

April 12, 2021

Hello Neighbors,

Today is the last day of Session, otherwise known as Sine Die. At midnight tonight will mark the end of Maryland's 442nd session. For my first legislative session as your Delegate, I introduced four bills - all of which passed in the House and two of which have already made it to the Governor's desk and are awaiting a signature to become law.

Keep an eye out for my official Sine Die letter that I will be sending out in the upcoming weeks. In this letter, I will recap some of what my fellow legislators and I accomplished over the past 90 days.

### **Delegate Jones' Summer of Giving**



With this year's legislative session nearly behind us, our office is looking forward to having more time to engage directly with the community. Each month this summer we will be hosting a drive that will directly support various charitable organizations and nonprofits throughout our community. The "Delegate Jones' Summer of Giving" will kick off in May with a period supplies dive in honor of Period Poverty week (May 25 to 31). More details to come ~ so stay tuned!

## **Appointment Transportation**

Mobility and transportation barriers should never prevent getting vaccinated. That is why Anne Arundel County is offering FREE transportation to COVID19 Vaccine Clinics for its residents. To coordinate transportation, call 410-222-3663 (TTY 7-1-1).



#### **COVID-19 Vaccinations**

STARTING TODAY April 12th, any Marylanders over the age of 16 will be eligible for a vaccine through all providers. \*\*Please note that at this time, individuals aged 16-17 years old must receive Pfizer vaccines, which are not available everywhere. \*\* Additionally, walk-up appointments are now accepted at the Salisbury and Hagerstown mass vaccination sites as well as the M&T Bank Stadium site.

You can preregister for an appointment by going to <u>covidvax.maryland.gov</u>

NEW! You can now make an appointment at any of the Anne Arundel County Department of Health vaccine clinics NO PRE-REGISTRATION NECESSARY! Simply go to accounty.org/covidvax, Pick the place & time, Sign up, and Show up to get vaccinated. New appointments are posted on Tuesdays @ 7:00 p.m. & Thursdays @ 12:00 p.m.



Maryland residents can also these links to make an appointment at locations throughout the state:

- <u>UMD Baltimore Washington Medical Center</u>
- MedStar Health Baltimore
- Luminis Health at Anne Arundel Medical Center

- Giant Food
- <u>Safeway</u>
- Walgreens
- CVS (Those without online access can call 800-746-7287)
- <u>VA Maryland Health Care System</u> (Eligible Veterans only)
- Six Flags America Mass Vaccination Site
- M&T Bank Stadium

For more tips on how to register for a vaccination appointment, you can click here!

**NOTE To Those Who Have ALREADY Received The Vaccine:** If you have been able to receive a vaccine from a mass vaccination site like Six Flags or a pharmacy like a CVS, **please take the time to remove your name from any pre-registration waitlists you used**. This small step makes a big difference to others still waiting for their shot. This continues to be a very fluid situation, and I encourage you all to follow any of my social media pages for up-to-date information as it becomes publicly available.

Additionally, you can use the <u>State of Maryland Vaccination Site Search Tool</u> to search for all vaccination locations within the state. Find out how to get alerted when appointments become available <u>here!</u>

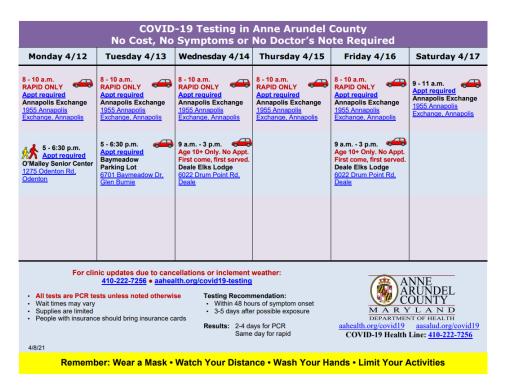


If you have any questions about the vaccine rollout or are eligible for a vaccine and need help making an appointment, please email

<u>Dana.Jones@house.state.md.us</u>, and our office will assist you.

#### **COVID-19 Tests**

<u>Anne Arundel County offers COVID-19 testing at no cost</u>. Symptoms are not required for a test, and a doctor's note is not needed. Test results are usually available in three to five days. You can call the Anne Arundel county COVID-19 Health Information Line: 410-222-7256 with all of your COVID-19 related questions.



#### **COVID-19 Resources**

My full breakdown of resources - everything from eviction prevention to utility assistance - <u>is available here</u>. If you or someone you know needs help navigating any state resources, you can always reach out to my office. My Chief of Staff, Lydia McPherson, or I can assist you.



#### **Love Our Libraries**

2021 is the <u>Anne Arundel County Public Library's</u> 100th anniversary! Our library offers a wide variety of programming and resources. In honor of their centennial celebration, each week, I will be highlighting one program, resource, or event that our libraries have to offer.

Starting TODAY (April 12th), the AACPL system will reopen for walk-in services. <u>Safety protocols</u> remain in place at the library, and it is important that community members be respectful to library staff and fellow patrons when enjoying in-person services.

Join AACPL Saturday, April 17th from 11:00am - 12:00pm for <u>The (Virtual) Human Library</u>. The purpose of this event seeks to engage community members in civic conversation by providing an opportunity for people to connect one-on-one with those they might otherwise never have a chance to talk to. Just like borrowing a book from the library, you can "check out" a human book for a 20-minute conversation. To learn more or to register for this event, <u>click here!</u>

I would encourage everyone to follow the <u>Anne Arundel County Public Library's Facebook page</u> to get updates on programs and new resources. Also, check out their <u>calendar</u> to find the perfect event for you and your family to enjoy!



### **New Annapolis Mural**

Annapolis has a new mural! Right across from the Anne Arundel County Courthouse, a new installation depicts the honorable Supreme Court Justices Thurgood Marshall and Ruth Bader Ginsburg. The Equal Justice Under Law mural was painted by Future History Now as part of the KMH (KIDS MAKING HISTORY) Mural Tour. Check it out the next time you're downtown - it is absolutely breathtaking! Thank you, Future History Now, for another masterpiece!



## **Community Tribute**

<u>Rick Anthony</u> served as the Director of the Anne Arundel County Recreation and Parks Department for over a decade. To honor Rick and his years of service to the county, a community tribute will be held at the People's Park, Calver Street, Annapolis, Mayland, on Saturday, April 17, 2021, beginning at 12 noon.



## **Recognizing Annapolis**



Spring is here and, along with the warmer weather, that means that many of our amazing local farmers' markets are starting to open up! Shopping at these smaller markets is not only a great way to support these small businesses but can help reduce our environmental impact. You can check out a complete list of farmers' markets and artisan shops throughout Anne Arundel County <a href="here">here</a>!

### **Summer Fun!**

The iconic Woodwinds will resume their sailing season this Saturday, April 17! The boats sail three times a day on weekends, plus Wednesdays and Fridays in April. Book your tickets <a href="here">here</a>!

The boats get hauled this Friday around 8:00 am, which you can watch LIVE on Facebook!



## **Celebrating CRAB**

Congratulations to <u>Chesapeake Region Accessible Boating (CRAB</u>) on 30 years of operation! I was honored to take part in today's anniversary celebration before running back to the House floor. Thank you for all that you do for our community & for bringing the joy of sailing to so many.





You can follow me on <u>Facebook, Twitter</u>, and <u>Instagram</u> to learn about volunteer opportunities, community resources, COVID-19 updates, and much more. If you have any questions or concerns, you can always contact my office by email at <u>Dana.Jones@house.state.md.us</u> or by phone at 410-841-3211.

