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Lt. Governor Miller Visits Prince George's County to Reaffirm Statewide Impact and Support for ENOUGH Act

By PRESS OFFICER
Maryland LG News

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (Feb. 27, 2024)—Lieutenant Governor Miller today visited Riverdale to reaffirm the importance and impact the ENOUGH Act will have on suburban communities across Maryland, including those in Prince George's County. More than 60 community members and local elected officials, including Prince George's County Executive Angela Alsobrooks; Prince George's Chamber of Commerce President and Chief Executive Officer Alexander Austin; Employ Prince George's President and Chief Executive Officer Walter Simmons; Latin American Youth Center President and Chief Executive Officer Lupi Quinteros-Grady; and UNITE HERE Local 25 Political Director Samuel Epps joined the lieutenant governor for the event hosted at the Latin American Youth Center - Maryland Multicultural Youth Centers.

"We live in one of the wealthiest states in the nation and there is no reason why any Maryland child should be growing up at or below the poverty line—but we know that far too many do. With this legislation, the Moore-Miller administration is saying ENOUGH—enough of the wasted poten-



PHOTO COURTESY MARYLAND GOVERNOR'S PRESS OFFICE

Lieutenant Governor Aruna Miller joined community members and local elected officials on February 27 to reaffirm the importance and impact of the ENOUGH Act.

ential; enough of the dreams deferred; and enough of the cycles of poverty in our state," said Lt. Gov. Miller. "Working in partnership through the ENOUGH Act with state government, local communities, and the private sector, we will achieve our goals

to create safe and thriving communities, support healthy and economically secure families; and ensure access to high-quality

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County Council Announces Retirement of Communications Director Karen Campbell

By ANGELA ROUSON, MPA
Council Office of
Communications

The Prince George's County Council announces the retirement of longtime Communications Director Karen D. Campbell, effective March 1, 2024. Director Campbell has managed the communications needs of the County Council and Legislative Branch for 30 years.

Since 1994, Ms. Campbell has been instrumental in shaping the communications landscape of the County Council and Legislative Branch, creating and managing the organizational structure for the Office of Communications. Under her leadership over the last three decades, the Council has successfully navigated many transformative periods in the growth and development of the County and the Legislative Branch, employing effective communications tools to enhance public understanding of the Council's mission and legislative initiatives.



PHOTO COURTESY COUNCIL OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS

Communications Director Karen D. Campbell

Council Chair Jolene Ivey (District 5) noted the profound impact of Director Campbell's tenure. "Karen has been the cornerstone of the Council communications initiatives, pioneering the establishment of the Office of Communications and nurturing its growth into an invaluable

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Prince George's County Councilman Sydney Harrison and Melwood to Host Community Resource Day for District 9 Residents on March 9

The first-of-its-kind event will offer free essential resources and constituent services in one, convenient location in the community

By PRESS OFFICER
Melwood

UPPER MARLBORO, Md. (Feb. 29, 2024)—Prince George's County Councilman Sydney J. Harrison (D) is partnering with Melwood, a leading national employer, advocate, and preferred provider for people with disabilities, to connect residents of District 9 with resources found within their community. The District 9 Melwood Community Resource Day will be held on Saturday, March 9 from 10 a.m.–2 p.m. at The Tree of Life Christian Ministries, located at 9109 Piscataway Rd, Clinton MD 20735.

The event will facilitate access to in-

formation about a variety of essential services in one convenient location. Representatives from healthcare, housing, education, employment, and support for people with disabilities will be onsite to answer questions about how these services work together and how residents can access them. The Melwood District 9 Resource Day will include informative booths, interactive activities, and subject matter experts who can offer one-on-one guidance.

"Prince George's County, and District 9 specifically, has so much to offer, and we want to make sure our residents can connect with and utilize the resources available to them. Thanks to this partnership with Melwood, those living in Dis-

trict 9 and beyond will be able to learn about and access free resources, all in one convenient location," Councilman Harrison said. "I encourage anyone needing support with healthcare, transportation, employment, disability services, voter registration to take advantage of this unique opportunity."

Dozens of vendors are scheduled to be at the event, including but not limited to:

- Employ Prince George's
- Hospice of the Chesapeake
- District 22-C Lion Club Mobile Screening Unit
- Prince George's County Public Schools Family Support Center
- NAMI Prince George's County

- Community Advocates for Family and Youth
- Black Girls Vote
- Essential Care Clinic
- Love You More Inc - Literacy and Resources for Women and Teenage Girls

"For people with disabilities and caregivers, navigating multiple systems and forms of support can be challenging at best. Melwood is proud to champion this Resource Day alongside Councilman Harrison to streamline this process for District 9 residents," said Melwood President and CEO Larysa Kautz.

To RSVP please, visit: <https://melwood.org/event/melwood-community-resource-day-district-9/>

Melwood is one of the largest employers of people with disabilities in the country, employing more than 1,600 workers—nearly 1,000 of whom are people with disabilities. Founded in 1963, Melwood advocates for and empowers people with disabilities by expanding opportunities to work and thrive in community. Melwood offers job placement, job training, life skills for independence, and support services to more than 3,000 people each year in DC, Maryland, and Virginia. Melwood also has an inclusive summer camp program for children and provides additional youth and community recreational services for individuals with disabilities. Visit www.Melwood.org.

Lawmakers Propose Task Force to Probe Long-Term Inequities Facing Black Women

By TORRENCE BANKS
Capital News Service

WASHINGTON (Feb. 28, 2024)—The persistence of economic, educational and legal disparities in the lives of Black women and girls would be the target of a federal task force recently proposed by a group of House members.

"Simply acknowledging our country's history of targeted discrimination, harassment and violence against Black women and girls will not correct years of systemic racism and sexism," Rep. Robin Kelly, D-Illinois, said in a statement after the legislation creating the task force was introduced earlier this month.

"We must leverage the full weight of the federal government to seek justice for Black women and girls who deserve an equal opportunity for a full, happy, healthy life," Kelly said.

Kelly is co-chair of the Caucus on Black Women and Girls, along with Reps. Yvette Clarke of New York and Bonnie Watson Coleman of New Jersey, who also sponsored the measure. Reps. Jennifer McClellan, D-Virginia, Valerie Foushee, D-North Carolina, and Brian Fitz-

patrick, R-Pennsylvania, also have signed on to the bill, called the "Protect Black Women and Girls Act."

The bill would establish a task force to examine several aspects of the lives of Black women and girls, including education, healthcare, economic development, housing and civil rights. The task force would look at the effectiveness of programs and policies at the state, federal and local levels and make recommendations for changes.

Kelly said that the bill would help governments be more proactive in ensuring that Black women receive equal opportunities.

The task force would be led by the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Justice. Both would then share information with the United States Commission on Civil Rights (USCCR).

The civil rights commission also would conduct a study and collect data about the social justice, economic and health effects of discrimination and inequities on Black women and girls. The bill was originally introduced in 2021 with 15 co-sponsors. However, Congress took no ac-

tion on it.

Maryland Del. Jheanelle Wilkins, a Democrat, said the legislation would allow the state's government to look at the results from the research and craft more equitable policies.

"We know that signs point to black women being disproportionately impacted by many things whether it's maternal health—and in Maryland, Black women are four times as likely to die as a result of childbirth," said Wilkins, who also serves as the chair of the state's Legislative Black Caucus.

In 2021, the maternal mortality rate of non-Hispanic Black women was 69.9 births per 100,000 live births, according to the Centers for Disease Control. That was more than two times the rate for non-Hispanic white women.

