrilled to partner with these community organizations and help bring basic school necessities to families in need. The library is all about learning; we want to give children the tools they will need to be successful, and starting this weekend, the PGCMLS Health and Wellness work team and other staff will be part of the giveaway events," said Michael Gannon, Acting Co-Chief Executive Officer.

The event will occur this weekend on a first-come, first serve basis while supplies last.

Operation Sole

As part of the PGCMLS strategic framework, and thanks to PGCMLS Foundation, the library is partnering with Operation Warm, a national nonprofit that offers high-quality shoes for children, for a shoe giveaway event. During the events, children will have the opportunity to get a new pair of shoes to start school. Limit two pairs of shoes per family. Sizes range from 6 toddlers to 5 kids, and children must be present to get their shoes.

The event will take place at the following location:

Spauldings Library Branch
Saturday, August 27
10 a.m.–12 p.m.

Visit Operation Sole Shoes to find more information: <https://www.operationwarm.org/what-we-do/warm-soles.html>.

Red Cross Issues Steps to Keep Students Safe as They Head Back to School

Good time to devise family preparedness plan

By PRESS OFFICER

American Red Cross National Capital & Greater Chesapeake Region

WASHINGTON (Aug. 12, 2022)—School bells will be calling students back to the classroom soon and the American Red Cross National Capital & Greater Chesapeake Region has steps everyone can take to help kids remain safe as they head back to school.

As parents get ready for the start of a new school year, it's a good time to think about emergencies, such as weather-related disasters, and draw up an emergency plan for their household. Know what the emergency plan is at your child's school and develop a family emergency plan so everyone will know who to contact and where to go if something happens during the school day. Details are available at [redcross.org/prepare](https://www.redcross.org/prepare).

"There are several things to think about as we get closer to the start of a new school year, but don't forget to include safety," said

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ChildWatch: A Healthy Start for Hungry Children

We cannot afford to go backward and take meals away from our children.

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Partnership With the People for Change Coalition on Congressional Community Project Fund Grant

The funds became available in July with the program's rollout scheduled for mid to late August.

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Safeway Mid-Atlantic Pharmacies Offer Immunizations Covering Everything from Back-to-School to COVID-19, Travel and More

South African Ambassador Hosts Reception to Honor 'Glow' Health and Wellness, Page A6

TOWNS and NEIGHBORS

In & Around Morningside-Skyline

Good eats: Restaurants springing up on Telfair Blvd.

On October 31, 2017, ground was broken for the new U.S. Citizen and Immigration Services (USCIS, or just CIS). The audience, some on stadium seating, included team members from CIS, GSA and Prince George's County.

The new CIS headquarters opened in 2020, 10 miles from downtown Washington and next door to the Branch Avenue Metro Station. For the first time in CIS history, all their employees are under one roof. About 3,000 of them.

But no cafeteria.

Developer Peter N.G. Schwartz agreed to build a 35,000 sq. ft. retail center, with restaurants, near CIS. Well, he has made good:

The Spot Food Hall, 4531 Telfair Blvd. #101: Sushi, Bubble Tea, Teppen, Wings & Sub, Chinese, Korean Taco, Asian Desserts, Poki—"Everything you crave in one location."

Burgers @ Apollo, 4531 Telfair Blvd. #108. "Great service and great food and awesome place to watch the game."

The Real Milk and Honey Market & Pancake Factory, 4531 Telfair Blvd. #202. It's new. No reviews yet.

Via Roma, 4531 Telfair Blvd. #110: "What a lucky find! Via Roma is the real deal with a great chef and great Pizza Maker both from Naples." I like the long bar with long windows that open over the patio. When daughter Sheila and I lunched there this week, a popular song came on and we got instant concert with everyone at the bar, behind the bar, and on the patio joining in.

Another thing I like about Via Roma: bookshelves. You can bring a book (or more), take a book (or more) or just browse.

There are other eateries on or near Telfair Blvd., and more coming up. When you find a winner, let me know.

Town of Morningside: Yard Sale—reserve now

If you want to set up a table in Morningside's Yard Sale on Saturday, Sept. 10, time is limited for reservations. Call 301-736-2300 or go to Morningsiderec@morningsidemd.gov. Table/space, \$15, or two tables/space for \$25. Cash only—must be prepaid, no refunds.

The Sale will be held at the Morning-

side Fire Department. Hours are 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Reservations must be made no later than Wednesday, Sept. 7, at 4 p.m.

Oh, by the way, I had the wrong date for Morningside's Trunk-or-Treat in last week's column. It will be on Saturday, October 29. More about Halloween in future columns.

Neighbors & other good people

Donna (Bookhultz) and Larry Bivens, formerly of Morgan Road in Morningside, drove 67 miles from their home in Fredericksburg, Va., to attend the memorial service for Ruth Sanford (Donna's aunt), only to find it was cancelled. They were not only disappointed for the cancellation, but also because the church has been shuttered for several years. Donna told me she attended Morningside (now, Suitland Road) Baptist Church and Sunday School all her growing up years.

Maj. Trivendhiran Pillai accepted command of the 316th Comptroller Squadron from Col. Tyler Schatt, 316th wing and Joint Base Andrews installation commander, during change of command ceremony at Andrews on June 27.

Donald R. Marcus, of District Heights, died July 15. He is survived by his wife of 29 years, Jenny, three daughters, two sons, grandchildren and great-grands. Services were at JB Jenkins in Hyattsville with burial at Harmony National Cemetery, Hyattsville.

Steve, of Bells Church, has an almost unlimited supply of hand sanitizer to give away. You can call him at 301-538-9367.

Blessed event

Isaac James Simmons arrived at 9 a.m. on August 6, weighing in at 8 pounds, 4 ounces, 20" long. He is the son of Anthony and Kristen, grandson of Dean Woods, and great-grandson of the late Anne and John Woods, of Morningside. Baby Isaac is at Home with mom and dad in Deale.

Coming up

The Library of Congress' National Book Festival will be at the Washington Convention Center Labor Day weekend, on Saturday, Sept. 3, from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. There'll be conversations with authors, stories for children, and book signings. It's free for readers of all ages.

The 2022 Air & Space Expo at Andrews is scheduled for September 17 &

by Mary McHale 301-735-3451

18, after a three-year break. It will also be Joint Base Andrews' chance to celebrate Air Force's 75th anniversary. The 2-day Expo will offer a wide variety of flying demos, including Air Force Thunderbirds, other aircraft and displays. Guests park at FedEx Field and will be bused to Joint Base Andrews' flight line. More information next week.

The Prince George's County Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals is holding a walk-in, low-cost vaccination clinic for cats and dogs on Sunday, Sept. 4, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The gates open at 11 a.m. and anyone in line by 1 p.m. will be served. Rabies vaccination, \$15; Distemper vaccination, \$15; Microchipping, \$30. Cash or credit card only (no checks). Info: www.pgspca.org/clinic/shots.

Dr. Vincent Palumbo, named to Maryland Boxing Hall of Fame

Dr. Vincent D. Palumbo, 87, an oral/maxillofacial surgeon with offices in Prince George's and Charles County, died June 29. He was born in Newark, one of the nine children of Pasquale and Julia Palumbo.

In high school he was a Golden Gloves Champion boxer. He graduated from the University of Maryland where he starred on the boxing team, twice winning the national lightweight title. He was elected to the Maryland Boxing Hall of Fame, U. of Maryland Hall of Fame and Omicron Delta Kappa.

In 1960 he earned a DDS degree from Georgetown University Dental School, did several years of post-grad study, and became a Fellow of the Association of Oral/Maxillofacial Surgery. For 40 years, he had offices in Hillcrest Heights, other Prince George's locations and Charles County.

He chaired the board of Prince George's Community College, was on the boards of several local banks and served on the Maryland Racing Commission. He had homes in Annapolis and Tequesta, Fla.

Survivors include his wife of 64 years, Anne C. Palumbo, PhD; sons V. Daniel, Andrew, and Wessinger Palumbo; grand and great-grandchildren; siblings, the Hon. Richard Palumbo, Salvatore Palumbo and Marie Lovelace. Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at St. Mary's Church in Annapolis with Interment at Parsons Cemetery in Salisbury.

Film Festival from A1

National Harbor, Sunset Room at the National Harbor, and Bowie State University. You can view the full detailed schedule at <https://www.princegeorgesfilm.org/film-festival>.

