

The Prince George's Post



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The Historic Washington International Horse Show Returns to The Show Place Arena This October 19–25

By HEATHER MAROHN
WIHS

The 68th Annual Washington International Horse Show (WIHS), presented by MARS Equestrian™, is set to return to The Show Place Arena at Prince George's Equestrian Center this October 19–25.

Recognized as one of North America's premier equestrian events, this year's edition brings together an exceptional lineup of world-class horses and riders for a week of top-tier competition, entertainment, and family-friendly fun.

Event Highlights Include:
WIHS Opening Night Salute to Service—*Thursday, October 22, 6:30 p.m.*: Honoring the U.S. Armed Forces, the evening program is all about power and speed and kicks off with the \$63,000 International Jumper Welcome Stake and the \$63,000 Stars and Stripes Speed Stake.

MARS Barn Night—*Friday, October 23, 6:30 p.m.*: Enjoy an action-packed evening starting with the new WIHS



PHOTO CREDIT SHAWN MCMILLEN

JJ Torano rides a mare named Tiara in the Large Junior Hunters last year at 2025 WIHS. At the show, JJ and Tiara won the Large Junior Hunter 15 and Under Championship.

Pony Jumper Championships, followed by crowd favorite, WIHS Shetland Pony Steeplechase and International Jumper Accumulator Costume Class. Top riders go wild with fun and

surprising costumes for both horse and rider!

World Cup Night—*Saturday, October 24, 6:15 p.m.*: Top horses and riders from around the world take center stage for

the \$340,000 Longines FEI Jumping World Cup Washington CSI5*-W for the President's

See **HORSE SHOW** Page A3

Council Member Timothy J. Adams Announces Unanimous Passage of Resolution Urging an Ombudsman for Seniors and Residents With Disabilities

By PRESS OFFICER
Prince George's County Council

LARGO, Md. (Oct. 7, 2026)—Prince George's County Council Member Timothy J. Adams (District 4) yesterday, Oct. 6 introduced CR-106-2026, a resolution urging the County Executive to establish an ombudsman dedicated to prioritizing the needs and concerns of seniors and residents with disabilities. The Council unanimously adopted the resolution by a 10–0 vote.

The resolution calls for a dedicated advocate within County government to help seniors and residents with disabilities address concerns and ensure their needs receive appropriate attention, particularly when accessing essential County services.

"As a person with a disability, I understand firsthand how important it is for the needs of seniors and people with disabilities to be heard, understood and prioritized," said Council Member Adams. "Issues involving acces-

sibility, transportation, housing and essential services can have a very different impact on someone who is older or living with a disability. What may seem like a routine service request can quickly become a matter of life or death for our most vulnerable residents."

"That is really the heart of this resolution," Adams continued. "We want someone within our County government whose focus is making sure these residents have an advocate—someone who can help prioritize their concerns, navigate barriers and ensure their issues receive the attention they deserve."

Following the vote, Adams thanked his Council colleagues, the staff involved in drafting the resolution and the County Executive for their support and expressed appreciation for his colleagues' comments.

"I look forward to the difference this role will make for our seniors and residents with disabilities," Adams said.

Community Partners Bring More Than \$276,000 in Free Health Care to Prince George's County

By CHRISTINA ROYSTER
Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.® Iota Gamma Omega Chapter

LARGO, Md. (Oct. 6, 2026)—Hundreds of community members received free medical, dental and vision care during a two-day Remote Area Medical (RAM) clinic held October 3–4 at Prince George's Community College.

The demand for care was evident before the clinic doors even opened. Community members began lining up the evening before, with some waiting overnight for the opportunity to receive services.

Over the course of the weekend, the clinic served 428 patients and provided \$276,701 in free health care services, bringing together healthcare professionals, volunteers, and community organizations to help expand access to care.

The clinic was made possible through a collaborative effort led by the Mount Rose Chapter of The Links, Incorporated, in partnership with Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.®, Iota Gamma Omega Chapter, The Ivy Community Charities of Prince George's County, the Gamma Pi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated, and Hear to H.E.A.L.

"The sight of members of our community lining up the evening before the clinic opened underscored the significant and ongoing need for accessible healthcare in the community," said Cheryl



COURTESY ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA SORORITY, INC.® IOTA GAMMA OMEGA CHAPTER

Students from the Howard University College of Dentistry are briefed as they prepare for the day to serve community patients.

Muller-Fils, President of the Mount Rose Chapter of The Links, Incorporated and a member of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Iota Gamma Omega Chapter. "This clinic was a powerful example of what can happen when organizations come together with a shared commitment to serving our community. In one weekend, we were able to help hundreds of people access care that can make a meaningful difference in their lives."

Beginning at 6 a.m. Saturday and continuing through Sunday afternoon, patients had access to an array of services at no cost. Depending on individual needs and provider availability, services included medical examinations and screenings, dental care, eye examinations, and prescription eyeglasses.

The weekend clinic sup-

ported Remote Area Medical's longstanding mission: volunteer-powered pop-up clinics that bring healthcare directly to communities. Founded by Stan Brock in 1985, RAM began with a vision of bringing basic medical care to people who faced significant barriers to accessing it.

More than four decades later, RAM has provided care to more than one million people. Its traveling clinics turn community spaces into temporary health centers staffed by volunteer healthcare professionals who provide no-cost services.