"We are the caregivers for our community, we're the matriarchs of our home, but also of the Black community," said Kelli Richardson Lawson, founder of the mental health nonprofit organization The SonRise Project, based in Bethesda, Maryland. "So we've always had to take care of everybody else before we take care of ourselves."

Lawson said that the passage of the legislation is crucial because of the socioeconomic challenges that Black women have faced.

Thirty-nine percent of white women earn a bachelor's or associate degree by the age of 29, compared to 21% of Black women, according to the American Association of University Women.

"Based on what I've seen, this bill would help mitigate some of the issues that we see involving Black women and girls in a variety of areas," said Lawson, whose non-profit serves as a safe space for Black parents to discuss issues involving teen mental health.

Black girls also face disadvantages in education. A 2020–2021 school discipline report from the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights found that "Black girls were nearly two times more likely to receive one or more in-school suspensions, one or more out-of-school suspensions, and expulsions than White girls."

In addition, Black school-aged girls are four times more likely to be arrested in school than white girls, according to research discussed on Kelly's web page.

John Berkley, coordinator for the National Pan-Hellenic Council in Maryland, Virginia and several other states, said that Maryland has many

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TOWNS *and* NEIGHBORS

In & Around Morningside-Skyline

**Town of Morningside is 75—
How did it begin?**

In the beginning, Morningside was woods and farmlands with a few scattered houses.

About 1940, developers Morgan Wayson and Randolph Hopkins began developing 200 acres which had already been christened "Morningside" by an unknown person.

A planner, Walter W. Powers, began to build. By May 1940, the first houses sold for \$20.90 per month. By June the price was raised to \$2,730. By August, \$2,780. By October, larger houses with duct heating systems were \$3,300.

More than 100 houses were sold. School bus service began.

By 1941, a Citizens Association began, meeting in various basements. Mail was being delivered to homes instead of to Suitland Road. The new water system was completed.

May 1949, the town held its first election of incorporation after being granted the authority to incorporate by House Bill 582, dated March 11, 1949, making it possible to elect a mayor and council.

In the first election, voters chose June T. Stocklinski as the first Mayor. Council Members elected were Thomas S. Austin, Duncan Fleming, C.W. Mueller and R. C. Stevenson.

To be continued.

Morningside Eggstravaganza

Morningside's Bunny Brunch will be Saturday, March 16, 11 a.m. at the Town Hall. Admission includes Lunch, Egg Hunt for independent walkers to age 12, and a visit from the Easter Bunny himself.

Admission, \$7 per person. Children, age 1 and under (lap seating only) are free but must be accompanied by a paying adult. Reservations and pre-payments are required. Seating is on first come-first served basis. Call 301-736-2301 to register and with questions.

Bring your own basket and get your picture taken with the Easter Bunny.

Morningside vehicles auction

Morningside is auctioning vehicles from their fleet, a 2011 Ford Crown Victoria (mileage 116,498) and a Chevrolet Silverado LS Extended Cab and Dump Body Bed 4x4 with snowplow (mileage 47,835). Both sold

As-Is.

Interested persons can submit their highest bid in a sealed envelope, with the vehicle listed on the outside of the envelope and drop it off at the Town Hall between 9 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, at which time the cars can be viewed (but not driven). Deadline is March 18. Bids will be opened March 19. The Town reserves the right to deny the highest bid if their threshold is not met.

VFW Auxiliary 9619 hosts Grown-Folks Party

Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary is hosting an All Black Attire Grown-Folks Party on Saturday, April 27, from 8 p.m. to midnight. The only thing—you have to wear black and be 35 or older.

Sounds will be by DJ Mixx. There'll be door prizes, a 50/50 raffle, food for sale and cash bar. Tickets, \$20. To reserve a table for your group, \$20; and you must purchase 8 tickets together.

Purchase tickets in advance at the VFW or by calling 301-735-5290. The Post is at 6527 Suitland Road in Morningside.

For more information, call Bonita Hardy Hicks, 202-753-9979; Tasha Thomas, 301-860-9715, or Terri Robinson, 757-414-7979.

All proceeds go to the VFW Auxiliary 9619 fundraiser.

Free PGCC tuition for District 8 residents

District 8 Council Member Edward Burroughs III has announced a new program that uses MGM Casino revenue to provide free tuition at Prince George's Community College.

The program is available to those living in the six-mile radius surrounding the casino in District 8 and some border areas of District 7 (like Skyline). While the program was initially funded at \$1 million, the Prince George's County Council allocated another \$1 million to serve more residents and keep the program going beyond the upcoming semester.

For information, go online to Free PGCC announcement.

Neighbors & other good people

Fr. Ryan Pineda, Pastor of St. Philip's Church in Camp Springs, will be Chaplain

by Mary McHale 301-735-3451

for a Pilgrimage to Portugal and Spain, October 1-8, 2024. Info: canterburypilgrimages.com.

Bryans Road (Charles County) author Carol Amorosi has a new novel out, "Betrayal on Beltane," released Feb. 1. It's the inaugural novel in the Dun Cael Mystery series. The author has already published a 3-book series, "The McKay Mysteries."

Changing landscape

National Zoo director Brandie Smith reports zoo officials are in discussion with the China Wildlife Conservation Association in hopes of developing a future giant panda program that will bring pandas back to us.

The makeup of our real estate market is swiftly shifting. Multi-family houses are obviously on the rise with no sign of slowing. This report dives into the newly released Townhouse Report.

A new Branch Avenue Study finds that the number of higher-income households with incomes over \$100k grew 269% in the past 12 years. Also, that there is a demand for full-service restaurants with 60% of local households not spending at local fast-food restaurants. For more on the Branch Avenue study go to <https://www.pgcrguide.com>.

A home at 6716 Boxwood Drive, in Morningside, just sold for \$265,000.

Milestones

Happy Birthday to Jennifer Vilky, March 3; Amy (Schlor) Foster and Matthew Flaherty, March 4; Larry and Susan Frostbutter, March 5; Roy Derrick, March 6; Jon McKlveen, Shirley Dodgson and my grandson Richard Shearer, March 9; John F. Latimer, Karl Kaufman Jr., Alberta M. Smith and my son-in-law John Mudd, March 10; Karen Cordero, Blake James Shipman and Father Scott Hahn, March 11; Harold Wilson, Rebecca Turner, Marcy Richardson Anita (Beall) Cook and Mary McHale, March 12; Pamela Woodall, Kathy Elborne, Cordelia Bland, Shirley Carruth, and Gregory Ritter, March 13; my daughter Therese Gallegos and Belinda Benavidaz, March 14; Jacob Thompson, Jose Gryskevicz and Jonathan Capps and March 15.

Happy Anniversary to Tom and Sarah Shipman who were wed 65 years ago, March 4, 1959.

Happy St. Patrick's Day to all you Irish or wannabe Irish. Erin go Braugh!



PHOTO COURTESY CINEFLIX

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 **April 2024**.

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 historically significant or rare items, in addition to unforgettable Characters and their collections.

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 amazing stories and fun 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 to find extraordinary items and hear fascinating tales about them.

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 unique item, story to tell, and is ready to sell...we would love to hear from you! Please note, the Pickers DO NOT pick stores, flea markets, malls, auction businesses, museums, or anything open to the public. If interested, please send us your name, phone number, location, and description of the collection with photos to:

americanpickers@cinelflix.com
or call (646) 493-2184
facebook: @GotAPick

ENOUGH from A1

education and high-quality health care for our children.

The ENOUGH Act uses place-based interventions in communities with disproportionately high numbers of children living in poverty—rural, suburban and urban. Communities that show an ability to assess existing pathways to success, coordinate across sectors, and address challenges strategically and in a holistic manner can apply for competitive grant funding of up to \$10 million per year. The program will be run through the Governor's Office for Children.