Festival Passes and Information

- Festival Passes are on sale now. Pass options include:
- **VIP**—Unlimited access to all features of the festival including the festival opening and closing ceremonies as well as screenings, and workshops for \$125.
 - **Unlimited Workshops and Panels**—Get unlimited access to workshops and panels and mixers during the festival for \$50.
 - **Unlimited Screenings**—Excludes panels, workshops, and opening and closing ceremonies for \$40.
 - **Single Film Ticket**—Access to just ONE film for \$15 each. Passes can be purchased online at <https://pgff2022.eventive.org/passes/buy>.

Founding Festival Partners

The Prince George's Film Festival is founded and generously supported by the Prince George's Arts and Humanities Council, Experience Prince George's, and Bowie State University.

Prince George's County is steadily becoming a prominent destination for both local and national filmmakers. Whether in digital media, television, commercial or corporate video productions, the film office is here to facilitate production requirements. In 2013, the Prince George's Arts and Humanities Council established the Film Office to assist filmmakers with telling stories through film. Their mission is to streamline the path to completing film projects in Prince George's County by helping filmmakers navigate state and county permits, production protocols, and resources hassle free and expeditiously.

As the legislated local arts agency for Prince George's County, the Prince George's Arts and Humanities Council fosters and expands art opportunities for all County citizens and visitors to create a world-class cultural environment where high-quality arts and humanities programs are diverse, equitable, and inclusive. PGAHC leverages its partnerships to support and provide various arts and cultural programming opportunities, art-centered economic development programs, grants as well as advocacy initiatives for legislative support of the arts on the County and State levels.

Buy Your Tickets Now for the Washington International Horse Show

Seven days and three nights of top equestrian sport and entertainment!

By PRESS OFFICER

Washington International Horse Show

UPPER MARLBORO, Md. (Aug. 15, 2022)—Tickets are now on sale for the 64th Annual Washington International Horse Show (WIHS) presented by MARS EQUESTRIAN™. Join us for one of the most competitive, exciting, and entertaining equestrian events in North America, Oct. 24–30, at The Show Place Arena in Upper Marlboro, Md.

Experience the beauty and athleticism of the finest horses and riders in the world, including Olympic veterans, as they come together for seven days and three nights of world-class international show jumping, top hunter, pony, and equitation competition plus entertaining exhibitions, boutique shopping, VIP hospitality, and special events.

Tickets: What You Need to Know

- Buy tickets: <https://wihs.org/tickets/>
- Opening Day Special: Monday, October 24: All tickets are free
 - Daytime Tickets (all daytime tickets are general admission): Monday through Sunday, prices vary from \$2–\$10 (plus applicable service charge)
 - Children 12 and under admitted free to all daytime events
 - Evening Tickets: Thursday, Friday, Saturday. Tickets start as low as \$15 for selected night.
 - NEW! Option for Grab & Go buffet tickets include a meal and beverage:
 - Paddock Room Parties: Grab & Go buffet, beer/wine open bar (adult ticket only) for consumption at unreserved table seat in the Paddock Room at The Show Place Arena
 - Premium: Grab & Go buffet, two beer/wine drinks (adult ticket only) for consumption in reserved arena seat
 - Visit the WIHS Ticket page for more details and links to purchase on Ticketmaster. Tickets also may be purchased in person at The Show Place Arena Box Office.
 - Complimentary tickets are available for members of the U.S. military, first responders, seniors, students and teachers.
 - Daytime only (Monday–Sunday)
 - Affiliation badge or ID required
 - Up to four tickets per badge/ID

Show Location — Free Parking

The Show Place Arena, Prince George's Equestrian Center
14900 Pennsylvania Ave., Upper Marlboro, MD 20772

Highlights

- World Cup Night (Saturday): Thrilling World Cup Jumping: \$406,000 Longines FEI Jumping World Cup™ Washington CSI5*-W for the President's Cup
 - Military Night (Friday): \$75,000 Speed Final, \$25,000 Puissance (high jump), and the Jump For Taps, supporting Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors
 - Barn Night (Thursday): Fun for all, especially youngsters: \$75,000 International Jumper Welcome and \$37,000 Accumulator Costume Class
- For more information about WIHS, visit www.wihs.org, join WIHS on Facebook, follow on Instagram and Twitter, and subscribe on YouTube. Tag using #WIHS2022, #FEIWorldCup, #TimeToBeat and #Longines.

Established in 1958, the Washington International Horse Show is one of North America's most prestigious, competitive, and entertaining equestrian events with competition for international, professional, amateur, junior and child riders. WIHS, an official USEF Heritage Competition, is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit charitable organization. Visit wihs.org.

Brandywine-Aquasco

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Bowie State University Office of Alumni Engagement met with Bowie State University's own, Chanel Turner, the youngest woman to own her own spirit and the first African American woman to own and operate a Vodka brand. Explore Chanel's brand, FOU-DRÉ.

BOWS FEST

Calling Alumni volunteers for 6th Annual BOWS Fest September 10, 2022, from 2–7 p.m. Venue: Blue Drop HQO Washington DC Navy Yard. Register to volunteer. The Soul of Bows. The vision is to increase visibility and awareness of Black Owned Spirit, Wine, and Beer companies. Chanel Turner CEO FOU-DRÉ. Held in our nation's capital. BOWS Fest has grown in vendor and attendee numbers each year. To date, BOWSFest has hosted 50+ VENDORS and sold 6500 bottles of Black owned Wines, Spirit, and Beers direct to consumers. While we are proud of the evolution behind BOWSFest, what is most important is the spirit of the movement. Celebrating Black Owned Wine and Spirit brands extend beyond the purchase of a bottle. It is a celebration of community, cohesion, and creativity, and at its core, a celebration of Black Excellence. Visit bowsfest.com to learn more.

BOWIE STATE UNIVERSITY BIKE TOUR

BSU Bike Tour presented by Bowie Metropolitan Alumni Chapter (BMAC). About the event: Thank you for supporting the BSU Bike Tour 2022. This year's tour will be both traditional and virtual. This event is organized by the Bowie Metropolitan Alumni Chapter (BMAC) a scholarship fundraiser for students at Bowie State University. This is our seventh tour, and we are excited to have you be a part of it. The BSU Bike Tour 2022 will occur on Saturday, September 10, 6 a.m. EDT start time and end time at 6 p.m. (Rain or shine). Join cyclists from around the world to be a part of this fun and exciting bike tour.

GOAL: The BSU Bike Tour 2022 has a goal of five hundred cyclists to register. It is a great way to get plenty of fresh air, sunshine, exercise and enjoy scenery. Regular Registration: \$45 ends August 31, 2022. Late registration: \$50 (September 1–September 10). Register at: bikereg.com/BSU BACK ON THE ROAD AGAIN! New registration site location: Vista Gardens Marketplace 10501 Martin Luther King, Jr. Highway, Bowie, Maryland 20720. Our Grand Marshal, BSU alumnus Craig Shields, aka "Craig Blac" is returning this year, ride with him for the BSU Bike Tour 2022.

Routes: For the virtual tour you can create your own adventure and ride wherever you choose, however, some suggested distances are eighteen miles and sixty-five miles to match Bowie State's University's founding year (1865). For the traditional tour, we have 20, 40, and 65-mile routes with rest stops. Everyone across

by Audrey Johnson 301-922-5384

the nation can participate. facebook.com/bmacbulldogs.

For those electing the virtual tour you can ride anywhere you choose, for whatever distance or duration you choose. For example, you can ride in your neighborhood, park or trail, city, county, or state. You can even opt to ride a stationary bike for any time period.

ST. PHILIP'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

St. Philip's Episcopal Church, Baden Parish will be celebrating their 146th Anniversary Homecoming on Sunday, September 18, 2022, at 10 a.m. Guest Speaker, Minister Pearl Chase from Asbury United Methodist Church in Brandywine, Maryland. St. Philip's Church, Baden Parish address is 13801 Baden Westwood, Brandywine, Maryland 20613.

Message for the day is "You cannot serve God and wealth"—Luke 16:13. There will be a lite lunch after the service. Come out and bring a friend.

URBAN LINE DANCING

Join us for Urban Line Dancing Monday, October 10, 2022, from 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. at Tucker Road Athletic Complex (located in the parking lot.) Address is 1770 Tucker Road, Fort Washington, Maryland 20744. Let your creativity loose on the dance floor. Learn all the latest dances suitable for beginners and seasoned line dancers. Enjoy this great way to exercise, socialize, and energize yourself. Level: All. Cost is free. Email: wellness@pgparks.com. Link: Register through Parks Direct using activity codes 17681-279A & 17681-479A.