At Prince George's Community College, that model brought essential healthcare regardless of insurance status, helping re-

See **HEALTH** Page A3

Bowie NJROTC: USS Hammer 2026



On September 18, 2026, members of the Bowie High School NJROTC Color Guard attended the USS Hammer event to present the colors and connect with the ship's community. The gathering brought together families and former crew members to honor the history and legacy of the USS Hammer. Following the ceremony, cadets had the opportunity to socialize with guests and hear firsthand stories from those with personal ties to the ship. Overall, it was a memorable event that allowed the cadets to engage meaningfully with the USS Hammer family.
—PAO C/SA Henderson, Bowie High School NJROTC

Lt. Governor Aruna Miller Announces New Chief of Staff

Peterson served as deputy director of communications and press secretary for Prince George's County Executive Rushern L. Baker III

By PRESS OFFICER
Maryland LG News

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (Sept. 30, 2026)—Lieutenant Governor Aruna Miller today announced Scott L. Peterson as her new chief of staff, bringing nearly two decades of experience in Maryland local government, executive leadership and strategic communications to the Office of the Lieutenant Governor.

Peterson most recently served as spokesperson and senior communications adviser to Montgomery County Executive Marc

Elrich, where he helped lead communications strategy for Maryland's largest county. As a member of the county executive's senior staff, Peterson served as a chief communications adviser, coordinated with more than 40 public information officers and communications specialists across county government, and produced the county executive's weekly media briefings, video messages and newsletters.

"Scott understands Maryland, he understands government, and most importantly, he understands

that public service is about delivering for people," said Lt. Governor Aruna Miller. "Throughout his career, he has worked alongside leaders and communities across our state, building the relationships and experience that will serve our office well. I am excited to welcome Scott to our team as we continue working with Governor Moore to move Maryland forward and make sure no community is left behind."

See **CHIEF** Page A3

INSIDE

Brandywine-Aquasco

Calendar of Events

Cirque Italia Coming to National Harbor

Towns and Neighbors, Page A2

UCAP's "Walk in Their Shoes" 5K Raises Awareness and Support for Homelessness

Beats Bikes & Books Free Online Radio Station Launched October 13, 2026

Community, Page A3

Caregiver Academy Offers Support to Family Caregivers Across the Community

Marylanders Use Consumer Guide to Navigate Plug-In Solar Regulations

Community / Environment, Page A4

PGCAC of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Announces Partnership With Goale to Offer Job Training for County Residents

Prince George's County Council Advances Legislation for Proposed Sphere at National Harbor
Business and Finance, Page A5

TOWNS and NEIGHBORS

Brandywine-Aquasco by Audrey Johnson 301-922-5384

CHURCHES

The laying of the cornerstone of the Chapel of the Incarnation in Brandywine was in 1916. Bishop Harding of the Episcopal Diocese of Washington officiated. The Chapel is part of St. Thomas’ Episcopal Parks and a Prince George’s County Historic Landmark. A 1932 celebration at St. Thomas’ Church in Croom marked the 200th anniversary of the Act of Assembly authorizing construction of a chapel for St. Paul’s Episcopal Parish in 1732. Known as Page’s Chapel until 1850, this building later became St. Thomas’ Parish Church. By Katherine D. Bryant and Donna L. Schneider on Behalf of the Prince George’s County Historical & Cultural Trust.

BLACK FARMERS IN AMERICA

DISTANT ECHOES: Frank Deville and James Isaiah Lee, both of Brandywine, Maryland, were featured in the DISTANT ECHOES: BLACK FARMERS IN AMERICA exhibition that opened on Friday, February 3, 2006, at the Reginald F. Lewis Museum, 830 E. Pratt Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21202. The opening of this exhibition consisted of a lavish reception and a curators’ tour. The exhibition Distant Echoes is comprised of sixty images featuring photographs by John Francis Ficara that depict the lives and working conditions of black farmers from various parts of the United States. For the last 60 years black farmers in the U.S. have been in a decline. John Ficara has spent years documenting the experience of black farmers, whose entire way of life may someday be nothing than a distant echo. For years, black farmers in the United States have been in crisis. Their plight has gone largely unnoticed by most Americans. Facing decades of prejudice and discrimination, black farmers continue to work the land, even as they lose their property at approximately 1,000 acres a day. The Distant Echoes exhibition was on display until April 30, 2006 and then it travelled to various locations in thirteen states. Frank Deville and James Isaiah Lee are now deceased. Their work and the work of others like them are a genuine tribute to our ancestors and our African American heritage here at home and across this great country of America.

The Reginald F. Lewis Museum of Maryland African American History and Culture is the largest African American museum on the East Coast. The museum’s Permanent Exhibition introduces visitors to Maryland’s African American heritage through three galleries: THINGS HOLD, LINES CONNECT: African American Families and Communities in Maryland; BUILDING MARYLAND, BUILDING AMERICA: Labor and the Black Experience, and THE STRENGTH OF THE MIND: Black Art and intellect. Each tells the story of perseverance, triumph, and the celebration of life through the inspiring history and living culture of Maryland’s African Americans.’

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations to TSgt Kojo and Abena Van-ness, Sally and James Lucas, Jr. and Juliette Mbakwe, Lawrence and Roseline Omoregbe who are Clinton United Methodist Church members celebrating wedding anniversaries in October. Hope that you will have many more wedding anniversaries to celebrate.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

Happy Birthday to Destiny Johnson, John Tyree, Camden Knight, Kaylee Davis, Madison Rae Stroman, Kameron Fields, Kaylee Davis, Kameron Fields, Matilda Johnson, Khia Knight, David Samuel, Ulric Thomas, Erica Barron, Denise Bouyer-

Carter, Alice Droter, Ifeanyi (Junior) Mbakwe, Logan Trice, who are Clinton United Methodist Church members. Enjoy your birthday. Hope that you will have many more birthday celebrations.