"Today, I am proud to stand with Lieutenant Governor Aruna Miller in support of the Miller-Moore Administration's ENOUGH Act. The ENOUGH Act will help greatness grow in Prince George's County by supporting communities and children who need it most," said Prince George's County Executive Angela Alsobrooks. "This poverty reduction effort will target resources to communities most harmed by cycles of poverty and will help us build a safer and more vibrant Maryland for all."

"The Moore-Miller Administration's ENOUGH Act is a catalyst for positive change, and in partnership with initiatives like this, we are witnessing a transformative era for our state and our country," said Prince George's Chamber of Commerce President and Chief Executive Officer Alexander Austin. "This immersive opportunity gives us the ability to work hand in hand, and build a future where prosperity knows no bounds."

Lt. Governor Miller hosted a roundtable discussion to share and learn more about how the ENOUGH Act can uplift the region. She was joined by Prince George's County State's Attorney Aisha Braveboy and local leaders from the Prince George's County Commission for Children, Youth and Families; Prince

George's Chamber of Commerce; Latin American Youth Center; UNITE HERE Local 25; Employ Prince George's; and the Greater Washington Community Foundation.

"My staff is confronted each day with serious challenges facing our youth and their families from mental health, substance abuse, homelessness to crime. I am encouraged with the ENOUGH Act to know that we have leaders that understand the investment that our communities need right now," said Latin American Youth Center President and Chief Executive Officer Lupi Quinteros-Grady. "I am also encouraged that there is bold leadership and thinking taking place on behalf of our under-resourced communities."

"The ENOUGH Act is exactly what Maryland needs to collectively move the entire state forward. Using a community-based approach to make our communities safer, healthier, and more accessible to economic opportunities has been the missing link to ensuring every community and Marylander has access to the American Dream," said Employ Prince George's President and Chief Executive Officer Walter Simmons. "Employ Prince George's is proud to support the Moore-Miller Administration in this effort."

"When communities are focused on good paying jobs, it allows workers to live close to where they work, have only one job, and send their kids to college if they choose—this enables workers, as members of their communities, to invest in the quality of life in their neighborhood," said UNITE HERE Local 25 Political Director Samuel Epps. "The ENOUGH Act creates that roadmap and our union looks forward to working with all stakeholders—state, county, local governments, business, nonprofit and local communities to make this a success for workers, children, and their families."

Brandywine-Aquasco

SYNCOPATE LADIES: SHOW FOR SCHOOL GROUPS

Syncopated Ladies: Live is a ground-breaking all-female tap production that propels beautiful, classy, and diverse women onto a re-invigorated stage, weaving their inspiring stories with intricate footwork, feminine prowess, and life-renewing energy. It is a celebration of sisterhood, empowerment, and Black girl magic wrapped up in the package of music video. Dancing to today's cutting-edge music, from pop to hip-hop to salsa, and even a couple tear-jerking ballads, this show is electrifying, stirring, and energizing.

This tap production will be on Friday, March 22, 2024, from 10:30-11:30 a.m. at Prince George's Publick Playhouse, 5445 Landover Road, Hyattsville, Maryland. Ticket Price: Ages 13-18 (\$15 per person). Event Category: Arts publickplayhouse@pgparks.com.

TRIBUTE FOR OUR MOTHER

Ruth Harper Turner entered rest on January 8, 2019, married to the late James Garnell Turner of Brandywine, Maryland. In 1964 she received a Licensed Practical Nursing Degree from Prince George's Community Hospital School of Nursing in Cheverly, Maryland. She served in the surgical wing as the post operating Charge Nurse. Because of her leadership and academic achievement, she was awarded the 1964 Honor Bar for attaining the highest-grade point average in Theory and Practice for Obstetrical Nursing.

Ruth worked in the Prince George's County Public School System as a nurse at Bethune and Gwynn Park Middle Schools until her retirement in 1988. She was President of the Washington East District Auxiliary and Volunteer Service of the N.M. Carroll Home in Baltimore, Maryland. Served on the Board of Trustees, Certified Lay Speaker, Church Usher Board President for 20 years, Chairperson on the Communications Ministry, member of the Health and Welfare Ministry who offered blood pressure screenings, taught CPR, member of United Methodist Women at Christ United Methodist Church in Aquasco, Maryland. She received numerous awards for her church and community work. She was awarded the State of Maryland Governor's Volunteer Service Certificate from Governor Paris Glendening in 1999. Ruth was a columnist for the Prince George's Post Newspaper, covering the Brandywine-Aquasco area for many years.

Her love for life touched the lives of many people in positive ways. She left a profound impact on everyone's lives that she touched in her family and the community. She will always be remembered for the wonderful memories that she left, and the values that she instilled in us. Our Mother always advised us on every aspect of life. The positive lessons that she taught us will be passed on for generations to come. Mom was a pillar in her community with good moral high standards and integrity. Mom loved all her daughters unconditionally and was a woman of

by Audrey Johnson 301-922-5384

strong principles. Mother you will always be remembered for your strength, endurance, and beautiful legacy. Love Audrey, Patricia, Joyce, Cleo.

SILK SOUL

Silk Soul will perform Saturday, May 11, 2024, from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. at Harmony Hall Arts Center. Silk Soul is a soulful R&B group that hails from the nation's capital. Members, Janet Perry, Joseph Tatum, Tyrone Crayton, and Shedrick Reamer are all native Washingtonians and have been performing together for over 25 years. Their harmonies and melodic singing are entertaining to all audiences. Ticket Price: \$30. Age: All Ages. The address is Harmony Halls Arts Center, 10701 Livingston Road, Fort Washington, Maryland 20744. Telephone: 301-203-6070. Event Category: Arts Performances. Event Program and series, harmonyhallarts@pgparks.com.

MARY MCLEOD BETHUNE

Mary McLeod was the daughter of formerly enslaved parents. She became one of the most important Black educators, civil and women's rights leaders and government officials of the twentieth century. She devoted her life to ensure the right to education and freedom from discrimination for African Americans. She opened one of the first schools for African American girls.

A champion of racial and gender equality, Bethune founded many organizations and led voter registration drives after women gained the vote in 1920, risking attacks. In 1924, she was elected president of the National Association of Colored Women's Clubs, and in 1935, she became the founding president of the National Council of Negro Women.

Honored with many awards, Bethune's life was celebrated with a memorial statue in Washington, DC in 1974, and a postage stamp in 1985. On July 13, 2022, Bethune became the first African American to be represented with a state statue in the National Statuary Hall Collection at the U.S. Capitol. <https://www.womenhist.org/education-resources/biographies/mary-mcleod-bethune>.

CAREER & INTERNSHIP FAIR

Calling all Bowie State University Behavioral Science majors. Get ready for the Career and Internship Fair, where students and employers come together to ignite sparks of potential. This annual event is your ticket to an electrifying experience, offering an exhilarating opportunity to mingle, forge valuable connections, and explore exciting job and internship prospects. This in-person gathering promises to be a dynamic platform where dreams meet opportunities. Do not miss the chance to make meaningful connections and take your career aspirations to new heights. Cost: \$0.00. Location: Student Center Ballrooms, Multi-room event, 14000 Jericho Park Road, Bowie, Maryland 20715. Contact: Vivian Shannon-Ramsey Email: vshannonramsey@bowiestate.edu Phone: 301-789-9176, Categories: Career Fair.