Stay safe and healthy,



By Authority: Friends of Dana Jones; Karen M. White, Treasurer P.O. Box 4237, Annapolis, MD 21403



April 29, 2021

Hello Neighbors,

With the legislative session just two weeks behind us, my team and I have not slowed down one bit. From Earth Day cleanups, BLM events, and grand openings to sending out over a thousand end of Session letters, we have had a very busy interim so far.

For those who have reached out to the office over the last 90 days, start checking your mailboxes for my official end of Session or "Sine Die" letter, which recaps all the work my colleagues and I accomplished during the 2021 Session.

#### **Summer of Giving**



Throughout this summer, we will be hosting a drive that will directly support various charitable organizations throughout our community. The "Delegate Jones' Summer of Giving" kicks off today with a period supplies dive in honor of Period Poverty week (May 24 to 30). Period poverty is the lack of access to sanitary products due to financial constraints. These essential products can be incredibly expensive are not covered under other welfare programs. No person should be held back due to a lack of access to essential products.

If you would like to make a donation, you can go to our Amazon wish list and make a purchase. All donations will be distributed through the Tyler Heights Pop-Up pantry. Please contact our office with any questions at dana.jones@house.state.md.us or at 410-841-3211. Thank

you in advance for helping make the difference for so many in our community!

## **Celebrating Earth Day**

To celebrate Earthday, Senator Sarah Elfreth & I joined <u>Arundel Rivers Federation</u> in a cleanup to a tributary of Aberdeen Creek. We removed over 50 bags (3 truckloads!) of glass, plastic & trash. Stay

tuned to this newsletter & my social media for more opportunities to come out to cleanups in the coming months!



## **GreenScape Annapolis**

One of the many things that COVID has taught us is the importance of having green spaces in our community where we can connect with nature and enjoy all that the Great Outdoors has to offer. This year Annapolis GreenScape 2021 had over 70 green scaping projects around Annapolis! I enjoyed spending time & bringing Carlson's Donuts to the volunteers throughout the city, including to those at St. Luke's Restoration of Nature, Chambers Park, Eastport Veterans Park, Pip Moyer Recreation Center at Truxtun Park, and more! I am so thankful to all of those who volunteered their time to help make our City even more beautiful!







I was thrilled to attend the ribbon cutting at the <u>Annapolis Maritime Museum</u> for the grand reopening of their amazing new interactive exhibit! *Our Changing Waterfront*, allows visitors to the Museum to

experience the Bay and our local history through interactive and immersive exhibit displays, including a virtual reality display.

The Museum will now be open Tuesdays through Sundays from 10:00 am – 3:00 pm. You can pre-purchase your tickets today by going to - bit.ly/3uDuE4O.



## **Restaurant Grant Funding Opportunity**



As part of the American Rescue Plan, the Small Businesses Administration (SBA) has launched a new grant program for restaurants. The <u>Restaurant Revitalization Fund</u> (RRF) will provide restaurants with funding equal to their pandemic-related revenue loss up to \$10 million per business. Recipients are not required to repay the funds as long as funds are used for eligible uses no later than March 11, 2023. To learn more about this grant opportunity, <u>click here!</u>

## **COVID-19 Vaccinations - Navy Stadium Mass Vax Site**

Annapolis now has a State Mass vaccination site. The Navy Stadium is now open for both vaccination appointments AND **walk-ins**. Each day the site accepts a minimum of 200 "walk-in" appointments, beginning at 9 AM. In partnership with the city of Annapolis, Anne Arundel County is providing FREE transportation to and from this vaccination site. To learn more about how to get vaccinated at the Navy Stadium, <u>click here!</u>

## For more tips on how to register for a vaccination appointment, you can click here!

Additionally, you can use the <u>State of Maryland Vaccination Site Search Tool</u> to search for all vaccination locations within the state. Find out how to get alerted when appointments become available <u>here!</u>



If you have any questions about the vaccine rollout, need transportation, or need help making an appointment, please email

<u>Dana.Jones@house.state.md.us</u>, and our office will assist you.

#### **COVID-19 Tests**

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**COVID-19 Testing in Anne Arundel County** No Cost, No Symptoms or No Doctor's Note Required Monday 4/26 Tuesday 4/27 Wednesday 4/28 Thursday 4/29 Friday 4/30 Saturday 5/1 9 - 11 a.m. 8 - 10 a.m. Appt required Baymeadow Parking Lot Appt required
Annapolis Exchange 1955 Annapolis Exchange, Anna 1955 Annapolis 1955 Annapolis 1955 Annapolis Exchange, Anna 1955 Annapolis Exchange, Annar Exchange, Annapolis Exchange, Annapolis 8 - 10 a.m. 12:30 - 3:30 p.m. 12:30 - 3:30 p.m. 5 - 6:30 p.m.
Appt required
O'Malley Senior Center
1275 Odenton Rd. 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Age 10+ Only. No Appt. First come, first served. 12:30 - 3:30 p.m. 5 - 6:30 p.m. Appt require Baymeadow Appt require Baymeadow Baymeadow Deale Elks Lodge Parking Lot Parking Lot 6701 Bayme Parking Lot 6701 Baymea Glen Burnie Glen Burnie Glen Burnie 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Age 10+ Only. No Appt. First come, first served. Deale Elks Lodge 6022 Drum Point Rd, Deale

> For clinic updates due to cancellations or inclement weather: 410-222-7256 • aahealth.org/covid19-testing

- All tests are PCR testsWait times may vary
- Supplies are limited People with insurance should bring insurance cards

Within 48 hours of symptom onset3-5 days after possible exposure

Results: 2-4 days for PCR

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH aahealth.org/covid19 aasalud.org/ aasalud.org/covid19

COVID-19 Health Line: 410-222-7256

Remember: Wear a Mask • Watch Your Distance • Wash Your Hands • Limit Your Activities

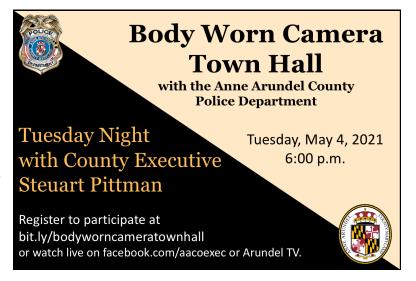
#### **COVID-19 Resources**

My full breakdown of resources - everything from eviction prevention to utility assistance - <u>is available</u> <u>here</u>. If you or someone you know needs help navigating any state resources, you can always reach out to my office. My Chief of Staff, Lydia McPherson, or I can assist you.



## **Body Cameras Town Hall**

This Tuesday, May 4th, at 6:00 pm, join county executive Steuart Pittman and Anne Arundel County Police Department for a Body Worn Camera Town Hall. This event will include a presentation on the police departments' Body Worn Camera Program and a Q&A to give community members a chance to ask questions. Submit your questions in advance to pittmantownhall@aacounty.org and register now at <a href="http://bit.ly/bodyworncameratownhall">http://bit.ly/bodyworncameratownhall</a> to join live.



#### **Love Our Libraries**

2021 is the <u>Anne Arundel County Public Library's</u> 100th anniversary! Our library system offers a wide variety of programming and resources. In honor of their centennial celebration, each week, I will be highlighting one program, resource, or event that our libraries have to offer.

Do you have too much stuff? Is your home overrun with clutter? Then join AACPL this Tuesday, May 4th, 2:00 pm - 3:30 pm for <u>Purge to Clear Out! (Part 1)</u> to learn how you can get organized. Pre-Register for the event <u>here!</u>

I would encourage everyone to follow the <u>Anne Arundel County Public Library's Facebook page</u> to get updates on programs and new resources. Also, check out their <u>calendar</u> to find the perfect event for you and your family to enjoy!