BOWIE STATE UNIVERSITY HOMECOMING

Come back home to celebrate during the week of September 26–October 2, 2022. Get excited for Homecoming 2022. We look forward to having alumni, friends and family join us on campus for the boldest black and gold celebration of the year. For the past two years, Homecoming events were scaled back due to COVID-19 pandemic, but this year we are encouraging everyone to come to campus, share memories and root on our Mighty Bulldogs.

Game Day: BSU Bulldogs vs. Livingstone College Blue Bears in the Bulldog Stadium Saturday, October 1, 2022, 2 p.m. A full schedule of events will be announced soon. Be sure to follow us on social media to stay connected and up to date on campus events.

JUST A REMINDER

Amazon helps you give back to Bowie State University. Sign in at smile.amazon.com. Search and select Bowie State University. Start shopping, same products, same prices, same service.

BOWIE STATE UNIVERSITY

Our 3-peat CIAA Championship Football Team received their Championship rings. Congratulations team.

COMMUNITY

Calendar of Events

Afternoon Aviators: Mailboxes

Date and time: Saturday, August 27, 2022, 1–2 p.m.
Description: August is all about Airmail! Way before there was Amazon and eBay, there was the official airmail system which started at the College Park Airfield. We will be making our very own mailboxes so that the airmail pilots will know where to send our mail. Registration is NOT required.

Cost: FREE with museum admission
Ages: Ideal for learners 8–12 years of age
Location: College Park Aviation Museum, 1985 Corporal Frank Scott Drive, College Park, MD 20740
Contact: 301-864-6029; TTY 301-699-2544

The Fairwood Music Festival

Date and time: Sunday, August 28, 2022, 1–6 p.m.
Description: After a three-year hiatus due to the Coronavirus, the Fairwood Music Festival returns in-person. This year's festival will be a revival of the celebration of culture and community. Featuring: DC Fusion, Elyscia, Kevin Jackson, The Exclusives.

Cost: Free, all ages welcome
Location: Fairwood Community Park, 12390 Fairwood Parkway, Bowie, MD 20720

Prince George's County Fair

Date and time: September 8–11, 2022, Thurs & Fri.: 5–10 p.m.; Saturday: 11 a.m.–10 p.m.; Sunday: 11 a.m.–6 p.m.

Description: The oldest running Fair in Maryland returns for 2022! Come visit, bring your family and friends, have a good time. Enjoy 4-H Livestock & Crafts, open class Livestock & Crafts, Beautiful Baby Contest, Exhibitors, Vendors, Performers and more!

Cost: Fair Entrance: \$5/up to age 13 and 55+; \$6/age 13+ Thursday Night - FREE Entry for Seniors (ages 55+); Sunday - FREE Entry for Military Personnel and immediate family members. Jolly Shows Ticket Prices: Single Tickets \$1.75; Book of 30 for \$40; Book of 50 for \$60; Rides are 3–5 Tickets Each; All Day Wristband Specials: \$15 Thursday; \$30 Friday; \$30 Saturday; \$30 Sunday
Location: Show Place Arena, 14900 Pennsylvania Ave, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772
Contact: <http://www.countyfair.org/>, 301-404-5566

Senior Fitness Day & Picnic

Date and time: Friday, September 16, 2022, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Description: Join the Department of Family Services in partnership with M-NCPPC Parks and Recreation for the annual Senior Fitness Day and Picnic. Prince George's County seniors 60 years and older are encouraged to register and participate. There will be dancing, fitness, food and local vendors in attendance.

Cost: Free; Register from August 1 until September 10 via Eventbrite
Location: Watkins Regional Park, 301 Watkins Park Dr, Upper Marlboro, MD 20774
Contact: 301-265-8475

Scrap Tire Amnesty Day

Date and time: Saturday, September 17, 2022, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Description: Prince George's County residents can bring UP TO 10 car, bike, truck or agricultural tires, to be disposed of for free—without a bulky appointment. No commercial vehicles are allowed and commercial haulers or generators of scrap tires are not permitted. Through the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE), Maryland Environmental Service (MES) uses proceeds from the Maryland Scrap Tire Fund to clean-up illegal tire dumps and create demonstration projects using recycled rubber, such as scrap tire playgrounds constructed for communities throughout Maryland.

Cost: Free
Location: TWO LOCATIONS: Public Works Salt Dome, 11900 Montgomery Rd, Beltsville, MD 20705 OR South County Park and Ride, 9000 Stuart Ln, Clinton, MD 20735
Contact: visit.environment.mypgc.us or contact PGC311

Voices of Classic Soul

Date and time: Saturday, September 17, 2022 at 8 p.m.
Description: Voices of Classic Soul members Joe Coleman (Platters), Joe Blunt (Drifters), and Theo Peoples (Temptations and Four Tops) will entertain audiences with timeless hits, evergreen melodies, and classic showmanship. Enjoy a delicious dinner and return to the days of rhythm and romance, to an era when 'The Temptations,' 'The Platters,' 'The Drifters,' and 'Four Tops' ruled the radio airwaves and brought joy to millions through their music and magic.

Cost: Tickets start at \$40.00. Get advance tickets through <https://www.instantseats.com>
Location: Carlyle Room, 1350 I Street, NW, Washington, DC 20005

Kunta Kinte Heritage Festival

Date and time: Saturday, September 24, 2022, 10 a.m.–7 p.m.
Description: The 32nd annual festival will feature African, African American and Caribbean culture, art, music, dance and food including over 100+ artisan, food and education vendors, a Children's Tent with fun activities presented by Chesapeake Children's Museum and Sankofa Children's Museum of African Cultures.

Cost: FREE, family friendly
Location: Susan Campbell Park located at the Annapolis City Dock, Annapolis, MD 21401
Contact: www.KuntaKinte.org.

Celebrate Africa Festival 2022

Date and time: September 25, 2022 from 12–6 p.m.
Description: This year marks the fifth anniversary of this award-winning festival. As in the past, the festival will continue to honor the artistic and cultural contributions of the African immigrant community to Prince George's County and beyond.

Cost: Free
Location: Bladensburg Waterfront Park, 4601 Annapolis Road, Bladensburg, MD 20710.
Contact: <https://www.pgprks.com/3346/Celebrate-Africa>

Marietta House Tours

Highlighting the Underground Railroad in September

By STACEY HAWKINS
Marietta House Museum

In September, the featured guided tour of Marietta House Museum is "Highlighting the Underground Railroad". Guided tours are available Tuesday through Friday, 11 a.m., 1 p.m., and 3 p.m.
Marietta House Museum will commem-

orate Underground Railroad Month by underscoring the avenues of resistance taken by the enslaved families at Marietta, including Ben Duckett, the Jackson family, the Butler family, and the Brown family.

Marietta House Museum is on the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom Trail. Ages 8 & up. \$5/person, children under 12 free. Please register on

Parks Direct or by calling 301-464-5291.

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

For more information, call (301) 464-5291 or visit PGParks.com.

Department of Parks and Recreation, Prince George's County Partners with First Tee Greater Washington to Send Local Youth to STEAM/Golf Camp

By ANGEL WALDRON
Prince George's County Department of Parks and Recreation

RIVERDALE, Md. (Aug. 19, 2022)—The M-NCPPC, Department of Parks and Recreation is proud to announce its partnership with First Tee of Greater Washington to send twelve deserving youth to the Swing into STEAM Golf Camp August 22–26, 2022. Applicants ages 12–15 were selected from the Department's junior golf participants.

Swing into STEAM will take place at Kentland Community Center in Landover, MD from 9 a.m.–3 p.m. each day. The camp will explore various STEAM topics in the morning followed by golf activities in the afternoon. Lunch will be provided.

Mornings for campers will be led by retired NASA scientists Dr. Julie Saba and Dr. Keith Strong, alongside past Superbowl

Champion and game MVP, Santonio Holmes. Mr. Holmes is founder of 10 All In, an organization dedicated to utilizing STEAM-based programs to provide opportunities for underrepresented communities.

Afternoons will be led by the Department's Junior Golf Director, William Martindale, and First tee staff. Campers will play and practice on the newly reconstructed Kentland Golf Complex behind the community center.

The M-NCPPC, Department of Parks and Recreation delivers an award-winning park system through progressive, innovative leadership and a commitment to the community and the environment in Prince George's County. For more on the Department of Parks and Recreation, visit www.pgprks.com and stay connected on Facebook, Twitter, PhotoShelter, and Instagram.