FLY HIGH ON THE CAPITAL WHEEL

Fly high on the Capital Wheel, take a spin on the Carousel. Soar 180 feet in the air on the area’s only observation wheel, which spins right on the waterfront. The Capital Wheel features 42 climate-controlled gondola cars that seat up to eight and circle every day and night of the year, providing stunning views of Alexandria, Va., DC’s monuments and the Potomac River. Sunset rides are particularly scenic. You can also take a spin on the 36-foot, Americana-themed Carousel at National Harbor, featuring a herd of whimsical creatures.

GAYLORD NATIONAL RESORT

Year-round, Gaylord National Resort provides family entertainment, including a daily one-of-a-kind Atrium Fountain Show featuring choreographed lights, music and water that shoots 60-feet high in a 19-story garden atrium. Summerfest, the resort’s annual summer celebration, features special events, activities and spa and dining specials from Memorial Day to Labor Day. During the holiday season, the resort transforms into a Christmas wonderland for its signature Christmas on the Potomac celebration. This extravaganza offers a variety of family-friendly activities, including its world-renowned ICE! Attraction, which features more than two million pounds of Colorful Ice Sculptures and two-story ice slides.

MEN’S DAY

Men’s Day at Clinton United Methodist Church will be celebrated Sunday, October 18, 2026. “We will serve the Lord” Joshua 24:15. Pastor Nurbert Hughes, Alexandria Chapel UMC is the guest speaker at our 10:30 a.m. worship service. Gospel Extravaganza featuring various choirs from the metropolitan area churches at 3:00 p.m. Rev. Melaina Trice, Pastor. Lawrence Omoregbe.

SAARC

The Southern Area Aquatics and Recreation Complex (SAARC) in Brandywine, Maryland operates Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and is closed on Saturdays. The Southern Area Aquatics & Recreation Complex (SAARC serves the southernmost region of Prince George’s County with Senior Programs, Aquatics, Rental Permits & Policies, Seniors 60 & Better, Disability Services, Trail Finder. SAARC address is 13601 Missouri Ave, Brandywine MD 20613. Telephone: (301) 782-1442.

PIANO KEYS RESTAURANT & LOUNGE

Piano Keys Restaurant and Lounge is located at 7651 Matapeake Business Drive, Ste. 104, Brandywine, MD 20613. Phone: (240) 816-2211. Major League Band Live at Piano Keys Lounge every 4th Friday 9:30 p.m.–2 a.m. FREE Admission before 8 p.m. Online Ticket \$10. Happy Hour Specials: Food 5–7 p.m. Drinks 5–8 p.m. Hosted by Dickson. Sounds by DJ REECE. Bring your friends, enjoy great food and drinks, and dance the night away with one of the DMV’s favorite live bands. Tickets and VIP Reservations are available, so reserve yours early. Tickets & VIP Tables: www.PIANOKEYSLOUNGE.COM.

Cirque Italia Coming to National Harbor

By PRESS OFFICER
Cirque Italia

NATIONAL HARBOR, are you ready to go on a fantastical, globe-spanning adventure? Grab your compass and telescope and set sail with the Cirque Italia Water Circus!

Join our intrepid cast of acrobats, jugglers, aerialists, dancers, and clowns—a daring team of explorers who sail between worlds, diving deep beneath the waves and soaring high into the clouds. Cirque Italia’s Water Circus is filled with nautical wonder, fabulous fountains, and theatrical spectacle that will dazzle and delight the young and the young at heart.

At Cirque Italia we bring the world to your city with our international cast of acclaimed artists. Hailing from such far off ports as Argentina, Brazil, and Romania our colorful crew will make you gasp with delight at dexterous juggling and mind bending contortion, roar with laughter at

Event Details
When: October 30–November 2, 2026 Where: 204 Waterfront St, Oxon Hill, MD 20745, Parking Lot, Under the stunning White & Blue Tent
Friday, October 30: 7:30 p.m. Saturday, October 31: 1:30 p.m., 4:30 p.m. & 7:30 p.m. Sunday, November 1: 1:30 p.m. & 4:30 p.m. Monday, November 2: 7:30 p.m.

hilarious antics, and scream with excitement for our brave performers on the whirling wheel of death! That is just a taste of the wonders in store, so book your round trip tickets before we cast off to the high seas of circus excellence!

Cirque Italia’s mission is to provide high-class entertainment suitable for all age groups, where all are welcome at our strictly animal-free shows!

Cost and Purchase Info:

For more information, visit www.cirqueitalia.com and make sure to check all our social media accounts. Tickets can be purchased now starting at \$10.00–\$50.00 depending on availability. Cirque Italia offers one free child admission with every full priced paying adult ticket in levels 2 or 3. This offer cannot be combined with any other offers, discounts, or deals. Please call 941-704-8572 to get the promo code for your location.

Box office hours:

The box office opens on-site on Tuesday, the week of the show.

Non-show days: 10 a.m.–6 p.m.
On show days: 10 a.m.–9 p.m.

You may also purchase tickets through our website (cirqueitalia.com/tickets) or by phone: (941) 704-8572. We also respond to text messages.