### **Durable Medical Equipment Reuse Program**



The Maryland Department of Aging needs your help! Their Durable Medical Equipment Reuse (DRE) Program is in urgent need of wheelchairs to assist with COVID-19 vaccination clinics.

Donations are accepted at 11701 Crain Highway, Cheltenham, MD 20623 Monday-Friday 8 am-4 pm. Each donation will be sanitized, repaired, and provided to an individual in need. Click here to learn more! For questions, email DME.MDOA@maryland.gov or call 240-230-8000.

#### **Volunteers Needed**

Maryland Hall is in need of additional volunteers to help with the installation of the <u>Patrick Dougherty Nature Installation</u>. Volunteers are needed daily from Tuesday, May 4 through Saturday, May 8 for two shifts: 8 am - 12 pm & 1-5 pm. Sign up online as an individual for a shift <u>here</u> or contact Reilly Kelbaugh at rkelbaugh@marylandhall.org if you represent a group who'd like to volunteer together. Please share and recruit a friend!



#### A New Normal

"Thank you, Madame Speaker and Madame Vice President..." Last night as President Biden prepared to address a joint session of Congress and the nation, President Biden first acknowledged a historical moment sitting behind him. Historically, the Vice President and the Speaker of the House share the dais directly behind the President during joint addresses to Congress. For the first time in American history, the top lines of succession were women.



I am so thankful for all the women who have dedicated their lives to helping to elect women to office. Watching that historical moment with my family is one I will never forget!

You can follow me on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, and <u>Instagram</u> to learn about volunteer opportunities, community resources, COVID-19 updates, and much more. If you have any questions or concerns, you can always contact my office by email at <u>Dana.Jones@house.state.md.us</u> or by phone at 410-841-3211.

Stay safe and healthy,

Dana Jams

Connect With Us:	Contact Info:
<u>Facebook</u>	
<u>Instagram</u>	
<u>Twitter</u>	
<u>Contribute</u>	

By Authority: Friends of Dana Jones; Karen M. White, Treasurer P.O. Box 4237, Annapolis, MD 21403



May 18, 2021

Hello Neighbors,

It was another beautiful (and busy) weekend here in Annapolis. On Saturday, my family had the honor of meeting young aspiring entrepreneurs & artists at Susan Campbell Park. Thank you to <a href="HACA">HACA</a> and the <a href="Maryland Re-entry Resource Center">Maryland Re-entry Resource Center</a> for organizing this great event.

After that, we loved viewing the Maryland Cultural & Conference Center's (MC3) newest exhibit. "The Renaissance Three" features the work of three local artists - Jacqueline Crabtree, Susan Stewart & Karen Walpole.







Throughout this summer, we will be hosting a drive that will directly support various charitable

organizations throughout our community. **The "Delegate Jones' Summer of Giving" has kicked off** with a period supplies dive in honor of <u>Period Poverty week (May 24 to 30)</u>. Period poverty is the lack of access to sanitary products due to financial constraints. These essential products can be incredibly expensive and are not covered under other welfare programs. No person should be held back due to a lack of access to essential products.

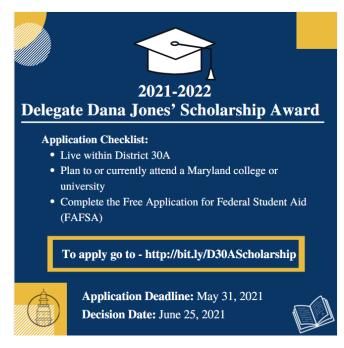
If you would like to make a donation, you can go to our <u>Amazon wish list</u> and make a purchase. All donations will be distributed through the <u>Tyler Heights Pop-Up pantry</u>. This pantry has served over 65,000 individuals since last April and services anyone who attends. No questions - No cost to them - only support & understanding. Please contact our office with any questions at <u>dana.jones@house.state.md.us</u> or at 410-841-3211. A **huge thank you** to all of those who have already donated and for helping make a difference for so many in our community!

## Legislative Scholarship

Applications for the 2021 - 2022 school year are STILL open! To be eligible for this scholarship, you must live within District 30a, which you can check here! Scholarships are awarded based on need and on a case-by-case basis. Prior to applying, you must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), which is available and can be submitted online at www.fafsa.ed.gov.

You can find directions on how to submit your application online <a href="here">here</a>.

If you have any questions, comments, and/or concerns, you can contact our Scholarship Program Manager, David Duba, at 410-841-3211 or <a href="mailto:david.danajones.office@gmail.com">david.danajones.office@gmail.com</a>.



#### **Updates to Mask Mandates**



Maryland's mask mandate has been lifted. Face coverings will still be required:

- On public transportation
- In schools & child care
- In health care settings
- Private businesses can determine their own face mask policies

\*State health officials strongly recommend unvaccinated individuals continue to wear face coverings\*

DELEGATE DANA JONES Many of you have reached out with questions about the recent updates made to mask requirements. As you probably know. Governor Larry Hogan announced last week that he was lifting the statewide mask mandate in response to the new CDC guidance. Anne Arundel County has chosen to follow the state guidelines. Fully vaccinated individuals may resume activities as normal. However, face coverings will still be required on public transportation and in schools, child care, and health care settings. Additionally, private businesses can determine their own face mask policies.

State health officials strongly recommend unvaccinated individuals continue to wear face coverings.

## **Grant Opportunity**

Through the BGE Energizing Small Business Grants Program, eligible businesses located in BGE's service area will have two additional opportunities to apply for grants of up to \$20,000:

- 1. May 5 June 16, 2021
- 2. September 1 October 13, 2021

## Eligible businesses must have:

- Between one and 25 employees
- Less than \$7 million in annual revenue
- A demonstrated need for support
- A strong plan for moving forward, and
- Be in (or on the way to) good standing with the state of Maryland.



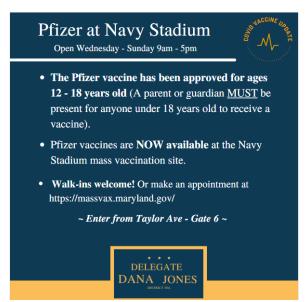


## **Celebrating Small Businesses**

Congratulations to Cam and Claire, the owners of Forward Brewing, and their staff on their one-year anniversary of opening! Opening in the midst of a pandemic was no easy task, but their team has done an incredible job navigating an impossible year. Senator Elfreth and I were happy to stop by with a special birthday citation on behalf of the District to celebrate the occasion. Cheers to many more years!



## Pfizer Approved for Ages 12 - 15



The FDA has authorized the Pfizer coronavirus vaccine for adolescents 12 to 15 years old. This is the same (and only) vaccine that was already approved for those 16 - 18 year olds. The Navy Stadium mass vaccination site has Pfizer available - no appointment necessary! (Or if you would prefer to make an appointment, you can do so <a href="here">here</a>). Additionally, AACPS is hosting vaccine clinics at various high schools throughout the County for students to get vaccinated. You do not have to be a student of that particular school in order to participate in these clinics. A full schedule is <a href="mailto:available-here">available-here</a>. If you need help finding a vaccine appointment, please don't hesitate to reach out to our office at <a href="mailto:Dana.Jones@house.state.md.us">Dana.Jones@house.state.md.us</a> or by phone at 410-841-3211.