First Tee is a youth development organization that enables kids to build the strength of character that empowers them through a lifetime of new challenges. By seamlessly integrating the game of golf with a life skills curriculum, we create active learning experiences that build inner strength, self-confidence, and resilience that kids can carry to everything they do. We're Building Game Changers through our junior golf programs.

10 All In is dedicated to utilizing STEAM-based programs to educate, motivate, and provide opportunities for economically underrepresented communities in our nation. We rely on an empathetic and interactive approach to connect with our community, starting with our youth, and facilitating their development of soft and hard skills whilst providing practical career insight.

Black Authors Expo Returns to DMV

By PRESS OFFICER
Black Authors Expo

WOODBIDGE, Va. (Aug. 18, 2022)—After a two-year hiatus, the Black Authors Expo is coming back to the DMV Sept. 10–11 with a powerhouse roster of 25 authors and informative writers' workshops, speakers and panel discussions. The event will take place at the Divine Inspirations Center for the Arts at Potomac Mall, and will include the return of the DMV Best Black Authors Contest.

Founded in 2016 by Dreams Empowerment Network CEO Roberta Speight and Black Roots of Alexandria Co-Founder Lynn Nelson, the Black Authors Expo was created to showcase the local authors in Alexandria, VA, but quickly attracted authors from all over the DMV and as far as

New York, Philadelphia, New Jersey, and North Carolina. The purpose of the event is to provide a platform for African American authors through networking, and provide valuable resources for authors and those interested in entering the literary industry.

"It has always been our desire to be a conduit for independent authors seeking exposure for their work, and promote literacy in the DMV," Speight said. "The Black Authors Expo is our way to enhance the lives of the African American community."

Radio personality Teresa Marie, with Majic 102.3, will be this year's mistress of ceremony, and Richmond Roadrunners Coach and Author Barveina Wooten will lead off this year's roster of speakers. Workshops include:

- What Authors Should Know About NFTs by Black Women in Web3 Virtual Brunch

Hostess Contessa Louise Cooper

- BEYOND THE BOOK: Turning Your \$20 Book Into A Six-Figure Content Business by Greenhouse Media Founder Ryan Greene
- The Publishing Business by Author and Motivational Speaker Matthew Horne
- Turning Your Book Into a Course by Content, Product & Curriculum Strategist Joan Thompson Wilson

The Black Authors Expo, including the workshops, is free to the public, but reservations are encouraged and can be made on Eventbrite. Sponsors include Eminent Estates, Divine Inspirational Center for the Arts, and Meet the World Image Solutions. For more information, contact Speight at theblackauthorsexpo@gmail.com or visit <https://bit.ly/theblackauthorsexpo2022>.

Bobo, Boone and Pryor Named to Black College Football Player of the Year Watch List

By JOLISA WILLIAMS
Bowie State University

BOWIE, Md. (Aug. 16, 2022)—The Bowie State Bulldogs remain in preseason headlines as Quinton Bobo, Raymond Boone and Joshua Pryor were all named to the 2022 the Black College Football Hall of Fame (BCFHOF) Watch List for the Black College Football Player of the Year Award announced Tuesday morning. The award is presented annually to the most outstanding football player from a Historically Black College & University.

Four finalists will be unveiled after the season. The winner of the Black College Football Player of the Year Award, which will be announced during halftime of the 2023 HBCU Legacy Bowl and will be honored with the Deacon Jones Trophy. The HBCU Legacy Bowl takes place on Saturday, February 25, 2023 in New Orleans, Louisiana. The game will be broadcast live on NFL Network.

The Watch List candidates have been selected based on past performance and potential. Additions to the list may be made as the 2022 season progresses. A Selection Committee will choose the finalists and the winner.

Quinton Bobo

A native of White Plains, Md., Bobo was named to the Black College Football Player of the Year Watch List after an outstanding season in 2021 where he helped anchor the Bulldogs offense as a key figure of the offensive line unit that captured a first place

finish in the CIAA for total points (385), total touchdowns (60) and extra field goal points (54). The offensive line was an instrumental piece in BSU's offense 4,923 yards of total offense including 2,489 rushing yards and 25 rushing touchdowns for a conference second best.

Bobo has already garnered preseason All-CIAA, BOXTOROW All-American and 2022 College Football American DII Starting Lineup nod.

Raymond Boone

Raymond Boone, Jr., a native of Landover, Md., was named to the Black College Football Player of the Year Watch List after proving to be one of the best defensive backs in the nation in 2021. Boone finished the 2021 season leading the Bulldogs and the CIAA in total interceptions (5), 58 total tackles including 40 solo, two breakups, a forced fumble and a blocked kick. Boone was named Second Team All-CIAA in 2021.

Joshua Pryor

Hailing from Baltimore, Md., Joshua Pryor was named to the Black College Football Player of the Year Watch List after capping off his junior season campaign with 73 total tackles (42 solo), a team-high 12 quarterback pressures, six sacks (sixth in CIAA), and a conference third-best tackle-for-loss total (20.5). The preseason All-CIAA honoree garnered attention from NFL scouts throughout the 2021 season and is expected to be on the 2022 Reese's Senior Bowl Watchlist.

The Black College Football Hall of Fame was established in October of 2009 by African-American pioneers and quarterbacks, Pro Bowl MVP James "Shack" Harris and Super Bowl MVP Doug Williams to preserve the history and honor the greatest football players, coaches and contributors from Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). There have been over 100 inductees since inception, including Mel Blount, James Harris, Willie Lanier, Art Shell and Doug Williams, who serve as Trustees. David "Deacon" Jones played defensive end for South Carolina State University and Mississippi Valley State University from 1958 to 1960. Blessed with speed, agility, and quickness, the "Deacon" became one of the finest pass rushers in the business. He won unanimous All-NFL honors six straight years from 1965 through 1970 and was selected to eight Pro Bowls. Jones is an inaugural Black College Football Hall of Fame inductee (2010) and is a member of the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

The HBCU Legacy Bowl, presented by the Black College Football Hall of Fame is a postseason all-star game that will showcase the top 100 NFL draft-eligible football players from Historically Black Colleges and Universities. The game will be played on the Saturday, February 25, 2023 (Yulman Stadium at Tulane University), and broadcast live on NFL Network. More than a football game, the week-long celebration of Black culture and history will provide invaluable exposure for HBCU students.

For the most up-to-date information on Bowie State University Athletics, please visit www.bsbulldogs.com.

COMMENTARY

Marian Wright Edelman

Founder and President Emerita,
Children's Defense Fund



ChildWatch:

A Healthy Start for Hungry Children

*Hungry child,
I didn't make this world for you.
You didn't buy any stock in my railroad.
You didn't invest in my corporation.
Where are your shares in standard oil?
I made the world for the rich
And the will-be-rich
And the have-always-been-rich.
Not for you,
Hungry child.*
—Langston Hughes, "God to Hungry Child"

No child chooses to go to bed and wake up and go to school hungry. As students across the country begin a new school year, children in California

are returning to some very good news: California is now the first state to provide free school meals to all students. This means every child in California will now have a better chance at the healthy start and head start all children deserve. It is a shining example of moral leadership to end child poverty, and other states must follow suit before nationwide child nutrition waivers expire.

Child nutrition programs help our nation's children get the food they need to learn, grow, and thrive, especially children in low-income households. The largest programs, the National School Lunch Program and the School Breakfast Program, provide nutritionally balanced, free, and low-cost meals to millions of children each day at school.

But the long-standing problems of limited access, low reimbursements, lunch debt, and the stigmatization of children having to prove they are hungry and worthy of meals means millions of children lose out.

Enter universal school meals—an intervention we know works. Research shows access to universal school meals boosts students' attendance and improves academic performance and health outcomes. Providing healthy school meals for all children eliminates stigma associated with school meals and practices like "lunch shaming," using embarrassing public reminders or tactics like giving children cold bread and cheese instead of a hot meal when their lunch accounts are low. Universal school meals are also an essential way to reduce longstanding and widening racial disparities in nutrition, health, and education.

Black and Latinx children are more than two times as likely as white children to live in households without enough to eat, and nearly 1 in 3 Black children and 1 in 4 Latinx children lack access to healthy food. When it comes to access to school meals, too many children of color live close to the edge: 10.8 million children live in households with incomes between 130 and 200 percent of the poverty line, earning too much to qualify for free school meals but too little to get by, and nearly 60 percent of children just above the cutoff

for free school meals are children of color. This makes universal school meals essential for advancing racial equity.