PHOTOGRAPHER JOE HOWARD

Performance of the human body flip



PHOTOGRAPHER JOE HOWARD

Performance LYRA act



PHOTOGRAPHER REX TIMBS

Performance by Fusco brothers

Calendar of Events

Pepco Appliance Recycling Drop Off Event

Date and time: Saturday, October 17, 2026, 8 a.m.–12 p.m.
Description: Pepco Maryland residential customers can earn \$75 for each recycled dehumidifier, room air conditioner, or mini refrigerator. Drive up and we’ll unload them from your car.
Pre-Register: pepco.com/DropOff75
Location: PGCPSS Sasscer Administration Building, 14201 School Lane, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772

Oxon Hill Farm Festival

Date and time: Saturday, October 17, 2026, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Description: The event will feature live music, sheepdog demonstrations, line dancing, pumpkin painting and a community showcase highlighting local organizations. No registration required! **Parking is limited at Oxon Hill Farm. Visitors are encouraged to park at the Oxon Hill Park and Ride, about a half-mile away. A free shuttle will run to and from the lot.**
Cost: Free
Ages: All; family-friendly
Location: Oxon Hill Park and Ride: 6710 Oxon Hill Rd #200, Oxon Hill, MD 20745
Contact: <https://www.nps.gov/oxhi/oxon-hill-farm-fall-festival.htm>

“Grace After Grief”—The Book Release Experience

Date and time: Saturday, October 17, 2026, 3–7 p.m.
Description: On what would have been her late mother’s 60th birthday, Ebony Gibson, Certified Grief Coach, speaker, and author of “Grace After Grief” hosts the The Book Release Experience. The evening will include a moderated conversation, book signing, networking, entertainment, light bites, and a celebration surrounding the release of “Grace After Grief: What Grief Tried to Steal, Grace Restored”. The book explores grief beyond death and helps readers recognize how grief can also show up through relationships, identity changes, career loss, life transitions, and other forms of loss.
Cost: From \$44.52, includes a copy of the book. **Register on eventbrite:** <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/grace-after-grief-the-book-release-experience-tickets-1998505598042>
Location: 4317 St Barnabas Rd, Temple Hills, MD 20748
More info: <https://graceaftergrief.org/>

Riversdale Lunch and Learn Series

Date and time: Wednesday, October 21, 2026, 12–1 p.m.
Description: Join authors, local historians, and community members as they share their research and books with the community. Join us as we celebrate the opening of our new exhibition, A Story of Their Own, with guest speaker Mélisande Short Colomb for an uplifting Lunch and Learn. Discover the history and legacy of the descendants of enslaved families from Maryland and Washington, D.C. and how they connect to historic sites like Riversdale and Georgetown University. A free preview of the exhibition follows.
Cost: Free
Register: RHM-SPEC-GA-20261021 ParksDirect
Ages: 18 and up
Location: Visitor Center, Riversdale Historic Site and Museum, 4811 Riverdale Road | Riverdale Park, MD 20737

Flights & Frights: Trick or Treat at the Museum

Date and time: Saturday, October 24, 2026, 5:30–7:30 p.m.
Description: Set your Halloween spirits soaring at Flights and Frights at the College Park Aviation Museum! Join us for an evening filled with trick-or-treating in the gallery and spook-tacular games, crafts, and experiments. Come dressed in your favorite costumes and get ready for a high-flying Halloween adventure.
Registration required by October 17. Register on ParksDirect
Cost: \$5 (Children and Students); \$5 (Adults and Seniors)
Ages: All Ages
Location: College Park Aviation Museum, 1985 Corporal Frank Scott Drive, College Park, MD 20740
Contact: 301-864-6029 collegeparkaviation@pgparks.com

Crossing a Deep River: A Ritual Drama in Three Movements (Staged Reading Part I)

Date and time: Sunday, November 1, 2026, 6 p.m. until 8 p.m.
Description: Celebrate Maryland Emancipation Day and experience a powerful fusion of history, ritual, and storytelling in this staged reading of “Crossing a Deep River: A Ritual Drama in Three Movements.” Presented in conjunction with “The African Odyssey” exhibition, this transformative performance ushers its audience through a collective ritual healing of ancestral wounds while engaging directly with Montpelier’s history as a former site of enslavement. Join us for a thought-provoking encounter between place and memory.

Following the performance, participate in a structured talkback in the form of a Braxton Institute Dialogue on Resistance and Thriving. Featuring: Mélisande Short-Colomb (storyteller, performer, and playwright); Omiyemi Artisia Green (Chair, Howard University Department of Theatre Arts); Rev. Dr. Joanne “Jodi” Braxton (Playwright; Co-founder, Braxton Institute); and Iyá Ifániké Batts (Director; Co-coordinator of Musical Theatre, Howard University).

For the full experience, begin your visit at the Montpelier Historic Site & Museum to explore “The African Odyssey” exhibition on its final day. Featuring photographs from Dr. Braxton’s research journey to West Africa, the exhibit provides powerful context for the staged reading and the histories that inspired it.

After viewing the exhibition, make your way across campus to the Montpelier Arts Center for the staged reading.

Staged Reading Part II: Sunday, December 6, 2026 at 7 p.m.

Cost: \$20 Prince George’s County Residents & Montpelier Members* / \$26 Non-Residents

Register: <https://tinyurl.com/deepriver-partone>

Ticket Code: MM-SPEC-GA-20261101

*Montpelier Members should call (301) 377-7817 to register.