COMMUNITY

MESH A Juried National Exhibition of Screenprinted Work

By PRESS OFFICER
Pyramid Atlantic Art Center

HYATTSVILLE, Md. (Feb. 28, 2024)—From the brightly colored to the naturally muted, Mesh offers a wide range of art that celebrates the possibilities of screenprinting. Thirty-four works and the same number of artists are featured in this exhibition. Selected from nearly 300 submissions, included artworks showcase both conventional and unconventional applications of the art practice.

The public opening for Mesh takes place on **Friday, March 15** from 6–8 p.m. (free, RSVP required). The exhibition runs through **April 28, 2024** in Pyramid's Helen C. Frederick Gallery.

Gallery hours are Wed–Thu, 10–8 p.m. and Fri–Sun, 10–6 p.m. Pyramid is located at 4318 Gallatin Street, Hyattsville, Maryland 20781. For more information and an RSVP link, visit pyramidatlantic.org or call 301-608-9101.

Pyramid is pleased to partner with Washington Print Club and The Washington Print Foundation for Mesh. Through these partnerships, the exhibition will offer three \$1,000 awards recognizing excellence among the entries: Best Overall Entry, Best Work on Paper, and Most Innovative Entry.

Mesh asked artists to consider the history of screenprinting, its technical contexts, and its diverse applications when submitting their work. The fine art of screenprinting has primitive antecedents as evidenced in the stenciled imagery on prehistoric cave wall. In modern times, artists such as Warhol and Lichtenstein have used stencil material attached to or embedded in a mesh of fiber, metal, or synthetic plastic filaments. The process has been applied in decorative arts, textile printing, advertising posters, as well as street and political art. Today, screenprinting has a widespread current presence in commercial signage, t-shirts, ceramics, furniture, and packaging.

The resulting submissions were varied and exciting. “The jurors had their work cut out for them with so many entries. I am thrilled by the show they assembled, which will showcase traditionally executed screenprints as well as work that incorporates screenprinting in unusual ways. I can’t wait to see how these pieces talk to each other in the gallery and how audiences will react to the variety of works,” says Executive Director Kate Taylor Davis.

The jurors—Joshua Gamma, Gallery Director at BlackRock Center for the Arts; Michael Hagan, Artist and Washington Print Club Board Member; and Zoma Wallace, Ph.D. candidate in Art Theory & Philosophy at the Institute for Doctoral Studies in the Visual Arts (IDSVA)—considered the nearly 300 pieces submitted by artists from across the United States and finalized an incredible roster for the Mesh.

Exhibiting Artists: Chloe Alexander (GA), Byron Ashley (TX), Aaron Bass (NM), Wes Beeler (IL), Andrew Blanchard (SC), Myles Calvert (SC), Casey Connelly (PA), Stephanie Damoff (NY), Lori Gann-Smith (TN), Kate Goodvin (IA), Jay Howley (MD), Imar Hutchins (DC), Lauren Jackson (MD), Grace Johnson (IN), Sue Johnson (VA), Nilou Kazemzadeh (PA), Selene LaMarca (DC), Cynthia Lollis/ETC Press (GA), Clay McGlamory (VA), Terence Nicholson (DC), Christina Osheim (MD), Manuel Paucar (MD), Serena Perrone (GA), Trinity Pote (MO), Philippe Ricard (MD), Henry Rosenberg (NY), K Sarrantonio (NY), Adi Segal (DC), Heather Swenson (PA), R.L. Tillman (MD), Varvara Tokareva (MD), Chadwick Tolley (GA), Cornelia Walworth (ME), and Connie Wolfe (IL).

Free St. Patrick's Day Lyft Rides Offered Throughout Greater Washington to Prevent Drunk Driving

Nearly Half of U.S. Traffic Deaths on St. Patrick's Day
Involve Drunk Drivers

By PRESS OFFICER
WRAP

TYSONS, Va. (Feb. 27, 2024)—Preparing to combat that time of the year when according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS)*, nearly half (44%) of U.S. traffic deaths involve drunk drivers,* a local nonprofit organization announced today that free safe rides will be offered to would-be drunk drivers throughout the Washington-metropolitan area during next month's St. Patrick's Day celebrations.

Offered by the nonprofit Washington Regional Alcohol Program (WRAP), the 2024 St. Patrick's Day SoberRide® program will be in operation beginning at 12 p.m. Sunday, March 17 (St. Patrick's Day) and operate until 12 a.m. on Monday, March 18 as a way to keep local roads safe from impaired drivers during this traditionally high-risk period.

During this twelve-hour period, area residents 21 and older celebrating with alcohol may download the Lyft app to their phones then enter the SoberRide® code in the app's 'Payment' tab (under the 'Add Lyft Pass' option) to receive their no-cost (up to \$15) safe transportation home. WRAP's 2024 St. Patrick's Day SoberRide® promo code will be posted at 11:00 a.m. on Sunday, March 17 on www.SoberRide.com.

*Nearly half of U.S. traffic fatal-

ities during St. Patrick's Day involve drunk drivers according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration,” said Kurt Erickson, WRAP's President.

During the 2023 St. Patrick's Day campaign, over 900 (904) persons in the Washington-metropolitan area used WRAP's SoberRide® program rather than possibly driving home impaired. The charity also offers its SoberRide® program on Cinco de Mayo, Independence Day, Halloween and the winter holidays through and including New Year's Eve.

“Lyft is dedicated to providing access to reliable and responsible rides, and we're proud to partner with programs like WRAP to offer Lyft as an alternative to impaired driving,” said Kamillah Wood, Director of Public Policy for Community Safety at Lyft. “Through our Roadway Safety Program and our partnerships with the public, we hope to empower our community with the tools to protect themselves and those around them this holiday season.”

SoberRide® is offered throughout Lyft's Washington D.C. coverage area which includes all or parts of: the District of Columbia; the Maryland counties of Montgomery and Prince George's and towns therein plus the cities of Bowie, College Park, District Heights, Gaithers-

See **LYFT RIDES** Page A6



PHOTO CREDIT: DB3 STUDIOS @DB3STUDIOS

Zuri Foreman (center) pictured with FAS Dancers and The Mighty Minds Enrichment Center Foundation.

Black History Month Performance Celebrates Diversity in the Arts and Provides Dance Scholarships to Children From Low Resource Communities

By PRESS OFFICER
The Foreman Arts School

(March 1, 2024)—The Foreman Arts School (FAS) and The Mighty Minds Foundation partnered with The Harbor City Maryland Chapter of The Society Inc., to host an evening of Black History Month performances on February 29, 2024 at The Woodmore Country Club in Bowie, Md.

The event focused on raising scholarships for underserved youth to participate in the arts. It showcased a dynamic tap dancing duo performed by the owner of FAS, Zuri Foreman, and professional artists from NYC. It also showcased Hip-Hop, Tap, and Praise and Worship, from current FAS dancers and students from Mighty Minds Enrichment Center.

The Foreman Arts School provides scholarships to low-income families who wouldn't normally be able to attend dance classes. Scholarships cover tuition, dance uniforms, and sometimes costumes

so children can participate in a yearly on-stage recital. “Often scholarships are given by me donating my own time and resources,” says Zuri Foreman, owner/CEO of FAS. “We have people who donate occasionally, but we don't have any major or regular funders. If we can gather funding from this event, it would create opportunities for ALL kids to have costumes in this year's recital. Last year, we weren't able to provide costumes for everyone due to lack of funding. This year will be different. I want everyone to look and feel special,” added Foreman.

FAS is partnering with The Society Inc., a non-profit organization that aims to expose children to the arts and provides mentoring to underserved youth.