### **COVID-19 Vaccinations - Navy Stadium Mass Vax Site**

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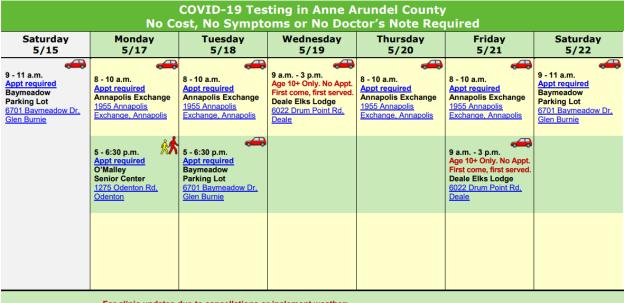


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- All tests are PCR tests · Wait times may vary
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- · People with insurance should bring insurance cards

#### **Testing Recommendation:**

- Within 48 hours of symptom onset
- 3-5 days after possible exposure

Results: 2-3 days for PCR

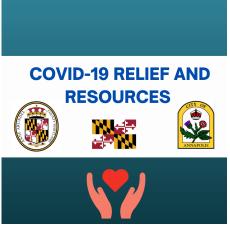


COVID-19 Health Line: <u>410-222-7256</u>

Remember: Get Vaccinated • Wear a Mask • Watch Your Distance • Wash Your Hands • Limit Your Activities

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Enjoy a lovely evening of yoga with AACPL Wednesday, June 2nd, 2021 6:30pm - 7:30pm. This <u>outdoor</u>, <u>beginner-friendly</u>, <u>family yoga class</u> is hosted by the Discoveries: the Library at the Mall and will take place on the Green Garage Parking deck here at Westfield Annapolis Mall. Pre-Register for the event <u>here!</u> (This will be a recurring event so keep an eye out for future sessions throughout the summer).

I would encourage everyone to follow the <u>Anne Arundel County Public Library's Facebook page</u> to get updates on programs and new resources. Also, check out their <u>calendar</u> to find the perfect event for you and your family to enjoy!



## **New Exhibit at Maryland Hall**

Over the past few weeks, a team of community volunteers has been hard at work to bring the Patrick Dougherty Nature

Installation to Maryland Hall.

Renowned environmental artist Patrick Dougherty has been creating stickwork sculptural installations in botanical gardens, museum grounds, universities, and other settings around the world for over 35 years.

Although the project will not be officially completed until Friday, the public is welcome to come



out and observe as volunteers complete the finishing touches.

The sculpture is located on the front lawn of Maryland Hall – adjacent to the Nature Sacred meditative labyrinth. All visitors must be masked and respect social distancing.

#### A Smithsonian Summer

Throughout the pandemic, the Smithsonian Institute has provided many amazing <u>online and virtual materials</u> for those of all ages to experience what these museums have to offer. This Friday, visitors will once again be able to enjoy the D.C. Smithsonian museums, gardens, and the National Zoo in person!

All Smithsonian visitors, regardless of age, must have a free timed-entry pass to enter. Visitors can acquire timed-entry passes by reserving them <u>online</u> or by phone at 1.800.514.3849, ext. 1.



You can follow me on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, and <u>Instagram</u> to learn about volunteer opportunities, community resources, COVID-19 updates, and much more. If you have any questions or concerns, you can always contact my office by email at <u>Dana.Jones@house.state.md.us</u> or by phone at 410-841-3211.

Stay safe and healthy,

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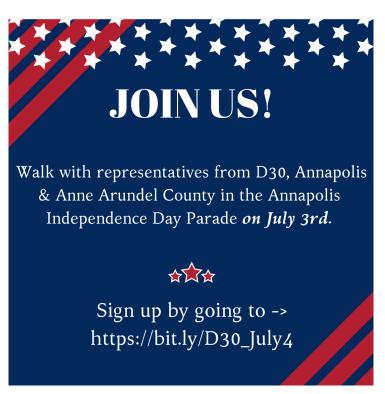
By Authority: Friends of Dana Jones; Karen M. White, Treasurer P.O. Box 4237, Annapolis, MD 21403



June 24, 2021

Hello Neighbors,

My favorite part of the interim is getting to spend more time in the community and meeting with constituents like you, and these past two weeks have been busier than ever. From town halls and site tours to Juneteenth and graduation celebrations my team and I have enjoyed going to events throughout the district and finally getting to see so many of you in person once again.



Please feel free to join me along with my family and supporters from around Annapolis and Anne Arundel County in the upcoming 2021 Annapolis Independence Day Parade (on July 3rd)!

If you are interested you can sign up by going to - <a href="https://bit.ly/D30\_July4">https://bit.ly/D30\_July4</a>. I would love for you to join us!

The <u>ARC Central Chesapeake Region</u> has been advocating for equal rights for all people with intellectual and developmental disabilities here in Anne Arundel County for 60 years. It was such a joy to attend the ARC's grand opening and tour their brand new Community Hub, where they will be able to continue this mission. Thank you to the ACR and to all their staff for helping make AACo "the best place for all."



### **Speaking with Youth Leaders**

This past Monday, I had the joy of attending an Annapolis City Youth Town Hall. It was a great opportunity for community leaders to meet and hear from our youth. A huge thank you to Alderwoman Rhonda Pindell Charles for organizing the event, to the staff of the Pip Moyer Recreation Center for hosting, and to the many organizations who participated.



#### **Congratulations to Graduates**

I would like to extend a deepest congratulations to all the graduates from the inaugural class of the Annapolis Police Department's Positive Impact Program.

A beautiful ceremony was recently held in their honor that I had the privilege of attending. It was humbling and inspiring to hear from community members who have put in the work, overcome so many hurdles, and taken control of their lives. This is just the beginning, and I can't wait to see all that the future now has in store for these graduates.





## **Annapolis Juneteenth Celebration**

This year the City of Annapolis hosted our inaugural Annapolis Juneteenth Festival and Parade. I kicked off the celebration by attending the awards dinner on Friday evening before joining many of my friends and colleagues in walking in the Annapolis' Inaugural Juneteenth Parade on Saturday.

I am overwhelmed with pride to see our home town be one of the first in Maryland to recognize and commemorate this important holiday. Congratulations & thank



you to the organizers for this brilliant celebration!

## **Remembering our Past**

I recently attended the Lynching Memorial Rededication Ceremony hosted by Anne Arundel County Public Library in partnership with Connecting the Dots, the Equal Justice Initiative, & Coming to the Table.

This marker memorializes the five recorded victims of lynching in Anne Arundel County & is an important reminder of our community's past. It is only when we begin to recognize our past that we are able to begin the healing process.





### **Visiting Library Headquarters**

As you know by now my family and I LOVE our public libraries. That is why it was such a complete thrill for my son, Chief of Staff and I to take a tour of Anne Arundel County Public Library headquarters.

Thank you so much to Director Skip Auld & the amazing staff for all they do for Anne Arundel county.

From online programming through the pandemic, to resources for everyday life, our Libraries are so much more than just a place to borrow a book. If you would like to support our libraries, you can make a special donation to honor their



#### **Love Our Libraries**



2021 is the <u>Anne Arundel County Public Library's</u> 100th anniversary! Our library system offers a wide variety of programming and resources. In honor of their centennial celebration, each week, I will be highlighting one program, resource, or event that our libraries have to offer.

Join AACPL for an American Sign Language Safari Friday, July 2nd, from 10:30am - 11:15am. You and your kids will learn animal signs through stories, songs and fun activities. If needed, sign language interpreters are available upon request for ANY library sponsored programs (for more information click here). Pre-Register for the event here!

I would encourage everyone to follow the <u>Anne Arundel</u> <u>County Public Library's Facebook page</u> to get updates on programs and new resources. Also, check out their

calendar to find the perfect event for you and your family to enjoy!