Ages: Ages 11+

Location: Montpelier Arts Center, 9652 Muirkirk Road, Laurel, MD 20708

COMMUNITY

UCAP’s “Walk in Their Shoes” 5K Brings Prince George’s County Together to Raise Awareness and Support for Homelessness

By LORI VALENTINE
United Communities Against Poverty, Inc.

CAPITOL HEIGHTS, Md. (Oct. 7, 2026)—On **October 31, 2026**, United Communities Against Poverty, Inc. (UCAP) will bring residents, community partners and local leaders together for its annual Walk in Their Shoes 5K, at Bladensburg Waterfront Park, 4601 Annapolis Road, Bladensburg, MD.

This community event is designed to raise awareness about homelessness while mobilizing support for individuals and families facing housing and economic instability. Held in observance of Homeless Awareness Month, Walk in Their Shoes reflects the organization’s ongoing commitment to addressing poverty and helping individuals and families move toward stability and self-sufficiency.

“Walk in Their Shoes is about more than the miles we walk; it is about the people and families behind the statistics,” said Rasheeda Jamison, UCAP President & CEO. “Every person deserves to be supported and given an opportunity to move forward. When our community walks together, we are sending a powerful message that our neighbors facing homelessness do not have to face it alone.”

This year, UCAP is expanding the impact of the event by incorporating a community food drive, encouraging walkers and supporters to donate non-perishable food items to help stock resources for individuals and families in need as the holiday season ap-

proaches. A convenient food donation station will be available near event check-in.

The walk will take participants along the scenic Anacostia River. Check-in begins at 8 a.m., followed by a 9:30 a.m. warm-up, with the walk beginning at 10 a.m. The event will take place rain or shine, and Halloween costumes are optional. Following the 5K, participants can enjoy family-friendly activities, food trucks, community resources and partnership exhibits.

Residents and participants can register to walk for \$30 general registration; discounted registration is available for students with valid school identification and adults age 60 and older. Children under eight may participate free.

To donate or learn about partnership opportunities, visit UCAP’s Walk in Their Shoes event page: <https://www.ucappgc.org/events>

United Communities Against Poverty, Inc. (UCAP) *is one of Prince George’s County’s leading nonprofit organizations dedicated to alleviating poverty, promoting self-sufficiency, and creating pathways to economic opportunity. Since 1964, UCAP has empowered individuals and families through housing, economic development, education, workforce development, and supportive services that strengthen communities and transform lives.*

Horse Show from A1

Cup with the biggest, most challenging jumps and the largest purse of the show. But first, it’s the work-off for the three-phase WIHS Equitation Final, where a panel of judges will determine who among the talented junior riders will be named WIHS Equitation Champion.

WIHS Kids’ Day Presented by Delta Air Lines—Saturday, October 24, 10 a.m.–1 p.m.: A free event packed with educational and fun activities for children, including crafts, pony rides, a grooming station, face painting, a horseless horse show, and a pony kissing booth.

Ticket Information:

Daytime admission is free throughout the week. Evening tickets can be purchased at TicketMaster.com. Parking is free every day, including for ticketed night classes.

Opening Night Only—military members and first responders are eligible for 50% ticket discounts at the box office or Military Ticket Offices. US Military and First Responder ticket open to active, retired, reserve and disabled veterans, and law enforcement, teachers, paramedics, EMS, EMTs and firefighters.

For more information about the Washington International Horse Show, visit wihs.org and follow WIHS on social media: Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube.

Health from A1

move financial and other barriers that can prevent individuals and families from accessing needed healthcare.

The clinic also demonstrated what can be accomplished when community organizations, healthcare professionals, and volunteers combine their resources around a shared need. From early Saturday morning through Sunday afternoon, volunteers worked alongside medical professionals to help patients move through the clinic and access needed services.

With 428 patients served and \$276,701 in services provided, the weekend represented more than two days of care. It reflected a collective commitment to expanding access to essential health services and supporting the health and well-being of the Prince George’s County community.



COURTESY ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA SORORITY, INC. © IOTA GAMMA OMEGA CHAPTER

Services at the clinic included medical examinations and screenings, dental care, eye examinations, and prescription eyeglasses.

Beats Bikes & Books Free Online Radio Station Launched October 13, 2026

New community-centered platform brings music, movement and literary arts together in a 24/7 listening experience

By PRESS OFFICER
Beats Bikes & Books

LAUREL, Md. (Oct. 6, 2026)—Beats Bikes & Books, a new Laurel-based digital community platform connecting music, movement and literary arts, will publicly launch Beats Bikes & Books Radio on Tuesday, October 13, 2026. Free and available around the clock, the station is designed as a cultural meeting place—rooted in Laurel and the DMV, yet online and open to listeners everywhere.

Founded by arts marketing and communications leader Tyrone N. Manning, Beats Bikes & Books Radio grows from his lifelong relationship with radio.

“Growing up in Jersey City, I spent Friday and Saturday nights listening to DJs on New York City’s 98.7 KISS FM and 107.5 WBLS. Those experiences shaped my love of music, curation and the intimacy of a voice coming through the speakers,” said Manning.

Programmed with the care and personality of classic radio, the station will feature Hip-Hop, R&B, Soul, Jazz and related sounds across generations. Recurring programs include “The Soul Kitchen,” “80’s @ 8,” “90’s @ 9” and “Last Call for Jazz.” Beats Bikes & Books reflects how people actually live: music lovers can be readers, cyclists, runners and parents.