“Supporting FAS is very much in line with our vision,” said Debra Mahone, President of The Society Inc. Harbor City Md. Chapter. “I'm happy we found FAS and can be a support to them,” added Mahone. The arts are an extension of the

talents, feelings, and spirit of human expressions that too often are not captured in our everyday interactions. We need to support the arts to ensure that young people have a positive outlet of expression by which to communicate.” Mahone also reminds us that the arts unfortunately are not always fully supported in schools, which is why these types of partnerships are crucial to youth development and exposure.

If you would like to make a donation to support students at FAS, visit <https://gofund.me/f9ed75bf>.

The Foreman Arts School (FAS) was founded by Zuri L. Foreman. The FAS mission is to colorize the arts by providing professional arts training and mentorship to underserved communities. To learn more about classes go to theforemanartsschool.com or email theforemanarts@gmail.com. You can find them on Facebook @theforemanartsschool, or Instagram @theforemanartsschool.

Prince George's County Wins “Organics Diversion Program of the Year” Award

Recognized for expanding free curbside composting program PGC Composts

By BRITT GARNER
Department of the Environment,
Prince George's County

LARGO, Md. (Feb. 27, 2024)—Prince George's County has been honored with the “Organics Diversion Program of the Year” award from the United States Composting Council (USCC), at its annual conference and tradeshow, COMPOST2024. Jessica Moore, Manager of the Recycling Section, accepted the award on behalf of the Department of the Environment (DoE) in Daytona Beach, Florida. The USCC is a national organization dedicated to advancing composting and organic recycling. Their annual awards recognize outstanding achievements in waste diversion, composting, and soil health across the country.

“This award is a testament to the dedication of our residents and community partners,” said Prince George's County Executive Angela Alsobrooks. “Through innovative programs and collaborative ef-

orts, we are Prince George's Proud to create a greener, healthier, and more sustainable future.”

The award celebrates the County's outstanding efforts in diverting organic waste away from landfills and promoting environmentally responsible practices by expanding the curbside composting program, PGC Composts, to over 172,816 households. The County's initiatives have set a new standard for organic waste diversion. From community composting to educational campaigns, Prince George's County has consistently pushed the envelope to reduce organic waste and promote composting. In 2019, DoE was awarded Compost Facility of the Year, Large-Scale, by the USCC. This award is presented to a commercial-scale US composting facility, public or private, which has displayed excellence in compost production, marketing/distribution, has been in operation for a minimum of 3 years, and meets all regulatory compliance.

“Composting is a critical factor in the County's fight against climate change,” said Andrea Crooms, Director of the Department of the Environment. “Reducing gashouse emissions and keeping methane-emitting materials out of the landfill is beneficial in our efforts to mitigate climate change.”

The County's commitment to educating residents about the benefits of composting and organic waste reduction has been commendable. Workshops, webinars, and outreach events have empowered citizens to participate in the program actively. Partnerships with schools and community organizations have been instrumental in the program's success. Prince George's County has created a robust network committed to sustainable waste management by working together.

For more information on the expanded curbside composting program, PGC Composts, visit mypgc.us/compost.

Long-awaited Surratts-Clinton Branch Library Opened to the Public March 4

By PRESS OFFICER
PGCMLS

LARGO, Md. (March 1, 2024)—After a long wait, the newly renovated Surratts-Clinton Branch Library at 9400 Piscataway Road in Clinton [opened] to the public on Monday, March 4, 2024. While the Prince George's County Memorial Library System (PGCMLS) does not typically open branches ahead of a grand opening event, Library officials are excited to make the facility available to the surrounding community at the first opportunity possible.

The renovated 25,682-square-foot interior will allow staff to host storytimes and other programs for larger audiences in its new “Discovery Bay”-themed children's area, with sailboat-shaped reading nooks, a lighthouse for children to sit on and read, a wall mural of animals and fish of the Chesapeake Bay, seagulls flying from the ceiling, and nautical-themed furniture. Staff are happy to welcome children from nearby schools and the greater community back into the branch.

The Surratts-Clinton Branch Library, designed by

AS Architects, also includes 60 computers for the public, along with a computer lab, as well as a meeting room with a stage, a conference room, and six study rooms—including a room for children and one for teens. It also includes a new entrance, new decorative metal panels on the exterior, a vending cafe, a fireplace, a comfort room for parents, a fully-enclosed children's area and teen zone, and “Reminisce” by Carey Dean, a stained glass mosaic near the entrance which depicts views of the Chesapeake Bay from Calvert Cliffs State Park, funded in partnership with the

Prince George's County Arts and Humanities Council's Art in Public Places Program.

Surratts-Clinton, originally dedicated in January 1980, was built on land once owned by the Piscataway Nation and is named for two historic names for the area. It closed to the public for renovations in the summer of 2019, and construction began in February 2020. PGCMLS hosted a temporary pop-up location at Davies Unitarian Universalist Congregation in Temple Hills during the closure.

The Surratts-Clinton Branch Library will be open during the same hours as other PGCMLS branches. Grand Opening event details will be shared when they are finalized.

COMMUNITY

Prince George's County Council Has Proclaimed March 20 MeatOut Day 2024 in Prince George's County

By PRESS OFFICER
Farm Animal Rights Movement

WASHINGTON (March 1, 2024)—The Prince George's County Council has proclaimed **March 20** MeatOut Day 2024 in Prince George's County, Maryland, reaching nearly one million residents with a message about good health, compassion, and a remedy to combat climate change. Prince George's County joins Durham, North Carolina, and Washington, DC in proclaiming MeatOut Day to date.

Prince George's County, the Crown Jewel of and second-most-populated county in Maryland with more than 965,000 residents, is plant-based and vegan friendly, with local chefs serving up delicious and wholesome plant-based dishes for vegans as well as those who are health conscious and/or compassionate longing for a meal that isn't focused on meat.

Since 1985, MeatOut exemplifies the work of Farm Animal Rights Movement (FARM) by bringing awareness to the health advantages of a plant-based diet while educating people on the environmental benefits as well as compassion toward farmed animals.

Beginning in 1985, and for nearly four decades, MeatOut has reached a global audience through educational events and plant-based food samples. The FARM Team will, once again, take to the streets of Washington, DC, with vegan food samples and informational leaflets during the Annual Cherry Blossom Festival.