## Come Celebrate My Birthday with Me!

After 15 months of serving in office I am so happy we are finally able to come together! My very first in-person fundraiser will be next Wednesday, June 30th! There is still time to buy a ticket online! I would love for you to be able to join me along with my family, friends and supporters.

Your support is critical and will help me stay in the Maryland General Assembly so I can continue to fight for our community.

You can get tickets here!

You can follow me on Facebook,
Twitter, and Instagram to learn about volunteer opportunities, community resources, COVID-19 updates, and much more. If you have any questions or concerns, you can always contact my office by email at

Dana.Jones@house.state.md.us or by phone at 410-841-3211.

Stay safe and healthy,





Connect With Us:

Contact Info:

Facebook

Instagram

Twitter

Contribute

By Authority: Friends of Dana Jones; Karen M. White, Treasurer P.O. Box 4237, Annapolis, MD 21403



July 9, 2021

Hello Neighbors,

It was wonderful to celebrate the re-opening of the City of Annapolis for the 4th of July with so many of you. It was so beautiful to see our city full of life and community during the Independence Day parade & activities throughout the holiday weekend. Thank you to everyone who joined us in walking in the parade, I truly appreciate your time and support.

I am looking forward to having a summer full of community events and seeing so many of you out in your neighborhoods.





## **Team DJ Summer of Giving**

The unofficial motto of my office is "Food in Bellies, and Diapers on Bottoms". While I work to serve and represent you in the House of Delegates, I also aim to serve our community and want to ensure our neighbor's basic needs are met. This was the driver behind the "Delegate Dana Jones Summer of Giving."

Anne Arundel County Public Libraries is opening a new supply pantry to help our community members gain access to essential supplies. As part two of our Summer of Giving, we have partnered with Discoveries Mama and Baby Community Pantry for a July diaper drive. This drive will begin Saturday, July 17, and run through Saturday, July 31st.



If you wish to contribute, you can bring your donation of diapers directly to <u>Discoveries: The Library at the Mall</u> OR you can make a purchase from their <u>Amazon wishlist</u> to be delivered directly to the pantry.



## **Visiting The Harbour School to Celebrate Independence Day**

The Harbour School has been a regional leader in providing a personalized education experience to so many kids who have learning differences for nearly 40 years. I got to see these amazing teachers, staff, and students in action during their annual Independence Day Festival.

Thank you to everyone at the <u>Harbour School</u> for all the work you do to support our students!



# **Creating Beauty in Our Community**

What an honor it was to paint with some amazing kids from Anne Arundel County Public Schools's PVA (Performing and Visual Arts) Magnet program at <u>Studio 39!</u> Thank you to <u>Future History Now for partnering with AACPS</u> to help create such a beautiful mural.





**Preparing for Extreme Weather** 

On July 1, a tornado downed branches and trees in the greater Annapolis area. Fortunately, no one was hurt but these situations are becoming more common.

On July 8, our community began to experience the effects related to Tropical Storm Elsa. Please take <u>steps to prepare yourself</u> and your family as this time of year can produce wild weather conditions. Follow Anne Arundel County Office of Emergency Management on <u>Twitter</u> and

<u>Facebook</u> for more information on how to prepare for weather emergencies.



# Stay Healthy in School Next Year

Parents and guardians of upcoming seventh graders, are your kids' vaccines up to date? Students must have documentation of receipt of their TDAP and meningitis vaccines prior to attending their 7th-grade classes. The Anne Arundel County Health Dept is offering <u>pop-up clinics</u> at area middle schools to ensure these vaccines are up to date (and COVID vaccines will be available if legal guardians would like their children to opt-in for receiving that vaccine as well).

# **Supporting the Arts**



My husband & I had the distinct pleasure of attending the final dress rehearsal of The Colonial Players of Annapolis "Love, Lost & What I Wore" last night. My friend, & our very own Board of Education member, Joanna Tobin & the entire cast was brilliant! The show runs from July 9th - July 25th. Get your tickets <a href="here">here</a>!

On June 29, a horrific & senseless act of gun violence occurred that took Michelle Jordan Cumming's life here in Annapolis. Mrs. Cumming's family was in Annapolis to attend Induction Day & the beginning of Plebe Summer to support her son, Midshipman Candidate Leonard Cummings III. She, along with another USNA family were sitting on the patio of the Graduate Hotel catching up with one another when stray gunfire took her life.



I am deeply saddened by this act of violence and will continue to pray for the Cummings family. If you have any information regarding this incident, please contact the Anne Arundel County Police Department at 410-260-3439. If you are able to - a fellow USNA Football mother has set up this <u>Go Fund Me page to assist in the memorial fund</u>. Please keep the Cummings family in your thoughts and prayers.

You can follow me on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, and <u>Instagram</u> to learn about volunteer opportunities, community resources, COVID-19 updates, and much more. If you have any questions or concerns, you can always contact my office by email at <u>Dana.Jones@house.state.md.us</u> or by phone at 410-841-3211.

Stay safe and healthy,

Connect With Us: Contact Info:

<u>Instagram</u>
<u>Twitter</u>
<u>Contribute</u>

By Authority: Friends of Dana Jones; Karen M. White, Treasurer P.O. Box 4237, Annapolis, MD 21403



January 13, 2021

Hi Neighbor,

Civility, respect and love of country, that is how I was raised. I felt that everyday at my job on Capitol Hill with then Congressman Ben Cardin and throughout my career. What we witnessed last week was an insurrection. My heart broke at what we all watched unfold last week at our nation's Capitol. I pray for those Capitol Police officers who we lost and their families, as well as those who sustained significant injuries. We are at a serious inflection point in our country, where our words and actions must have consequences.

We find ourselves in month eleven of this pandemic, where so many are hurting from the inequitable impact of this pandemic. I, along with my colleagues, are resolved to continue to do the work of the people for the great state of Maryland. I am humbled to represent District 30A and to join my colleagues today to gavel in to the 442nd legislative session of the Maryland General Assembly.

I look forward to working with my colleagues from across the state and across the political aisle on mitigating the public health and economic devastation brought on by COVID-19. This will include steering aid to struggling small businesses, overriding the veto on the <u>Blueprint for Maryland's Future</u>, legislation on racial equity, working on policies that promote telework, and getting relief to the unemployed more reliably.





This Office will be hosting virtual office hours during Session. If you would like to set up a meeting, please email <a href="mailto:dana.house@house.state.md.us">dana.house@house.state.md.us</a> with the subject line: Virtual Office Meeting.

Stay safe & well,

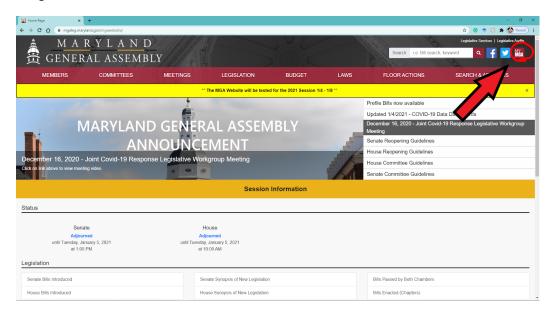


# **Participating in Session During COVID**

This session will look very different than any we have ever experienced here in Maryland. Due to the ongoing pandemic, the Capitol Building and Legislative Office Buildings will be closed to the public. All bill hearings, briefings, and voting sessions in the House will be held virtually and streamed online for public viewing.

If you would like to submit testimony this Session, you must first create a "My MGA" account.

AN important note-- when creating an account, please use a valid email address that you can access. If you sign up to provide verbal testimony, this email is how you will receive your Zoom link to participate in the hearing.