The station will also champion new music that can be difficult to find through mainstream channels. Alongside emerging independent artists, Beats Bikes & Books will spotlight new releases from legendary artists who continue to make stellar work without the major-label marketing support they once had. Listeners can hear those releases on the station and explore selected music through “In Rotation” at BeatsBikesBooks.com.



“A memorable song can lead naturally into a conversation about a book or a community bike ride. The music, literature and movement are all part of what I call the spectrum of real-life wellness,” said Manning.

Additional programming planned for Beats Bikes & Books includes:

The Children’s Bedtime Story: Weekday stories for children and families, featuring voices like esteemed writer Novuyo Masakhane and other contributing readers.

Poem of the Week: Jennifer N. Shannon curates readings that celebrate literary luminaries and emerging poets, with Bowie-based author and college instructor Yvette J. Green among the contributors.

Creative Communion: A monthly series of poems, stories and more by Jennifer N. Shannon and Yvette J. Green, two middle-aged Black women from the South who are raising Black sons.

Listen Closely: Monthly conversations revisiting influential albums and why they continue to matter, launching in November 2026.

Spin Cycle: A coached audio experience combining movement and music, slated to begin in January 2027.

The BeachBoyFresh Show: Tyrone N. Manning, aka sHaKe, delivers a globe-spinning, 60-minute mixshow that fuses genres and fuels discovery.

Keystone Korner Baltimore’s resident DJ SoYourDolo will also debut a new show on Beats Bikes & Books Radio in November.

Upcoming Beats Bikes & Books events:

Community Walk—October 18 at 9 a.m.:

A one- to two-mile stroll through Laurel’s trails, with conversation and stretching.

Community Bike Ride—October 25 at 9 a.m.:

A 10-mile ride from Savage Park along the Patuxent River, followed by stretching.

Beyond the stream, Beats Bikes & Books will offer editorial content and gatherings in Howard and Prince George’s counties, including group rides and walks and record-club events.

“By placing stories and author voices alongside music and movement, we can help books become part of a family’s everyday rhythm,” said Jennifer N. Shannon, Beats Bikes & Books Literary Curator.

Beats Bikes & Books Radio began public broadcasting October 13, 2026. Listeners can tune in at BeatsBikesBooks.com and follow @beatsbikesbooks on Instagram.

Artists, authors, DJs, readers, fitness professionals and community organizations interested in contributing—as well as potential partners and advertisers—may contact hello@beatsbikesbooks.com

Beats Bikes & Books is a Laurel-based digital community platform connecting people through music, movement and literary arts. Its flagship, Beats Bikes & Books Radio, is a 24/7 online station offering curated music and original programming across generations. Founded by Tyrone N. Manning, the platform’s literary programming is curated by author Jennifer N. Shannon. Learn more at BeatsBikesBooks.com.

Mahalo and Aloha: Community Turns Out for Partners In Care End of Summer Luau

By ELYZABETH MARCUSSEN
Hospice of the Chesapeake

PASADENA, Md. (Oct. 7, 2026)—Grass skirts, tiki torches and tropical breezes set the scene as Partners In Care Maryland celebrated a successful inaugural End of Summer Luau on Oct. 1, at Kurtz’s Beach in Pasadena, Maryland. The island-inspired evening raised more than \$80,000 to support older adults in our community, helping them age in place with dignity, purpose and the support of a caring community.

Guests enjoyed island-inspired cuisine and tropical beverages, bid on exciting auction items and were treated to a spectacular performance by Meki’s Tamure Polynesian Arts Group, featuring authentic Polynesian dance, vibrant costumes, rhythmic drumming and thrilling fire dancing. Music and festive fun rounded out the evening.

The event was made possible by Premier Sponsor, the Brian and Patricia Giese Foundation, along with many other donors and sponsors, including Plumeria sponsor The Hussman Foundation; Band Underwriter Bank of Glen Burnie; Small Business Underwriters Isaiah Fund, Janis Kramer and RCM&D; and Table Sponsors Bay Area Mechanical Services, Inc., Donna Grande, Greer Water Works, Inc., Russ Jones, Rebecca Miller, Nathan Raider,



PHOTO BY LAURA’S EYES PHOTOGRAPHY

A member of Meki’s Tamure Polynesian Arts Group performs a fire dance as guests look on at the Partners In Care End of Summer Luau held Oct. 1 at Kurtz’s Beach in Pasadena.

Shore United Bank, and Silas Mechanical Services, Inc.

Partners In Care extends its heartfelt thanks to everyone who attended, sponsored and volunteered to make this first-ever event such a success. Funds raised will directly support programs that help older adults in our community remain independent and connected.

Partners In Care Maryland, Inc. is a volunteer-based 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to helping older adults age 60+ remain independent and age in place with dignity and respect. Through its unique Service Exchange/Time Banking model, members support one another with transportation, handyman services, social engagement, and other neighborly assistance—neighbors helping neighbors. Partners In Care is proud to be a part of Chesapeake Health Partners, an organization focused on strengthening community-based care and support services across the region.

Chief from A1

Peterson has held senior communications roles in four of Maryland’s largest jurisdictions. Before joining Montgomery County, he served as director of communications for Howard County Executive Calvin Ball, deputy director of communications and press secretary for Prince George’s County Executive Rushern L. Baker III, and director of media relations and senior communications adviser to Baltimore Mayor Sheila Dixon.

Peterson succeeds Geri Royale Byrd, who served as the Lieutenant Governor’s chief of staff since June 2024 and recently joined the Maryland Department of Commerce as Principal Deputy Secretary. During her tenure, Byrd helped oversee the Lieutenant Governor’s broad policy portfolio,

including work on transportation, mental health initiatives, STEM equity and interfaith outreach.