During the pandemic, Congress took action to expand nutrition programs to help keep children fed, including expanding federal school nutrition programs to allow schools to serve free meals to all students regardless of age, income, or zip code. Just before the program was set to expire in June, President Biden signed the Keep Kids Fed Act to continue some of these federal protections through this school year. That was welcome news for now for some children—but all children in every state need to know they will have permanent access to school meals. Last minute extensions can be great when students need more time on a paper or project, but no child should have to depend on one to know whether she'll be able to eat lunch. Now that access to universal meals is no longer guaranteed, millions of children on the edge will once again be left out.

We cannot afford to go backward and take meals away from our children. California is leading the way, but it shouldn't stand alone. Congress can—and must—create a permanent solution to ensure access to universal school meals for all children across our nation. Children everywhere deserve the same healthy start.

—August 19, 2022

Marc Morial

President and CEO, National Urban League



To Be Equal:

The Rule of Law Is Not a Partisan Issue

"No man is above the law and no man is below it; nor do we ask any man's permission when we require him to obey it. Obedience to the law is demanded as a right; not asked as a favor."

—Theodore Roosevelt

If you chanted "Lock her up!" in 2016 but shrug off potential violations of the Espionage Act in 2022, it wasn't concern for national security that you were defending.

If you responded to "Black Lives Matter" with "Blue Lives Matter" in 2020, and you scream "Defund the FBI" in 2022, it wasn't respect for law enforcement that you were defending.

The presence of highly classified material at former President Donald Trump's Palm Beach estate, Mar-a-Lago, is not necessarily proof that Trump himself is guilty of the potential criminal violations that

investigators listed in the search warrant: concealment or removal of federal records, destruction or alteration of records in a federal investigation and transmitting defense information. But a judge would not have approved the warrant—indeed, the Department of Justice would not even have sought approval—without powerful evidence that such violations were committed.

A former President is as bound by the law as anyone else. He's entitled to the same due process as anyone else. And failure to hold him as accountable for his actions as anyone else would be disastrous for the nation.

The notion of "a government of laws and not men" is most closely associated with Founding Father and second President of the U.S. John Adams. But Adams was channeling the Greek philosopher Aristotle, who wrote, "It is more proper that law should

govern than any one of the citizens: upon the same principle, if it is advantageous to place the supreme power in some particular persons, they should be appointed to be only guardians, and the servants of the laws."

No President in American history has challenged this principle to a greater degree than Donald Trump. From his first days in office, he insisted he had the authority to end the investigation into his campaign's coordination with Russian election saboteurs. After shocking the international community by sharing classified information with Russia, endangering an ally's intelligence asset, Trump declared that he had the "absolute right" to do so. When officials warned him that withholding military aid to Ukraine was illegal, "he didn't seem to care," according to Former Defense Secretary Mark Esper.

The government ethics watchdog group Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington has identified 48 criminal offenses of which Trump has been credibly accused of committing while serving as President or campaigning for the office.

Due to a combination of obstruction by partisan loyalists in Congress and a policy among federal law enforcement against prosecuting a sitting President, Trump never was held to account for his misdeeds as President or candidate.

Each successive escape from justice appears to have reinforced Trump's already-powerful mystique of being above the law. He was recorded boasting, with regard to sexual assault, "When you're a star, they let you do it. You can do anything." At least 26 women have accused President Donald Trump of sexual misconduct, including assault, since the 1970s.

He has never been criminally charged. The real estate company Trump inherited from his father is on trial for alleged crimes dating back 15 years; Trump himself has not been charged.

As we saw on January 6, 2021, Trump's supporters are inclined to retaliate with deadly violence against any perceived slight against him. Pursuing charges against Trump carries a serious risk of an even more violent response. "While the consequences of action might be dire," columnist Janelle Bouie wrote in The New York Times, "the consequences of inaction might be even worse." Bouie and others have pointed to the 1874 takeover of the Louisiana statehouse, New Orleans City Hall and the city's arsenal by white supremacists bent on deposing Gov. William Pitt Kellogg and installing his opponent from the previous election in 1872. While federal troops quelled the rebellion, Bouie wrote, "There was no punishment for the men who planned this attempted coup. So there was no reason not to try again."

The second attempt, after the 1876 election, succeeded. The promise of Reconstruction in Louisiana died, and white supremacist terror reigned for the next nine decades.

The possible reaction of a violent fringe of Trump supporters should not dictate the course of a federal investigation. Caving into blackmail does not deter blackmailers; it emboldens them. Failure to hold even a former President accountable to the law is a sure path to tyranny.

—August 19, 2022

Safe from A1

Dale Kunce, CEO for the Red Cross National Capital & Greater Chesapeake Region. "We ask that families set aside some time, sit down all together, and have a conversation about ways to stay safe."

Cell Phones a Distraction

The National Safety Council (NSC) reports distracted walking can be dangerous, even deadly. Teach your students the following:

- Don't text or talk on your phone while walking. If you must text, move out of the way of others and stop on the sidewalk.
- Never cross the street while using an electronic device.
- Do not walk with headphones in your ears.
- Drivers can be distracted too. Never use a phone while driving. Help keep children safe by eliminating all distractions.

Taking the Bus

- Students should get to their bus stop early and stand away from the curb while waiting for the bus to arrive. Young children should be supervised.
- Board the bus only after it has come to a complete stop and the driver or attendant instructs them to get on. They should only board their bus, never an alternate one.
- All students should stay in clear view of the bus driver and never walk behind the bus.

Walking to School

- Cross the street at the corner, obeying traffic signals and staying in the crosswalk.
- Never run out into the street or cross between parked cars.
- Use a route along which the school has placed crossing guards.

- Parents, walk with young children and those taking new routes or attending new schools, for the first week to ensure they know how to get there safely. Arrange for the kids to walk to school with a friend or classmate.

Going by Car

- Everyone should always wear a seat belt.
- Younger children should use car seats or booster seats until the lap-shoulder belt fits properly (typically for children ages 8–12 and over 4'9"), and ride in the back seat until they are at least 13 years old.
- If a teenager is going to drive to school, parents should mandate that they use seat belts.

Riding a Bike

- There may be more young people on bikes as the school bells ring. They should:
 - Wear a properly fitted helmet and bright clothing.
 - Ride on the right side of the road, with traffic, in a single file.
 - Come to a complete stop before crossing the street; walk bikes across the street.
 - Stay alert and avoid distracted riding.

Slow Down

Drivers should slow down, especially in residential areas and school zones, and know what the yellow and red bus signals mean. Yellow flashing lights indicate the bus is getting ready to stop, that motorists should slow down and be prepared to stop. Red flashing lights and an extended stop sign indicate the bus is stopped and children are getting on or off.

Motorists must stop when they are behind a bus, meeting the bus or approaching an intersection where a bus is stopped. Motorists following or traveling alongside a school bus must also stop until the red lights have

stopped flashing, the stop arm is withdrawn, and all children have reached safety. This includes two and four-lane highways. If physical barriers such as grassy medians, guide rails or concrete median barriers separate oncoming traffic from the bus, motorists in the opposing lanes may proceed without stopping.

Keep Little Ones Safe

Keeping all students safe is the primary concern for everyone, but there are special steps for parents of younger kids and those going to school for the first time:

- Make sure the child knows their phone number, address, how to get in touch with their parents at work, how to get in touch with another trusted adult and how to call 911.
- Teach children not to talk to strangers or accept rides from someone they don't know.

Finally, download the free Red Cross First Aid app for instant access to information on handling the most common first aid emergencies. You can find it by searching for 'American Red Cross' in your app store or at redcross.org/apps. Learn and practice First Aid and CPR/AED skills by taking a course (redcross.org/takeaclass) so you can help save a life.

The American Red Cross shelters, feeds and provides comfort to victims of disasters; supplies about 40% of the nation's blood; teaches skills that save lives; distributes international humanitarian aid; and supports veterans, military members and their families. The Red Cross is a nonprofit organization that depends on volunteers and the generosity of the American public to deliver its mission. Visit redcross.org or CruzRojaAmericana.org, or visit us on Twitter at @RedCross.

Zero Emissions from A1

by 2035. "Proud to Charge" is just one of the many ongoing projects underway in Prince George's County. The County also recently announced the New Carrollton Multi-Modal Transportation Station, a federally funded project that will bring major infrastructure and transit-oriented improvements to the County.