You can also use your account to create a "Bill Tracking List" to get an email notification anytime there is a status change for any selected bill. Testimony Submission will open 48 hours (2 days) out from a bill hearing from 10:00 am - 3:00 pm. The specific bill order will be posted on the Maryland General Assembly website the day before the hearing. If a bill hearing is scheduled for a Monday, the hearing order will post on Friday.

# **School Bus Safety**

Tomorrow I will have my first bill hearing of the 2021 Session and as your Delegate. I will be reintroducing a <u>commonsense bill to address our students' safety</u> as they are transported to and from school.

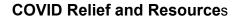
Many of our students are forced to stand in the aisle or sit on the floor as they <u>ride on</u> <u>overcrowded buses</u>. This not only goes against the recommendations made by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration but is an obvious danger to our children.

SCHOOLBUS

A 2019 performance audit of AACPS found the

school system is not managing its transportation services efficiently and suggested that overcrowded busses could be solved through the use of routing software already owned by the county.

Although this bill had much support from the public and was passed by the House last year, with Session ending early due to the pandemic, there was not enough time to have it heard in the Senate. This year I am confident that we will finally get the job done.





Both the State and Anne Arundel County offer programs that can provide some economic relief to those affected by the pandemic. You can find a full breakdown of these resources here. If you or someone you know needs help navigating any state resources, you can always reach out to my office. My Chief of Staff, Lydia McPherson, or I can assist you.

Many of you have asked questions and expressed frustration in the way that Maryland has rolled the COVID-19 Vaccination. I, too, share your frustration and have personally reached out to state officials in an attempt to get answers. This is an ongoing situation which is very fluid and subject to change. I will continue to put pressure on state leadership and bring you updates as I receive them. If you would like to receive COVID-19 and vaccine updates straight to your phone, text "MD READY" to 898-211.

Currently, healthcare carre working scan sign up but this will be expanding to include the general public Below is a summary of the current vaccination plan. You can read the full plan, get answers to FAQs, and other vaccination resources <a href="here">here</a>.

# Phase 1A: December – January

- Health Care Workers
- Public Health
- Nursing Home
- First Responders
  - o Fire/EMS
  - Police
  - o Sheriff
- Judiciary
- Corrections

# Phase 1B: February – March

Includes essential workers in a variety of sectors and individuals at <u>highest risk for</u> COVID.

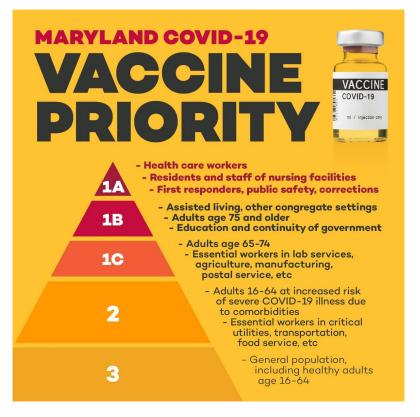
- Congregate Settings
  - Assisted Living Facility
  - Group Homes
  - Homeless Shelters
- Continuity of Government
- Education
- Child Care
- Adults age 75+

# Phase 1C: March – April

- Adults age 65-74
- Frontline Essential Workers
  - o Food and Agricultural
  - o U.S. Postal Service
  - Manufacturing
  - Grocery Store
  - Public Transit

# Phase 2: April – May

- Adults age 16-64 with <u>high risk conditions</u>
- Essential Workers
  - Transportation and Logistics



- Water and Wastewater
- Food Service
- Shelter and Housing (e.g., construction)
- Finance (e.g., bank tellers)
- Information Technology and Communications
- o Energy
- o Legal
- o Media
- Public Safety (e.g., engineers)
- Other Workers with Public-Facing Responsibilities

#### Phase 3: May – June

• The general public (adults ages 16-64)

#### **COVID-19 Tests**

Just yesterday, County Executive Stuart Pittman announced that the <a href="new COVID UK variant was detected in two positive cases from a household here in Anne Arundel County">New COVID UK variant was detected in two positive cases from a household here in Anne Arundel County</a>. This variant is 50% more transmissible between individuals which could mean an even higher spike in castrates. We much all double down on our efforts to help stop the spread of the virus and save lives. Please, stay home if you can, practice social distancing, wear your mask, and get tested if you think you may have been exposed.

<u>Anne Arundel County offers testing at no cost</u>. Symptoms are not required for testing, and a doctor's note is not needed. Test results are usually available in three to five days. You can call the Anne Arundel county COVID-19 Health Information Line: 410-222-7256 with all of your COVID-19 related questions.





I recently had the honor of attending an event to recognize my dear friend, <u>Monica Alvarado</u>, who was named by Warrior Events as their, <u>Annapolis Person of the Year</u>.

Since the very beginning of this pandemic, Monica and her team at Feed Anne Arundel have helped many restaurants, and their workers stay afloat while simultaneously helping people in our community. So far, they've handed out over 120,000 meals and supported over 100 local restaurants.

You can get involved by <u>making a donation to Feed Anne</u> <u>Arundel</u> or by <u>signing up to volunteer</u> at their food distribution events.

Myself, Kathy Metzger and Rev. Ryan Sirmons watch as Monica was honored with this award, 12/30/2020.

#### **Important Transit Survey**

The Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) has launched an update of the Maryland State Rail Plan, and is seeking input from MARC and Amtrak rail passengers, the general public and other freight and passenger rail stakeholders through an <u>online survey</u> and other avenues to help set priorities and goals for efficient, safe and sustainable freight and passenger rail service across the state. **The Survey is open through January 29, 2021.** 





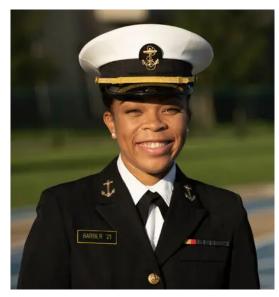
Last week my fellow D30A representatives and I hosted a Pre-Session Town Hall. During the event, we highlighted frontline workers that have stepped up during this pandemic, reviewed how you can continue to virtually participate in Session, presented our own legislative agenda, and answered questions from our constituents.

If you missed it live, don't worry! You can watch it anytime by clicking here or by visiting my Facebook page.

# History in the Making

Congratulations to Midshipman First Class Sydney Barber, who was selected as the U.S. Naval Academy's first Black female brigade commander. Barber is only the 16th woman to hold the position since women were first allowed to attend the Naval Academy in 1976.

She and other midshipmen will return to campus next week to continue their classes and training. I wish her the best of luck in her new, historical role.



You can follow me on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, and <u>Instagram</u> to learn about volunteer opportunities, community resources, COVID-19 updates, and much more. If you have any questions or concerns, you can always contact my office by email at <u>Dana.Jones@house.state.md.us</u> or by phone at 410-841-3211.

Stay safe and healthy,



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By Authority: Friends of Dana Jones; Karen M. White, Treasurer P.O. Box 4237, Annapolis, MD 21403



January 18, 2021

Now I realize that there are those all over who are telling us that we must slow up. ... But we cannot afford to slow up. We have a moral obligation to press on. We have our self-respect to maintain. But even more we can't afford to slow up because of our love for America and our love for the democratic way of life. ... We must keep moving. We must keep going.

—Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

From "The Montgomery Story," an address to the 47th annual NAACP Convention, San Francisco, June 27, 1956

Hi Neighbor,

Happy Martin Luther King Day - the <u>only national holiday</u> designated as a national day of service which calls on all Americans to volunteer to improve their communities. This Martin Luther King Day of Service is unlike any other as we are still grappling with the pandemic. Please know that there are still ways you can serve our community, make a difference, **and** stay safe.