Peterson is a 1998 graduate of the University of Maryland, College Park, and earned his Certified Public Manager designation through the George Washington University Center for Excellence in Public Leadership. He has also been recognized as a Prince George’s County “40 Under 40” honoree and has presented on protecting public trust through effective government communications.

Peterson is married to wife Coco, father to Millie and Daisy, and dog-dad to “Ace.” He enjoys rock concerts in his free time and resides in Severna Park.

Peterson’s first day on staff was Wednesday, September 30, 2026.

BUSINESS AND FINANCE

Social Security Matters

Ask Rusty:

Does a Veteran who Uses VA Healthcare Need Medicare at age 65?

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’m not yet old enough, but must I enroll in Medicare at age 65? I am a disabled military veteran with VA benefits, so must I still take Medicare when I turn 65? **Signed: Disabled Veteran**

Dear Disabled Veteran: First, please accept my gratitude for your military service to our country. And please also know that if you now rely 100% on the VA for all your healthcare needs, and you expect that to continue for the rest of your life, then you have the option to decline enrolling in Medicare Part B when you turn 65. However, if you believe that using healthcare providers from outside the VA may someday be in your future, you should enroll in Medicare when you are first eligible.

Although you are required to enroll in Medicare Part A (coverage for inpatient hospitalization services) if you collect Social Security after age 65, enrolling in Medicare Part B (coverage for outpatient medical services) is always optional because there is a monthly premium for Part B (\$202.90 for 2026—changes yearly). So, as a military veteran using VA healthcare, you have a choice to either enroll in Medicare Part B at age 65, or not if you get all your healthcare services from the Veterans Administration. Just be aware that VA healthcare is not considered “creditable” for Medicare purposes, so if you do not enroll in Medicare Part B during your Medicare Initial Enrollment Period (IEP), and later choose to enroll in Medicare Part B, there will be a permanent Late Enrollment Penalty for enrolling in Medicare Part B outside your initial enrollment period (your Medicare IEP is 3 months on either side of the month you turn 65).

So, the decision you will need to make as you approach 65 years of age is this: will all of your healthcare needs always be provided through the VA? Or do you want the convenience (and flexibility) to know you can use any healthcare provider anywhere the U.S. or its territories, whenever and wherever you wish. If the latter is true, then you should likely enroll in Medicare Part B when you turn 65. You can still use the VA for some services if you are enrolled in both, but there is no coordination of benefits (e.g., the VA will not make copayments if you use Medicare services, and vice versa). Which means that you may also wish to also consider a Medicare Advantage plan or a Medicare Supplement plan to go with Medicare Part B if/when you enroll.

I hope this answers your question, but please don’t hesitate to contact us again if needed. And, importantly, thank you for your service to our country.

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.

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.

Prince George’s County Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Announces Partnership With Google to Offer Job Training for County Residents

Certificate program provides access to in-demand skills through job training

By JEWEL WILLIAMS

The Prince George’s County Alumnae Chapter Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

CAPITOL HEIGHTS, Md. (Oct. 1, 2026)—The Prince George’s County Alumnae Chapter (PGCAC) of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., in partnership with Google, is proud to announce the continuation of this initiative to provide job readiness training for Prince George’s County residents through the Google Career Certificate program. No prior degree or experience is required, and PGCAC will award 100 scholarships to eligible residents.

Developed by Google, this self-paced online program offers ten certificates in Cybersecurity, Data Analytics, Digital Marketing & E-Commerce, IT Support, Project Management, IT Automation with Python, User Experience (UX) Design, Advanced Data Analytics, Business Intelligence, and the newest certification - AI Professional. These certificates are designed and taught by Google employees with extensive industry experience. Each program includes over 150 assessments and hands-on projects to ensure participants gain practical, job-ready skills. Additional Google courses are available in

Key Dates:
Application Period: October 1–November 30, 2026
Application Deadline: November 30, 2026
Information Session #1: October 18, 2026, at 7 p.m.
Information Session #2: November 12, 2026, at 7 p.m.

Agile Essentials, AI Essentials, and Accelerate your job search with AI.

“PGCAC is proud to build upon our collaboration with Google and continue expanding access to valuable career development opportunities for our community,” said Terri Jackson, President of the Prince George’s County Alumnae Chapter. “Providing meaningful programs that strengthen individuals and families is central to our commitment to public service. These scholarships give County residents an opportunity to develop relevant, in-demand skills that can open doors to new careers, professional advancement, and greater economic opportunities. By helping remove financial barriers to training, we are empowering more members of our community to invest in their futures and compete in today’s evolving workforce.” Participants can earn a certificate in

three to six months on a part-time schedule. Upon completion, graduates will have direct access to a network of employers across the U.S. who are committed to hiring certificate holders. Currently, there are 1.5 million job openings in the fields covered by Google’s certificates.

For more information or to apply for a scholarship, join our information session on October 18 at 7 p.m., or visit <https://www.pgcacd.org/google-career-certificate>, or email GCC@pgcadst.org.

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. was founded in 1913 on the campus of Howard University to promote academic excellence; to provide scholarships; to provide support to the underserved; educate and stimulate participation in the establishment of positive public policy; and to highlight issues and provide solutions for problems in their communities. Today Delta Sigma Theta Sorority has over 300,000 initiated members and more than 1000 chapters worldwide, including seven in Wisconsin. The Sorority uses its Five-Point Programmatic Thrust of economic development, educational development, international awareness and involvement, physical and mental health, and political awareness and involvement to create its national and local programs.