Consumers are increasingly switching

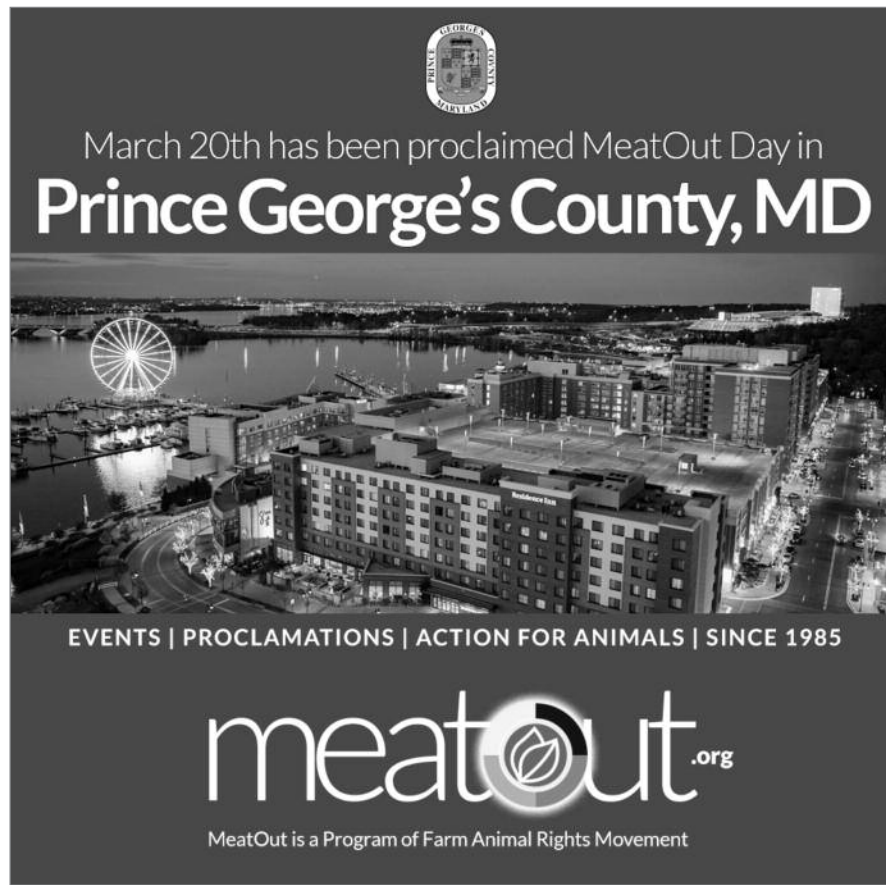


IMAGE COURTESY FARM ANIMAL RIGHTS MOVEMENT

to plant-based foods because of their concerns about health, the environment, and animal welfare issues. Consumer and animal protection advocates in seven hundred communities in all 50 states and 24 other countries welcome spring on March 20th with educational events promoting plant-based eating.

Farm Animal Rights Movement (FARM) is a 501(c)(3) national nonprofit organi-

zation working to end the use of animals for food through public education and grassroots activism. FARM believes in the inherent self-worth of animals, as well as environmental protection and enhanced public health. FARM operates outside of Washington, DC and New York and works through a volunteer network in all 50 U.S. states and two dozen other countries. For more information, please visit www.farmusa.org.

M-NCPPC, Department of Parks and Recreation, Prince George's County Celebrates Women's History Month

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

RIVERDALE, Md. (March 1, 2024)—The Department of Parks and Recreation in Prince George's County, part of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, is celebrating Women's History Month with female-featured concerts, poetry readings, theatre and dance performances, and more. A few programs scheduled throughout the month include:

March 12, Publick Playhouse Education on Stage: Harriet Tubman & the Underground Railroad

This stirring drama with music is a classic tribute to the great American who freed herself and hundreds of others from the bonds of slavery. Share her adventurous life with your students in this accurate and deeply moving musical history lesson. Best for Ages 8–13. Tickets: \$6/person. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit PARKS DIRECT.

March 16, Harmony Hall Arts Center Carmen Craven: A Tribute to Stephanie Mills

This performance will showcase the talents of Carmen Craven, an accomplished vocalist who has been singing, dancing, and acting since the tender age of two. Carmen's musical homage to the incomparable

Ms. Stephanie Mills is by far the fan's favorite and she's been affectionately called the DMV's Lil' Stephanie Mills! Carmen has drawn local and national attention for her Tribute to The Music of Mills. Her rendition of 'Home' has drawn rave reviews from audiences both locally and nationally. To purchase tickets, visit PARKS DIRECT.

March 23–24, Publick Playhouse Syncopated Ladies

Syncopated Ladies: Live is a ground-breaking all-female tap production that propels beautiful, classy, and diverse women onto a re-invigorated stage, weaving their inspiring stories with intricate footwork, feminine prowess, and life-renewing energy. It is a celebration of sisterhood, empowerment, and Black girl magic wrapped up in the package of a music video. Dancing to today's cutting-edge music, from pop to hip-hop to salsa, and even a couple tear-jerking ballads, this show is electrifying, stirring, and energizing! For All Ages. Tickets: \$45/person, \$40/person for seniors, students, and groups of 20 or more. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit PARKS DIRECT.

For a full list of The Department's March programming, visit pgparks.com/activities-events/events.

BUSINESS AND FINANCE

Hospice of the Chesapeake Names Rebecca Miller Its New President and Chief Executive Officer

By SANDRA DILLON
Hospice of the Chesapeake

PASADENA, Md. (March 1, 2024)—The Board of Directors of Hospice of the Chesapeake announced today that Rebecca Miller has been named President and Chief Executive Officer of the not-for-profit organization effective February 23, 2024.

"We believe Becky Miller's visionary leadership skills combined with 25 plus years' experience in the hospice industry including beginning her career as a hospice volunteer make her a natural fit for this new role," said Nancy Smit, Chairman of the Board of Directors. "Becky has served with distinction as our Interim CEO since December 2023 and during

this time has proven her readiness to assume the helm of Hospice of the Chesapeake."

Miller's journey with the organization began in October 2021 when she assumed the role of Chief Clinical Officer and was then promoted to Chief Operating Officer in December 2022.

During her tenure as Chief Operating Officer, Miller led the clinical leadership team with an emphasis on the delivery of high-quality patient care experiences. As Chief Executive Officer, Miller will focus beyond the present, guiding the organization towards the future of healthcare. She is committed to establishing sustainable programs that respond to the needs of the seriously ill population while also amplifying the regional healthcare

footprint through the introduction of new initiatives, diversification strategies, and innovative solutions.

"I am honored to continue to serve Hospice of the Chesapeake in this new role and contribute to shaping the future of healthcare for residents of our region," said Miller. "I look forward to the opportunity to strengthen current partnerships and create new alliances that will benefit our patients, their families, and the communities we serve."

Prior to joining Hospice of the Chesapeake, she served as Chief Operating Officer at Rainbow Hospice and Palliative Care in Illinois and at Hope Health in Rhode Island. She most recently served as the Illinois Director of Hospice Operations with Advocate Aurora Health

Care. Miller is a licensed clinical social worker by profession and earned both her Bachelor and Master of Social Work degrees from the University of Illinois, Chicago.

Hospice of the Chesapeake has experienced tremendous growth over the last few years with the expansion of care services from Anne Arundel and Prince George's counties into Calvert and Charles counties through acquisition. In 2023, the team cared for more than 3900 hospice patients and over 2200 supportive/palliative care patients across all four counties with a primary focus of creating meaningful experiences for those living with serious complex illness.

Hospice of the Chesapeake's mission is caring for life during illness and loss in Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles, and Prince George's Counties. For more information, please visit www.hospicechesapeake.org.



PHOTO COURTESY HOSPICE OF THE CHESAPEAKE

Rebecca Miller, Chief Executive Officer, Hospice of the Chesapeake

Skedaddle Maryland Expands to Prince George's County

By PRESS OFFICER
Skedaddle Humane Wildlife Control

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, Md. (March 1, 2024)—Skedaddle Humane Wildlife Control is excited to announce the opening of a new location in Prince George's County. This latest location joins existing operations in Anne Arundel and Calvert Counties. Franchise owner, Phil Campbell, a retired Navy veteran, is proud to provide even more Maryland home and business owners with humane wildlife removal and exclusion services.

Founded in Canada in 1989, Skedaddle has since expanded into the United States through local franchise partners. Skedaddle uses a unique, hands-on approach to wildlife removal that offers clients a humane alternative to extermination services.

After establishing his first Skedaddle locations in Anne Arundel and Calvert counties in the summer of 2023, Campbell was on the ground to see first hand the demand for humane wildlife control services among Maryland residents. It wasn't long before Campbell identified Prince George's County as his next location to expand operations. The growing suburban county is home to large populations of raccoons, squirrels, skunks, birds, bats and mice that are well-adapted to the suburban environment. These species often make their way into the attics, chimneys and garages of homeowners causing sleepless nights for residents and extensive property damage.