You can donate to local charities that are doing wonderful work or sign up to volunteer:

- The <u>Light House</u> homeless prevention and support center which provides emergency shelter, food, clothing, counseling, case management, job training, and hope to those hardest hit by this crisis.
- Feed Anne Arundel or Text 'FeedAnneArundel' to 76278 to donate
- You can also sign up to volunteer with ACT, Anne Arundel Connecting Together here.







Another way my family celebrated the life and work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. this weekend, was through discussions about all that Dr. King championed. I found *Teaching Tolerance's*: "*The Best of Our Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Resources*" to be a wonderful resource in my family discussions and encourage you to check it out <a href="here">here</a>. It is filled with excellent tools for teaching our youth, and each other, more about the many causes and good works Dr. King led. (A project of the <a href="Southern Poverty Law">Southern Poverty Law</a> Center)

I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate the 13 award recipients who were honored this past Friday at the <u>33rd Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Award Program</u>. The 13 award recipients honored at Friday's were: Speaker Adrienne Jones, Amy Marshall, Barbara Arnwine, Attorney Daryl Jones, Vincent Leggett, Dee Strum, Delorma Goodwyn, Diana Love, Erin Snell, Midshipman First Class Madeleine Cooke, Michael Sears, Stewart Pittman, and Walter Vasquez.

Stay safe & well,

# Saying Goodbye to a Maryland Icon



This past week we lost a titan & a pillar of Maryland. Senate President Emeritus, Thomas 'Mike' Miller was the longest-serving president of a Senate in the nation. He served Maryland for nearly a half-century and led the Senate under six governors. My heart aches for my long-time friend, Melanie Miller, and their entire family. While I did not serve with the President Emeritus, my knowledge of him was through his family; a loving, fierce and giving leader - which were the very same qualities he used to serve Maryland. President Miller was known and admired for his extraordinary talent who had a deep love for our State, and its

institutions - especially the Senate. Thank you, President Miller, for your years of service to Maryland and for the example of how to serve our beautiful State. You will be missed.

#### **Making History**

This Wednesday, President-elect Joe Biden and Vice President-elect Kamala Harris will be sworn in as America's 46th President & 49th Vice President. I am so thrilled to congratulate both and proud to have such accomplished leaders at the helm of our great nation. The importance of Vice President-elect Kamala Harris, is not just a historic moment for our nation, but a tremendous sense of pride for me, my family and millions of Americans. As the first woman, the first Black, the fist South Asian American Vice President – so many Americans can now see themselves reflected in the highest level of government. I look forward to a collaborative working relationship between this administration and the State of Maryland as we work through all of the very serious issues we are currently navigating.



#### Virtual Bill Hearings

Last week, I presented HB87, a <u>commonsense bill to address our students' safety</u>, to the House Environment and Transportation Committee. Like all bill hearings, it was streamed live on Youtube. If you missed it live, <u>you can watch the bill hearing on the committee's youtube page</u>.

You can subscribe to each Committee's youtube page to stay up to date on bill hearings.

#### **House Committee YouTube Pages:**

- Appropriations Committee
- Economic Matters Committee
- Environment and Transportation Committee
- Health and Government Operations Committee
- Rules and Executive Nominations Committee
- <u>Judiciary Committee</u>
- Ways and Means Committee

In addition, each committee has listed their specific Witness Guidelines and Committee FAQs on the MGA website. Each committee has its own procedures, so if you plan on participating in a bill hearing, please refer to these documents.

#### **House Committee Witness Guidelines and FAQs:**

- Appropriations Committee
- <u>Economic Matters Committee</u>
- Environment and Transportation Committee
- <u>Health and Government Operations Committee</u>
- Rules and Executive Nominations Committee
- Judiciary Committee
- Ways and Means Committee

#### **COVID Relief and Resources**

Both the State and Anne Arundel County offer programs that can provide some economic relief to those affected by the pandemic. You can find a full breakdown of these resources here. If you or someone you



know needs help navigating any state resources, you can always reach out to my office. My Chief of Staff, Lydia McPherson, or I can assist you.

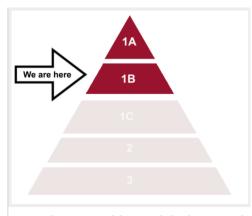
#### **COVID-19 Vaccinations**

Phase 1B will begin in Anne Arundel County **tomorrow.** People in **any phase** can <u>pre-register</u> to be alerted when their phase is up for vaccination. Seniors age 75 and older are encouraged to either <u>pre-register online</u> or by phone on weekdays at 410-222-3663.

You can also receive COVID-19 and vaccine updates straight to your phone, text "MD READY" to 898-211. You can read the full plan, get answers to FAQs, and other vaccination resources <a href="here">here</a>.

# Phase 1B:

- Congregate Settings
  - o Assisted Living Facility
  - Group Homes
  - o Homeless Shelters
- Continuity of Government
- Education
- Child Care
- Adults age 75+



Currently Anne Arundel County is in Phase 1B and 1A continues.

#### **COVID-19 Tests**

<u>Anne Arundel County offers testing at no cost</u>. Symptoms are not required for testing, and a doctor's note is not needed. Test results are usually available in three to five days. You can call the Anne Arundel county COVID-19 Health Information Line: 410-222-7256 with all of your COVID-19 related questions.

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For clinic updates due to cancellations or inclement weather: 410-222-7256 • aahealth.org/covid19-testing  • All tests are PCR tests unless noted otherwise  Testing Recommendation:  Testing Recommendation:			NNE RUNDEL OUNTY		
<ul> <li>Wait times may vary</li> <li>Supplies are limited</li> <li>People with insurance should bring insurance cards</li> <li>Within 48 hours of symptom onset</li> <li>3-5 days after possible exposure</li> <li>MARYLAND</li> <li>DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH</li> <li>Results: 3-5 days for PCR</li> <li>aahealth.org/covid19</li> <li>aashealth.org/covid19</li> </ul>					

#### **Calling Young Artists**

Are you in High School and love art? Gallery 57 West is looking for young artists who would like to learn how to show and sell their artwork in a gallery. If you're interested, send photos of two or three pieces of your art to the Annapolis Art Alliance Young Artists Jury at gallery 57 west@gmail.com. The deadline for submission is Sunday, January 24, 2021.



# **Congratulations to New Board Members**

<u>Annapolis Pride</u> has played an essential role in celebrating our city's LGBTQ+ community, including hosting the first Annapolis Pride Parade in 2019. The Annapolis Pride Board recently approved <u>five new Board members</u>. Congratulations to Jasmin Carey, Isabella Firth Shycoff, Chris Haley, Jenny Llamas, and Joe Toolan on your new positions.



Del. Jones & Family celebrate Annapolis' Inaugural Pride Parade & Celebration June 29, 2019

#### A Local Leader

At 16 years old, Annapolis native Brandon Harris started the program - Brandon's Coalition for Success



(BCS). This program that works with underprivileged youth in our community who have faced challenges in their lives. These challenges include overcoming the difficulties of poverty, crime, hunger, racism, unstable housing, and more.

Earlier this year Brandon was awarded the <u>Terry Fellowship</u> which included funding for a community project. Brandon is using these funds to help support an educational trip to Puerto Rico with members of BCS. If you would like to learn more or help Brandon raise funds for this trip, you can learn more & donate here!