"We are excited to receive this award that will move our transportation services to a more sustainable future," said Michael Johnson, Acting Director of DPW&T. "The Buses and Bus Facilities, and Low- and No-Emission Vehicle Program grants offer a profound way for us to combat climate change and improve the critical infrastructure of our communities for generations to come."

For additional information, follow DPW&T on social media (@PGCountyDPWT) for updates on the "Proud to Charge" program initiative.

The Prince George's Post

The Prince George's Post
P.O. Box 1001 15207 Marlboro Pike
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772-3151
Phone: 301-627-0900 • Legal Fax: 301-627-6260
Email: pgpost@gmail.com
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Publisher/Senior Editor Legusta Floyd
Editor Lisa Duan

General Manager/ Legal Advertising Manager Brenda Boice
Administrative Assistant/ Billing -

Legal Advertising Assistant Robin Boerckel
Web Manager Kyler Quesenberry

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BUSINESS AND FINANCE

Prince George's County Office of Central Services Supplier Diversity and Development Division Announces Partnership With the People for Change Coalition on Congressional Community Project Fund Grant

By EBONI A BLAIR

Office of Central Services, Prince George's County

LARGO, Md. (Aug. 16, 2022)—Prince George's County's Office of Central Services is proud to announce the Supplier Diversity and Development Division (SD3) partnership with the People for Change Coalition on a grant in the amount of \$350,000 under the Congressional Community Project Fund. This grant has been awarded on behalf of earmarked funds as a part of a more significant effort by Maryland's US Senator Chris Van Hollen's program to provide resources for economic development and workforce initiatives throughout the state. The People for Change Coalition will oversee and administer the funds for small business development in coordination with the Office of Central Services' Supplier Development and Diversity Division in order to support local, small, and diverse suppliers within Prince George's County.

The funds became available in July with the program's rollout scheduled for mid to late August. Program participants can look forward to a series of workshops and trainings that will focus on

understanding and navigating the procurement process, developing strategic partnerships, and networking events that help foster prime and sub-prime relationships. Suppliers can anticipate receiving more information on registering in order to join in the next week. The program will run until June 2023.

Having a "federal partner" wherein local governments are able to benefit from Congressionally directed spending is paramount in refining an already full-service capacity-building program where County businesses are able to access needed resources and participate in government contracting. It continues to be all a part of a larger goal to provide resources that build utilization and wealth in the local economy and business community. Jonathan Butler, Director of the Office of Central Services reinforces this mission saying, "this Administration understands that contracts are the life-blood of small and minority businesses, and that successful capacity building is critical to positioning Prince George's County small and minority businesses to win contracts."

County Executive Alsobrooks has made it a priority to grow and expand services and programs which provide and promote contract-

ing opportunities for County small and minority businesses. "It remains important for the County to explore and implement new ways of doing business. We have to take an innovative approach to attract and promote strategic partnerships. We have to be determined to develop and provide adequate resources for our diverse suppliers within our community. This grant provides that opportunity."

WHAT: Congressional Community Project Fund: Small Business Development-Increasing Access to Government Contract

WHO: Prince George's County Executive Angela Alsobrooks
Tara H. Jackson, Chief Administrative Officer
Jared McCarthy, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, Government Operations

Jonathan R. Butler, Director, Office of Central Services
Debra F. Carter, Executive Director, Supplier Development & Diversity Division

Sandy Pruitt, People for Change Coalition

WHERE: <https://pgcbusinesshighway.com/>

For more information about the grant and SD3, visit the Business Highway website above.

UnitedHealthcare Donates \$500,000 to Nonprofits in Maryland

Funding is part of UnitedHealthcare's \$11 million in Empowering Health grants focused on expanding access to care and addressing the social determinants of health for people in underserved communities

By PRESS OFFICER

UnitedHealthcare

BALTIMORE (Aug. 10, 2022)—UnitedHealthcare, a UnitedHealth Group (NYSE: UNH) company, is awarding \$500,000 in Empowering Health grants to four community-based organizations in Maryland to expand access to care and address the social determinants of health for uninsured individuals and underserved communities.

In total, UnitedHealthcare is donating \$11 million in grants through its Empowering Health program across 11 states. The grants will assist individuals and families experiencing challenges from food insecurity, social isolation and behavioral health issues, and support local health promotion and health literacy efforts.

Grant recipients in Maryland include:

- **University of Maryland School Mental Health Program** within the University of Maryland

School of Medicine, Baltimore – \$150,000 for clinicians and teachers to pilot a Tier 2 prevention program for second through fifth grade classrooms in Baltimore City Title I Schools that are part of the School Mental Health Program.

- **Neighborhood Design Center**, Baltimore and Prince George's County – \$140,000 to provide capacity-building and design services to community-driven food access projects at Pimlico Market & Café, Central Kenilworth Avenue Revitalization, and Capital Market, and to develop a toolkit for future food projects.

- **American Heart Association**, Montgomery County – \$120,000 to work with the Primary Care Coalition to manage hypertension through the Target: BP program and address nutrition and food insecurity by equipping, training and partnering with federally qualified health centers including CCI Health Services, Mary's Center and

Muslim Community Center Medical Clinic.

- **On Our Own of Maryland**, Baltimore, Prince George's County and Howard County – \$90,000 to conduct facilitator training to start and expand recognized, evidence-based peer support programs such as Whole Health Action Management and Wellness Recovery Action Plan, at five peer-run Wellness and Recovery Centers.

"Social and economic factors have a profound impact on achieving and maintaining good health," said Joe Ochipinti, CEO, UnitedHealthcare Mid-Atlantic Region. "Through our Empowering Health grants and local outreach efforts from UnitedHealthcare, we're working with local organizations in the state to provide Maryland residents with an interconnected system of clinical and social services that

See **NONPROFITS** Page A7

OFFICE OF CENTRAL SERVICES
Land Acquisition and Real Property Division



NOTICE: REQUEST FOR SPACE("RFS")
OCS-RFS-DSS-2022-8:

DSS WARM NIGHTS EMERGENCY TEMPORARY HOUSING

Prince George's County's Office of Central Services ("OCS") is seeking offers for land for new construction or existing free standing building(s) that is currently ready for occupancy or could be renovated to be occupied as an emergency temporary housing for residents experiencing an episode of homelessness. It is the County's strong preference to purchase a site, land, or the redevelopment of an existing building in the fulfillment of this requirement, but the County will also consider lease structure or ground lease options that include a path to ownership.

Responsive offers, among other things, should provide space that is within one building and contiguous on a single floor is preferred. However, properties [campus complex] that include multiple buildings may be considered. **ISSUANCE DATE: AUGUST 18, 2022**

DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING PROPOSALS:

Offers will be received and considered on a rolling basis starting and this solicitation shall remain open until the County has awarded a contract that satisfies the entirety of this requirement.

Offers must be e-mailed to: OCS_RealProperty@co.pg.md.us

ATTENTION:

Ikenna Udejiofor, Administrator
Land Acquisition and Real Property Division (LARP)

REFERENCE:

DSS Warm Nights Emergency
Temporary Housing RFS DSS-2022-8

SUBMISSION FORMAT AND DUE DATE:

Please submit two (2) electronic copies (1 PDF and 1 Word version.)
Offers will be received and considered on a rolling basis starting August 18, 2022.

Addendum: If it becomes necessary to revise any part of this RFS or if additional data is necessary to enable interpretation of provisions of this RFS, such revisions or additional data will be made available online at <https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/4212/Development-and-Solicitation-Opportuniti>



No phone calls, please.

1400 McCormick Drive | Suite 336 | Largo, MD 20774

Social Security Matters

Ask Rusty:

Can My Wife Claim a Spouse Benefit First?