Prince George’s County Council Advances Legislation for Proposed Sphere at National Harbor

Council adopts two amendments ahead of final vote on Oct. 27

By PRESS OFFICER

Prince George’s County Council Media

LARGO, Md. (Oct. 5, 2026)—The Prince George’s County Council on Monday advanced legislation for the proposed Sphere at National Harbor, adopting two amendments to CB-111-2026 that strengthen labor and community benefit requirements tied to the project’s bond financing. The amendments establish requirements for a Community Benefits Agreement and a labor peace agreement. The amended legislation is scheduled to go before the Council for a final vote on Oct. 27. The Council has carefully reviewed the proposed project, weighing the potential economic opportunity alongside the long-term impact on residents, businesses and surrounding communities. Throughout the process, the Council has focused on protecting the interests of Prince Georgians, particularly those most directly affected by the project.

The first amendment requires the developer to enter into a Community Benefits Agreement (CBA) with Prince George’s County. A CBA outlines the commitments the developer will make to ensure the project delivers benefits to the community.

As the CBA is developed, the Council will continue working with residents and stakeholders to shape those commitments, including:

- Strong local hiring and employment opportunities for County residents
- Significant participation by County-based minority business

- enterprises and local small businesses
- Workforce development, job training and career advancement opportunities for County residents
- Youth, education, arts and community programs
- Accountability, reporting and oversight to ensure commitments are met

The Council will continue engaging residents and stakeholders throughout the development of the CBA to help ensure the final agreement reflects the priorities and needs of the communities most directly impacted by the project.

The second amendment requires a labor peace agreement, which helps protect workers’ ability to organize and have a voice in the workplace. The requirement would apply to developers, tenants, contractors and subcontractors, as applicable.

“This Council takes its responsibility to review this project seriously,” said Council Chair Krystal Oriadha. “A project of this magnitude could shape Prince George’s County for decades. We are continuing to listen to residents, ask the tough questions and work to secure lasting benefits for our communities. The amendments adopted today move that work forward, and we will continue that work ahead of the final vote.”

Community input has been central to the Council’s review of the project. On Sept. 22, the Council held a public listening session to hear directly from residents and stakeholders about their priorities, concerns and expectations. That input continues to inform the Council’s review as the amended legislation moves toward final action on Oct. 27.

Investing in Education: 5 Ways to Prepare Students for the Jobs of Tomorrow

(Feature Impact) The landscape of modern work is changing rapidly, leaving many uncertain about whether they’re adequately equipped to face the future. Even though America invests roughly \$1 trillion in education every year, it’s difficult to know whether that investment is truly preparing young people for what comes next.

“Our education system isn’t evolving quickly enough to prepare our students for the jobs of tomorrow,” said Amit Sevak, CEO of ETS, a global education and talent solutions organization working with more than 30 million students a year to measure learning success and power human progress at every stage of life. “Students only get one chance at an education, and we have a responsibility to understand what’s working, what’s not and where additional support is needed.”

A diploma is still an important milestone, but what matters more than the piece of paper is whether graduates have the knowledge, skills and confidence to take meaningful next steps in pursuing further education or building careers. Students, families, educators, employers and policymakers all have a role to play in cultivating these opportunities.

Start the Conversation Early

Success isn’t a single path anymore, so young people may benefit from thinking outside the traditional pipeline of high school to college to a good job to retirement. By prompting early conversations, parents can help their children begin sorting through their options well in advance. Encourage dinner table talks about favorite school subjects, what kind of work seems interesting and alternative pathways to build careers. The goal isn’t necessarily to choose a life track immediately—just to start exploring ideas before the time ar-



PHOTO COURTESY OF SHUTTERSTOCK

rives to lock in a decision.

Learn to Work with AI

In the age of AI, there’s a balance to be found between fully embracing or avoiding it. Parents and educators can encourage thoughtful, responsible use of the AI tools reshaping modern workplaces—without sanctioning them as a way to get out of doing homework. Students should think critically about both the uses and limitations of AI, learning how these systems work but still recognizing when human judgment matters.

Get Real-World Experience Before Graduation

Textbooks and classrooms can teach a lot, but some of the most

valuable lessons come from the real world. Summer jobs, internships, volunteering, co-op programs, job shadowing or small-scale forays into entrepreneurship can help kids discover where their talents and passions fit. It’s also a chance to develop the soft skills that make great employees, like being punctual, working well with others and adapting to new situations.

Build Human Skills

There are certain abilities technology just can’t replace, making them vital pieces of future-proof training. Strong communication, teamwork mindsets, critical thinking skills, civic reasoning and empathy translate well to many careers. Rather than focusing strictly on academics, teachers can shift lesson plans to encourage growth in these areas. Specialized hands-on talents and trades are also more insulated from technological disruptions.

Measure Progress Beyond Grades

Grades and test scores don’t tell the whole story about career readiness, yet they’re often treated as the only metric that matters in educational success. Policymakers have the opportunity to change how schools measure student progress, including by trading the one-size-fits-all rubrics for more personalized assessments that demonstrate proficiency in more comprehensive ways. Education is on the ballot this election season, so ask your local and state elected leaders about whether today’s graduates are ready to face the future.

For information about a system that gives students, educators and employers clear evidence that learning is leading to opportunity, visit ETS.org.