Campbell expects a busy start to operations in Prince George's County with spring around the corner. As the weather warms up urban

wildlife species will be seeking out attics, chimneys and sheds to have and raise their babies. Spring marks the start of the busiest time of year for wildlife control professionals. Skedaddle's humane approach to wildlife removal keeps babies and mothers together and their wildlife-proofing techniques ensure that the home is protected against future intrusions.

"We are excited to be expanding into Prince George's County where we can continue to help property owners with their wildlife challenges. Since our launch we've seen tremendously positive response from clients in search of a humane approach to wildlife control and we're eager to meet the demand," said Campbell.



PHOTO COURTESY SKEDADDLE HUMANE WILDLIFE CONTROL

Nate Fowler & Phil Campbell of Skedaddle Maryland

The Prince George's Post

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BUSINESS AND FINANCE

Task Force from A1

organizations working to help Black women. Knowing that Congress is backing them up with legislation would be a huge boost, he said.

"Now they could say that It's not only a community effort but also a national policy that we now have some teeth behind," Berkley said. "And maybe with that, that will bring more awareness to what's going on with Black females in our various raised communities."

Berkley said that he plans to travel with his fraternity to Annapolis in a couple of weeks to talk to his legislators to see what they're doing to help Congress move the bill along.

Lawson said the task force could lead to the creation of more programs and organizations like hers, where Black women are free to focus on themselves and have vulnerable conversations.

"Changing the narrative, so that we can take off that cape, we can take a deep breath and exhale, and we can start to focus on ourselves," Lawson said.

Social Security Matters

Ask Rusty:

Why Must I Pay Into Social Security When I'm Collecting Benefits?

By RUSSELL GLOOR,

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

Dear Rusty: I am collecting full Social Security benefits at age 72 and also working full time. Why is the Federal Government still taking money from my paycheck? I have written to Social Security experts on this issue, and they tell me "It's the law." That is not a good answer for me. Approximately \$4,400 was taken from my pay in 2023 for Social Security and, yes, I get a pittance of a COLA increase, but not equal to what I pay. No one has been able to fully explain the Federal Government's thought process on taxing me for Social Security when I am getting full Social Security benefits. Can you? **Signed: Working Senior**

Dear Working Senior: Far be it from me to try to explain the federal government's thought process on anything, but I can explain why those already collecting Social Security benefits must continue to pay Social Security payroll taxes while working.

It actually goes back to 1935 and the panel commissioned by President Roosevelt to create America's Social Security program. Said panel determined how the program would be financed, Congress approved it, and FDR signed it. That methodology was essentially this:

Workers who earn (and their employers) must contribute to Social Security via payroll taxes to fund the program (we now know this as "FICA" for employees and "SECA" for the self-employed). When the program first started, certain employees and their employers were required to each contribute 1% of the employee's first \$3000 of earnings. Obviously, those amounts have risen over the decades. And, for clarity, only certain workers originally participated in Social Security, which has also changed over the decades so that now nearly everyone who works must pay Social Security payroll taxes.

Starting in 1937 and still today, SS payroll taxes paid by those now working are used by the federal government to pay benefits to those who are currently receiving. Said another way, Social Security is a "pay as you go" program where income from those working (and their employer) is used to pay benefits to those receiving. Payroll taxes collected aren't put into a personal account for the worker; rather they are used to meet current SS payment obligations. Any excess money collected is invested in special issue government bonds as reserves for future use (although current annual SS income is less than annual program costs—an entirely different topic).

So, the financing method enacted in 1935 and started in 1937 still applies—those who work and earn (and their employers) must pay into the system to fund benefit payments to those who are now receiving—and that includes those workers who are already collecting their Social Security. FYI, there was a time when, if someone worked after starting their SS benefits, they lost all of their benefits. Fortunately, that rule no longer exists, so those who are collecting SS benefits can now continue to get benefits if they work, but they must also still pay into the program from their work earnings to help pay benefits to SS recipients.

I hope this provides some insight for why you must continue to contribute to Social Security even after you have started collecting your benefits. It is a result of how the program is financed—predominantly by workers through payroll taxes on their earnings (and to a lesser extent from interest on Trust Fund reserves and income tax on Social Security benefits). With very few exceptions, everyone who works helps pay benefits to those now receiving.

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.

MedStar Health Celebrates Four-Year Anniversary of Prince George's County Cancer Center

Local patients are receiving more convenient access to leading-edge cancer therapy through MedStar Georgetown Cancer Institute at MedStar Southern Maryland Hospital Center.

By PRESS OFFICER
MedStar Health

CLINTON, Md. (Feb. 27, 2024)—MedStar Health is celebrating the four-year anniversary of MedStar Georgetown Cancer Institute at MedStar Southern Maryland Hospital Center. Opening shortly before the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, the newly renovated and updated cancer center has provided Prince George's County and the southern Maryland region with unprecedented access to state-of-the-art cancer treatment and clinical trials through its partnership with the Georgetown Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center, the only institution in the Washington, D.C., metropolitan region designated a comprehensive cancer center by the National Cancer Institute (NCI).

While MedStar Southern Maryland has been treating cancer patients for more than 40 years, the scope and convenience of its treatment offerings has greatly expanded since MedStar Georgetown Cancer Institute opened its doors at the hospital on Feb. 27, 2020. For example, patients now have access to a larger chemotherapy infusion facility, an expanded set of clinical trials, and advanced radiotherapy—like ZAP-X® Radiosurgery. By making the latest cancer-fighting tools more conveniently available to patients, clinicians at the Clinton, Maryland-based

hospital can improve the treatment of cancers more frequently seen in the local community, like breast, lung, and prostate cancers.

"Giving our patients access to this cancer center on-site at our hospital was a huge step forward in addressing our area's need for truly advanced, multi-disciplinary cancer care," said Stephen T. Michaels, MD, president of MedStar Southern Maryland Hospital Center. "Cancer care is not new to us, but we're thrilled to be leading the next generation of cancer care in our community by offering truly cutting-edge treatments to those we serve."

"In a short time, MedStar Georgetown Cancer Institute at MedStar Southern Maryland Hospital Center has distinguished itself as an asset to all of Southern Maryland," said Maryland State Senator Michael A. Jackson, who represents parts of Calvert, Charles, and Prince George's County. "In just four years, the facility has brought cutting edge treatment options to our region and I'm genuinely excited to see how it'll continue to grow and serve our community in the years to come."

Highlights of MedStar Georgetown Cancer Institute at MedStar Southern Maryland Hospital Center include:

State-of-the-art facility

The facility offers 25,000 square feet of treatment space providing full-service cancer



PHOTO CREDIT MEDSTAR HEALTH

care from diagnosis to survivorship. This includes a state-of-the-art infusion center with thirteen treatment bays and a women's imaging suite, with on-site DEXA bone density scans, ultrasound, and 3D mammography.

Advanced radiotherapy

The center's robust radiation therapy capabilities include Halcyon™ radiotherapy offering faster, more accurate treatment for several types of tumors, and ZAP-X®, the first radiosurgery system dedicated to the treatment of brain cancers which is the first of its kind on the East Coast.

Access to Clinical Trials

Patients have access to clinical trials offered through Georgetown Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center, where they may have the opportunity to receive promising treatments before they become the new standard of care.

"We are proud to offer all of the tools and resources needed to treat the most complex cancer cases without requiring our patients to travel far distances to receive care," said Kathan D. Mehta, MD, head of Hematology Oncology at MedStar Georgetown Cancer Institute at MedStar Southern Maryland Hospital Center. "Cancer care is a team sport and we are ensuring that our community has access to a world-class team in their own backyard."