By RUSSELL GLOOR,

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

Dear Rusty: I have been getting Social Security since age 66. My wife turned 62 in June. We are thinking of taking her spouse benefits on my record since it would be higher than hers (we checked online). We began filling out the application but do not see a way to let them know we want her to receive spouse benefits and not her own. How do we do that? **Signed: Trying to Apply**

Dear Trying: You don't see that option because your wife doesn't have the option to collect only a spousal benefit from you without also claiming her own benefit. That option was eliminated by the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015 for anyone born after January 1, 1954. So, if your wife claims any SS benefit now, she will be automatically deemed to be filing for both her own benefit (from her own work record) as well as her spousal benefit from you. She can't delay taking her own benefit when she claims. Your wife's benefit will consist of her own benefit plus, if she is entitled to one, a "spousal boost" to bring her payment up to her spousal entitlement and, claimed at age 62, both her own benefit and her spousal boost will be reduced. But there are some other factors to consider:

- If your wife is still working, she will be subject to Social Security's "earnings test" until she reaches her full retirement age (FRA) of 67. The earnings test limits how much your wife can earn from working and, if the limit (\$19,560 for 2022) is exceeded, SS will take away benefits equal to \$1 for every \$2 she is over the limit. If her current work earnings are high enough, it could even disqualify her from receiving early SS benefits. The earnings limit lasts until your wife reaches her full retirement age.
- Your wife cannot collect her full benefits—100% of her own benefit or 50% of your FRA benefit amount—unless she waits until her full retirement age (67) to claim. But whether she should even claim a spouse benefit at FRA should consider whether her own SS benefit, at maximum, will be more than her spouse benefit will be. Your wife's maximum spouse benefit (at age 67) will be 50% of your FRA benefit amount, but if she delays claiming past her FRA her own SS retirement benefit will continue to grow (at 8% per year) until she is 70. If your wife's personal age 70 benefit will be more than her spousal benefit from you, she may wish to consider forgoing her spouse

benefit and waiting until age 70 to claim her own higher personal benefit. It's a question of which will benefit her most for the rest of her life, which is where her life-expectancy enters the picture. Generally, if your wife is in good health and expects at least average longevity (about 87 for a woman her current age), waiting until the highest available benefit (either her own or her spouse benefit) reaches maximum is usually a prudent choice.

- Your wife's survivor benefit as your widow may be a consideration as well. If her benefit as your survivor will be larger than any other benefit she is entitled to, then claiming her other benefits earlier may be smart. For example, if her benefit as your widow (100% of the benefit you were receiving at your death if claimed at or after her FRA) will be higher than either her maximum spousal benefit or her maximum personal benefit, then her best option may be to claim her retirement and spousal benefits earlier. How much earlier would depend on whether she is working and will exceed the earnings limit before age 67.

As you can see there are a number of factors for your wife to consider before claiming her Social Security, but she cannot claim only her spouse benefit at age 62 and permit her own benefit to continue growing.

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

This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the AMAC Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association (NSSA). NSSA and the AMAC Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. To submit a question, visit our website (amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory) or email us at ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org.

HEALTH *and* WELLNESS

South African Ambassador Hosts Reception to Honor 'Glow' on National Women's Day

By ELYZABETH MARCUSSEN
Hospice of the Chesapeake

WASHINGTON (Aug. 15, 2022)—A celebration of women and commemoration of those who provide hospice and palliative care was held in Washington, D.C., at the home of Nomaindiya Mfeketo, the Ambassador of The Republic of South Africa. It took place on National Women's Day, celebrated annually in South Africa on Aug. 9. It marks the anniversary of the day in 1956 when about 20,000 women marched to the Union Buildings in Pretoria to protest legislation aimed at controlling the movement of Black women in urban areas.

The reception was to honor Hospice of the Chesapeake's "Glow," a one-of-a-kind event to celebrate World Hospice and Palliative Care Day 2022 on Oct. 8. Mfeketo and Dame Karen Pierce, the Ambassador of the United Kingdom are patrons and honorary chairs of the event.

After Hospice of the Chesapeake's CEO Michael Brady thanked the ambassadors and the guests for their support of the non-profit's mission, Mfeketo spoke to the guests, many South African nationals with healthcare workers among them. She talked about the significance of both National Women's Day and World Hospice and Palliative Care Day, noting that roughly 80 percent of hospice and palliative care providers worldwide are women. She noted that the COVID-19 pandemic took its toll on that workforce as well as on women around the globe. Though her country has come a long way since that march in 1956, she said her country shares the work of other countries who all need to do more to bring equity to women in healthcare.

Monica Hastings, RN, Clinical Manager for Hospice of the Chesapeake and Lumka Mggolozana, RN, representing South Africa, spoke on behalf of their colleagues about their mission and the important work of nurses around the globe and in hospice and palliative care. Then they were joined



PHOTO BY ELYZABETH MARCUSSEN, HOSPICE OF THE CHESAPEAKE
(Aug. 9, 2022)—From left, Nomaindiya C. Mfeketo, Ambassador of The Republic of South Africa; Gwen Russell, Senior Donor Relations Manager, Hospice of the Chesapeake; and Dame Karen Pierce, Ambassador of the United Kingdom.

by Mfeketo and Dr. Gail Andrews, Chief of Mission for the Embassy of the Republic of South Africa, in lighting candles and leading a moment of silence to honor caregivers around the world and to remember those who were lost in the line of duty during the pandemic.

The evening's ceremony wrapped up with Hospice of the Chesapeake's Chief Advancement Officer Shauna Chabot sharing how in 2003 her organization was the first hospice agency in Maryland and one of the first in the country to adopt a sister hospice in sub-Saharan Africa, Brits-Hartbeespoort Hospice in South Africa. "While they are very far away from here, we think of them this evening as we celebrate National Women's Day," Chabot said.

With the help of Mfeketo and Pierce, Hospice of the Chesapeake is partnering with Saks Fifth Avenue Chevy Chase to host "Glow," a dinner and fashion show highlighting the best fashion trends of the

fall season. The fundraiser brings together leaders from the communities of fashion, healthcare, business, and philanthropy with members of the diplomatic corps. Funds raised from the event will support the work of Hospice of the Chesapeake and Brits-Hartbeespoort Hospice. The organization has grown and expanded over its 43 years to care for people living with life-limiting illness and their families in Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles and Prince George's counties.

For more information about sponsorship opportunities, visit www.hospicechesapeake.org/2022-glow, email events@hospicechesapeake.org or call 443-837-1531.

Caring for life throughout the journey with illness and loss is the mission of Hospice of the Chesapeake. Visit www.hospicechesapeake.org.

SPOTLIGHT ON EMPLOYEE BENEFITS: American Workers Want Financial, Physical and Mental Wellness Benefits

(NAPSI)—Open enrollment is quickly approaching and while businesses continue to navigate through economic uncertainties, dynamic shifts and the ongoing Great Resignation, strong benefits offerings could help retain employees.

That's what was revealed by the fifth annual HSA Bank Health & Wealth Index, a report that explores trends in consumer financial and physical health, and for the first time, mental health. Here are the key findings:

- More than half of Gen Z would change employers to get better healthcare benefits.
- Thirty percent of respondents were not sure if they could afford healthcare costs in the near-term or in retirement.
- Families with children really value telehealth. Sixty-one percent of respondents with children reported using telehealth services compared to 43% of respondents without children.

Mental Health on Their Minds

HSA Bank's Health & Wealth Index is helping employers better understand workers' mental health and important benefits.

For example, there's room for improvement when it comes to mental health. One in five respondents indicated they were not very or not at all confident about their overall mental health.

The survey found a large divide around engagement and perceived value of the mental health benefits available, with 81% of baby boomers and 64% of Generation X indicating they have never gotten mental healthcare compared to 46% of millennials and 43% of Generation Z.

Expert Opinion

"We're pleased to see that engagement in health and wealth continues to be a priority for Americans," said Chad Wilkins, president of HSA Bank, a division of Webster Bank, N.A. "There is still room for improvement, however, and employers can

lead the way by providing tools, resources, education and opportunities to empower Americans to make even better decisions when it comes to their health and wealth."

Wilkins continued: "HSA Bank works with employers every day on revisions to plans, incentives, promoting preventive care and adjusting educational initiatives to account for virtual engagement. We're excited to see how we can help employers continue to improve engagement using the tools and resources we offer."

HSA Bank aims to work toward a world where everyone is empowered to save for a healthy future. By providing the right tools and resources, it makes it simple for its 3 million members nationwide to maximize their savings for healthcare and long-term goals. As a leader in health accounts for over two decades, it continues to innovate. Its offerings in the healthcare savings space drive down healthcare costs, increase access, and assist with decision-making for consumers, health plans, partners, and advisors.

BRAIN FITNESS FACTS: Restoring Plasticity Could Be the Secret to Reversing Brain Damage

(NAPSI)—For the world's leading neuroscientists, unlocking the brain's capacity to stimulate neural plasticity has become something of a Holy Grail.

That's because enhancing plasticity is perhaps the most important step towards repairing central nervous system (CNS) damage. In fact, it can have a profound impact across multiple neurological functions, including improving motor, sensory and cognitive abilities such as memory.

People marvel at how children are able to learn things so quickly and easily. This ability is mediated by their brains' nimble neural plasticity. Neuroscientists once believed that neuroplasticity manifested predominantly during childhood. However, research in the mid-20th century demonstrated that many aspects of the brain can be altered, even in adulthood. Still, the developing brain has a significantly higher degree of plasticity than the adult brain.

The human brain consists of enormous networks of neurons. They act as messengers that use electrical impulses and chemical sig-

nals to transmit information between different areas of the brain, and between the brain and the nervous system. Even a very simple task, such as standing or sitting, typically involves millions of interconnected neurons. Damage to these interconnected systems can be catastrophic.

Enhancing plasticity could be a potential treatment option for any condition where there is extensive damage to CNS tissue. Enhancing plasticity results in 'axonal sprouting'—a process where surviving neurons produce fine collateral sprouts from the intact remaining axons. In other words, healthy surviving neurons become fortified and form new connections in areas of the brain or spinal cord where most neurons are damaged or have died.

"Regeneration of damaged neurons, along with sprouting, together lead to plasticity," says Dr. Jerry Silver, a professor in the Department of Neurosciences at Case Western Reserve University's School of Medicine and co-inventor and advisor at NervGen Pharma. "Medical science already

knows how to promote axonal regeneration, which involves getting neurons to grow across an injury site. But what's also needed to ensure significant recovery is sprouting."

Dr. Silver discovered the novel peptide—NVG-291—which has been shown in animal studies to promote plasticity.

NervGen is developing NVG-291, the novel drug candidate that could revolutionize treatment for conditions associated with central nervous system damage, including Alzheimer's disease. It promises to be a world's first—a drug candidate that appears to be able to unlock the central nervous system's ability to repair itself. Medical science will learn if NVG-291 is a prospective wonder drug by 2023 when Phase 2 clinical trials are expected to be well underway.

Existing drugs can only limit or contain the extent of the damage that is the root cause of the world's hardest to treat neurodegenerative diseases. For instance, existing drug therapies that target Alzheimer's disease—the most pervasive of them all—have only succeeded in marginally decelerating its progression. This offers little comfort to the afflicted or to their loved ones.

Safeway Mid-Atlantic Pharmacies Offer Immunizations Covering Everything from Back-to-School to COVID-19, Travel and More

August is National Immunization Awareness Month!

By PRESS OFFICER
Safeway

LANHAM, Md. (Aug. 16, 2022)—August is National Immunization Awareness Month (NIAM), an annual observance held each August to highlight the importance of vaccinations for people of all ages. Safeway pharmacists, who can vaccinate people ages 3 years and older, are focusing on getting patients caught up on their vaccines recommended by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) including:

- Adults: Pneumonia, shingles, and hepatitis B.
- Children: Childhood immunizations including tetanus, meningococcal, and HPV, as well as any back-to-school vaccines required so a child will be up to date. Parents should check with their local school district for that information.

The CDC reminds adults that they have the power to protect themselves and their children by maintaining recommended immunizations and that vaccines are safe and effective at preventing serious diseases. Safeway pharmacies are stocked with vaccines and are ready to safely administer a variety of shots.

While no appointment is necessary at Safeway pharmacies, patients can schedule online for COVID-19, shingles, pneumonia and other vaccines, as permitted per state law. Vaccinations are offered daily at 99 Safeway pharmacy locations in the District of Columbia, Maryland, Virginia and Delaware. Safeway pharmacists are available to consult with patients about their specific health conditions.

As international travel has opened up during the past year, Safeway pharmacists are also able to administer travel vaccines, where state and local laws allow. Travel vaccines can include vaccines for cholera, hepatitis A/B, Japanese encephalitis, polio, rabies, typhoid and yellow fever among others. Some global destinations also continue to maintain COVID-19 vaccine and testing requirements.

Please check with your local Safeway pharmacy (safeway.com) for their hours.

The World—Nature & People—Need Healing. "The Spiritual Wisdom of Trees", Begins Sept. 30

By PRESS OFFICER
The Center for Spirituality in Nature

ARLINGTON, Va. (Aug 17, 2022) The Center for Spirituality in Nature will present an interactive six-week online program, "The Spiritual Wisdom of Trees: Insights from Our Elders", September 30–November, 10, 2022.

Spiritual Leaders Beth Norcross, Executive Director of the Center for Spirituality in Nature, and Leah Rampy, founder of Church of the Wild—Two Rivers, have partnered with award-winning filmmaker Jane Pittman to create a beautiful series of videos exploring the ancient lessons trees have to offer us. Using their backgrounds in ecology, forestry and eco-spirituality, Beth and Leah weave together fascinating scientific research on forest networks, spiritual teachings, and on-the-ground observations to offer insights into how we might live into our deep connections with each other and Earth.

"In the 350 million years or so they've been on Earth, trees have learned a few things about survival, adaptation and resilience—lessons that can be invaluable to us during this time of great uncertainty."—Beth Norcross, Executive Director, The Center for Spirituality in Nature

The series will be offered over six weeks with participants receiving a themed video and suggested spiritual practice to experience at their own pace each week. On each following Thursday, from 7–8:30 p.m. ET, Beth and Leah will lead a live Zoom discussion on the theme and the practice.

More information and registration for the series is available at spiritualityinnature.org/spiritualwisdomoftrees. The fee for the series is \$145, with early bird pricing of \$120 available until Sept. 5.

The Center for Spirituality in Nature provides opportunities for deepening spirituality through nature and for nurturing loving relationships with the Earth. They offer a variety of programs, classes, webinars, talks, gatherings and resources, for both individuals and groups, designed to help people reconnect with, and live into, a deeply rooted relationship with our sacred Earth community and the Divine Spirit that enlivens it. Beth Norcross brings her training and experience in both theology and ecology in founding and leading The Center for Spirituality in Nature. She holds a Master of Forestry from Duke University and Master of Theological Studies and Doctor of Ministry from Wesley Theological Seminary.

Leah Rampy is a member of the adjunct staff for the Shalem Institute for Spiritual Formation in Washington, DC, where she previously served as executive director. Her passion is leading contemplative pilgrimages and offering retreats that invite listening to and aligning with Earth's rhythm. Leah is the founder and guide for Church of the Wild—Two Rivers in WV.

Jane Pittman is an award-winning director, cinematographer and editor based in Washington, D.C. Her extensive repertoire of short films, feature documentaries and educational/training videos, has appeared on PBS and film festivals throughout the world (Coming Back To The Hoop, This is How Time Passes, Prophets Rising, In Your Hands, The Makeover). Coming Back To The Hoop is in distribution with Random Media and was an official selection in over 30 film festivals world-wide. Jane's films are also distributed nationally by Films Media Group, a distributor of social interest educational programming.

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can produce better health outcomes and make the health system work better for everyone."

According to the American Journal of Preventive Medicine, approximately 80% of what influences a person's health relates to non-medical issues, such as food, housing, transportation and the financial means to pay for basic daily needs. The COVID-19 pandemic has caused additional social and economic challenges that continue to affect healthy behaviors and exacerbate health disparities.

More than a third of members screened by UnitedHealthcare for social-related needs experience at least one social determinant of health. UnitedHealthcare leverages the company's data to identify health disparities according to race, ethnicity, gender, geography and education level.

Since launching its Empowering Health commitment in 2018, UnitedHealthcare has now invested more than \$51 million in Empowering Health grants reaching more than 8 million people through partnerships with community-based organizations in 30 states and the District of Columbia.

UnitedHealth Group, including UnitedHealthcare and Optum, and its affiliated companies, is dedicated to advancing health equity and building healthier communities by supporting programs to improve access to care and address key determinants of health. In Maryland this includes more than \$6.3 million in contributions from 2019-2021 representing its businesses, foundations and employees.

Additionally, UnitedHealth Group has invested more than \$800 million in affordable housing communities since 2011, partnered with food banks and meal-delivery services, and in 2019 joined with the American Medical Association to standardize how social determinants of health data is collected and used to create more holistic care plans. In June, the United Health Foundation, the philanthropic foundation of UnitedHealth Group, made a \$100 million commitment over 10 years to advance health equity, furthering its efforts to eliminate health disparities. This was the largest single philanthropic commitment ever made by the United Health Foundation.

UnitedHealthcare is dedicated to helping people live healthier lives and making the health system work better for everyone by simplifying the health care experience, meeting consumer health and wellness needs, and sustaining trusted relationships with care providers. For more information, visit [UnitedHealthcare at www.uhc.com](http://UnitedHealthcare.com) or follow @UHC on Twitter.

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