MedStar Southern Maryland Hospital Center's cancer program is fully accredited by the American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer (CoC). This designation recognizes the hospital for providing quality, comprehensive care using a multidisciplinary approach. Fewer than one-third of cancer programs in the country are CoC accredited. The hospital's radiotherapy services are fully accredited by the American College of Radiology (ACR).

Hospice of the Chesapeake Celebrates 45 Years With Six Events for 2024

By ELYZABETH MARCUSSEN
Hospice of the Chesapeake

PASADENA, Md. (Feb. 26, 2024)—It's a historic year for Hospice of the Chesapeake. Maryland's largest not-for-profit independent hospice organization is celebrating 45 years of caring for life with six different ways to make moments that matter for its patients, families and the community.

Save the dates for these 2024 events:

- 11th annual Culinary Event:** An evening of food, fun and wine from 6 to 10 p.m. Friday, March 22, at the Hall at Huntingtown, 4030 Old Town Road, Huntingtown, Maryland.
- Inaugural Golf Tournament at The Cannon Club:** Be a member for a day and support a great cause from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday, April 18, at

The Cannon Club Golf Course, 699 Mount Zion Road, Lothian, Maryland.

- Caring for Life 45th Anniversary Celebration:** Create new memories as we commemorate 45 years of cherished moments! Join us from 5:30 to 10 p.m. Saturday, May 11, at The Fluegel Naval Academy Alumni Center, 301 King George St., Annapolis, Maryland.
- 14th annual Fashion for a Cause:** The runway fashion event of the year will be held from 6 to 9:30 p.m. Friday, June 7, at The Fluegel Naval Academy Alumni Center, 301 King George St., Annapolis, Maryland.
- 21st annual Golf Tournament:** A day on the links with a purpose will be held from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 26, at Queenstown Harbor

Golf Course, 310 Links Lane, Queenstown, Maryland.

- Blue Crab Fun Run:** Run or walk but be sure to gather the whole family and make unforgettable memories from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 5, at Regency Furniture Stadium, home of Southern Maryland Blue Crabs, 11765 St. Linus Drive, Waldorf, Maryland.

For tickets or sponsorship and underwriting opportunities, contact the events team at 443-837-1531 or events@hospicechesapeake.org. For additional details, visit <https://www.hospicechesapeake.org/giving/attend-an-event/>.

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

Retirement from A1

asset for the Legislative Branch." Council Chair Ivey adds, "Throughout her tenure as director, she has applied unparalleled expertise, and leaves an enduring legacy of strategic vision, exceptional leadership, and unwavering commitment to truth and excellence in service to this body and our residents."

Former District 6 Council Member Samuel H. Dean, who served as Council Chair during the Office of Communications' inception, says he was privileged to witness Karen's visionary leadership.

"As newly elected Council Members, my colleagues and I recognized the need to establish an Office of Communications, appointing a director to develop communication strategies, act as the primary spokesperson and media liaison, and collaborate closely with us to ensure the effective dissemination of

our message. Karen, possessing exceptional communications skills, managerial adeptness, extensive media contacts, and a gift for assembling and leading a talented team, played a pivotal role in transforming the County Council Communications Office into one of the most positively recognized entities in the county during my term of service. Her legacy speaks for itself and is unequalled."

In her capacity as Communications Director, Ms. Campbell has worked jointly with several executive administrations, including the Office of County Executive Angela Also Brooks.

"I am thrilled to extend my heartfelt congratulations to Karen as she embarks on her well-deserved retirement from the Prince George's County Council," said Prince George's County Executive Angela Also Brooks. "For 30 years, Karen has admirably served as the

Council's Director of Communications, demonstrating steadfast commitment and dedication to our community's residents. Her exceptional leadership and expertise have undoubtedly shaped the Prince George's County Government, leaving an enduring legacy. I am profoundly grateful to Karen for her invaluable contributions and wish her a fulfilling retirement journey ahead."

Karen Campbell formerly served the administration of former District of Columbia Mayor Sharon Pratt and her Youth Initiatives Office as a Public Affairs Specialist and Communications Cluster Chief for youth and family issues, ensuring the Mayor's key initiatives were accurately and appropriately conveyed across multiple agency communications channels to the media and the public.

For nearly two decades, Karen Campbell enjoyed a dis-

tinguished career on the airwaves as an award-winning broadcaster and trusted voice in media. A proud Howard University graduate, she began her journalistic career as a student intern reporting for WHUR FM news. She ascended to a host of professional positions at the station over the next two decades, including drive-time news anchor, air personality, reporter, talk show host, and producer, culminating with a pivotal role in broadcast management as WHUR Community Affairs Director and Marketing Director at WHHM TV Channel 32 (now WHUT-TV).

The County Council expresses heartfelt gratitude for Director Campbell's immeasurable contributions and unwavering commitment over the past thirty years. Her unique experiences combine for a legacy that will continue to guide and inspire in our service to Prince Georgians.

COUNTY CHURCH DIRECTORY

UNITED METHODIST

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Sunday Worship 11a.m.
Holy Communion 1st Sunday
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Wednesday Prayer Service 8p.m.

UNITED METHODIST

Union United Methodist Church

14418 Old Marlboro Pike,
Upper Marlboro, MD

Church (301) 627-7389

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Sunday Worship: 10:00 a.m.

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

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Morning Worship 10:00 a.m.

Soulful Thursdays
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BAPTIST

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Oxon Hill, Maryland 20745

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

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Church School: - 9:15 a.m.
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Wed. Night Bible Study - 7:45 p.m.
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Sponsors of WRAP's 2024 St. Patrick's Day SoberRide® campaign include the 395 Express Lanes, Anheuser-Busch, Beer Institute, Brown-Forman, Constellation Brands, Diageo, District of Columbia Association of Beverage Alcohol Wholesalers, Enterprise Rent-A-Car, Foundation of Advancing Alcohol Responsibility, Giant Food, Glory Days Grill, Lyft, Molson Coors Beverage Company, New Belgium Brewing, Restaurant Association Metropolitan Washington and the Washington Area New Automobile Dealers Association. WRAP's 2024 Public Partner SoberRide® sponsors include the District of Columbia Office of the Deputy Mayor for Operations and Infrastructure's Highway Safety Office, the Maryland Highway Safety Office/Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration and the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles.

In addition, a half-dozen of the Washington-metropolitan area's better-known Irish restaurants have also united to ensure a safe St. Patrick's Day celebration this year by sponsoring SoberRide®. These dining establishments include: The Dubliner Restaurant & Pub (DC); Ireland's Four Courts (VA), Kelly's Irish Times (DC); Martin's Tavern Est. 1933 (DC); O'Sullivan's Irish Pub (VA); and Spanky's Shenanigans (VA).

Since 1991, WRAP's SoberRide® program has provided 89,222 free safe rides home to would-be drunk drivers in the Greater Washington area.

Founded in 1982, the nonprofit [501(c)(3)] Washington Regional Program (WRAP) is an award-winning public-private partnership working to prevent drunk driving and underage drinking in the Washington-metropolitan area. Through public education, innovative health education programs and advocacy, WRAP is credited with helping to keep the annual percentage of metro-Washington traffic deaths involving alcohol-impaired driving historically lower than the national average. WRAP, however, may be known to area residents via the organization's popular free safe ride service to prevent drunk driving, SoberRide®.

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

*Source: St. Patrick's Day 2021 (6 a.m. on March 17, 2021 through 5:59 a.m. on March 18, 2021; NHTSA's Fatality Analysis Reporting System [FARS])

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