You can follow me on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, and <u>Instagram</u> to learn about volunteer opportunities, community resources, COVID-19 updates, and much more. If you have any questions or concerns, you can always contact my office by email at <u>Dana.Jones@house.state.md.us</u> or by phone at 410-841-3211. Virtual office hours are available

Stay safe and healthy,

Dana Jams

Connect With Us:	Contact Info:

<u>Facebook</u>	
<u>Instagram</u>	
<u>Twitter</u>	

By Authority: Friends of Dana Jones; Karen M. White, Treasurer P.O. Box 4237, Annapolis, MD 21403



January 25, 2021

Hi Neighbors,



Today I officially filed two new bills, including my diaper donations bill, which would incentivize donations of diapers to children and infants as well as feminine hygiene products. I also filed two of my Legislative Bond Initiatives (LBIs), which are used to help local community-based organizations get the funding they need for capital projects.

This year I am advocating on behalf of the Chesapeake Children's Museum, PAL Park, and Chesapeake Region Accessible Boating (CRAB). Each of these projects focus on building or improving open-air structures to encourage outdoor recreation. I am honored to have the opportunity to help these great long-standing organizations expand their service to our community. I will keep you updated on the progress of these funding bills.



#### **Love Our Libraries**

2021 is the Anne Arundel County Public Library's 100th anniversary!

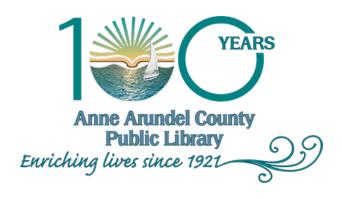
Our community's public libraries have always held a special place in my family's heart. My son and I spent countless afternoons enjoying good books and fun programming at the Eastport-Annapolis Neck Library. This



is a picture from this summer at the Michael E. Busch Annapolis Library when we found our family's inscribed brick and visited for the first time as a family after its opening. Over the past 100 years, the Anne Arundel County Public Library has become so much more than just a place to borrow a book. Our library offers a wide variety of programming and resources. In honor of their centennial celebration, each week I will be highlighting one program, resource, or event that our libraries have to offer.

This Wednesday, January 27th at 7:00pm, you can check out *What Makes a Great Cookbook? With Author*Stephanie Weaver. Registration is required to receive the Zoom link.

I would encourage everyone to follow the <u>Anne Arundel County Public Library's Facebook page</u> to get updates on programs and new resources and check out their <u>calendar</u> to find the perfect event for you and your family to enjoy!



#### Championing for the Chesapeake



I recently had the honor of speaking at the Chesapeake Bay Trust's Virtual Legislative Reception. I joined 15 of my colleagues in talking about the importance of preserving green spaces in our community. It was so nice to see the beautiful <a href="Thomas Point Park">Thomas Point Park</a> as the highlighted "green space" from Anne Arundel County. You can watch the <a href="Arundel Living Shoreline and County Parks">Arundel Living Shoreline and County Parks</a> video here.

I was asked to discuss my favorite outdoor space and chose to spotlight both <u>Tolly Point Shoal</u> and Lake Ogleton where my family fishes, crabs, kayaks, and boats. While we have always enjoyed these activities, this past year our outdoor spaces became utilized and enjoyed at record numbers.

# **Virtual Voting Sessions**

The House Ways and Means Committee had their first voting secession last week. Although voting sessions are not usually live-streamed, in order to ensure government transparency in this virtual session, all committee votes will be streamed live on YouTube.

#### **House Committee YouTube Pages:**

- Appropriations Committee
- Economic Matters Committee
- Environment and Transportation Committee

- Health and Government Operations Committee
- Rules and Executive Nominations Committee
- Judiciary Committee
- Ways and Means Committee

In addition, each committee has listed their specific Witness Guidelines and Committee FAQs on the MGA website. Each committee has its own procedures, so if you plan on participating in a bill hearing, please refer to these documents. If you would like step by step instructions on how to sign up to submit testimony, you can click <a href="here">here</a> or watch the newly added <a href="witness sign-up video tutorial">witness sign-up video tutorial</a> on the Maryland General Assembly website.

# House Committee Witness Guidelines and FAQs:

- Appropriations Committee
- Economic Matters Committee
- Environment and Transportation Committee
- Health and Government Operations Committee
- Rules and Executive Nominations Committee
- Judiciary Committee
- Ways and Means Committee

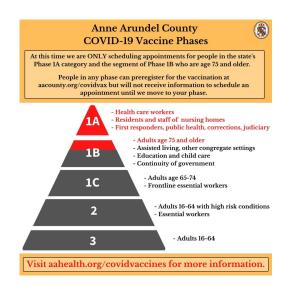
#### **COVID-19 Vaccinations**

Due to the limited supply of COVID-19 vaccines, Anne Arundel County Department of Health will focus on providing vaccines to senior adults age 75 and over as it works through the state's Phase 1B category. At this time, only people in the state's Phase 1A category and the segment of Phase 1B age 75 and over are being scheduled for appointments.

However, people in **any phase** can <u>pre-register online</u> or by phone on weekdays at 410-222-3663 to be alerted when their phase is up for vaccinations. When there is availability and supply for your phase, the county will send you an invitation to select a date and time for an appointment. You can also receive COVID-19 and vaccine updates straight to your phone, text "MD READY" to 898-211. You can read the full plan, get answers to FAQs, and other vaccination resources <u>here</u>.

#### Phase 1B:

- Adults age 75+
  - Congregate Settings
    - Assisted Living Facility
    - o Group Homes
    - o Homeless Shelters
  - Continuity of Government
  - Education
  - Child Care





#### **COVID-19 Tests**

Anne Arundel County offers testing at no cost. Symptoms are not required for testing, and a doctor's note is not needed. Test results are usually available in three to five days. You can call the Anne Arundel county COVID-19 Health Information Line: 410-222-7256 with all of your COVID-19 related questions.



# **COVID Relief and Resources**



Both the State and Anne Arundel County offer programs that can provide some economic relief to those affected by the pandemic. You can find a full breakdown of these resources here. If you or someone you know needs help navigating any state resources, you can always reach out to my office. My Chief of Staff, Lydia McPherson, or I can assist you.

# 'A Cherished Part of the Fabric Of Annapolis'



Teresa Williams, a beloved mother and owner of Gateway Florist located here in Annapolis passed away last week. Williams was known for her 'generosity, advocacy and charity which made her a cherished part of the fabric of Annapolis.'

Teresa was described by her loved ones as "impulsive with a purpose." She loved living in Annapolis and dedicated her life to serving our community. Teresa Williams was a 'ball of energy' who volunteered to help people and causes she cared about, "...She was compassionate to a fault." Williams will

be honored at Monday's Annapolis City Council meeting and her family is planning a memorial service for Teresa when the weather gets warmer.

#### **Outdoor Summer Fun**

The Maritime Museum of Annapolis <u>2021 summer camp</u> <u>registration is now open!</u> The Maritime Museum offers day camps perfect for elementary school students and offer a Counselor-in-Training (CIT) Program for teens who are interested in taking on a leadership role. Registration fills quickly so sign up today!

All <u>programs for the 2021 summer season</u> will follow state, county, and CDC guidelines. A separate Summer 2021 Camp Guide to come out by the end of March.



SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION OPEN NOW

You can follow me on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, and <u>Instagram</u> to learn about volunteer opportunities, community resources, COVID-19 updates, and much more. If you have any questions or concerns, you can always contact my office by email at <u>Dana.Jones@house.state.md.us</u> or by phone at 410-841-3211.

Stay safe and healthy,



Connect With Us:	Contact Info:
<u>Facebook</u>	
<u>Instagram</u>	

**Twitter** 

By Authority: Friends of Dana Jones; Karen M. White, Treasurer P.O. Box 4237, Annapolis, MD 21403



February 1, 2021

Hello Neighbors,

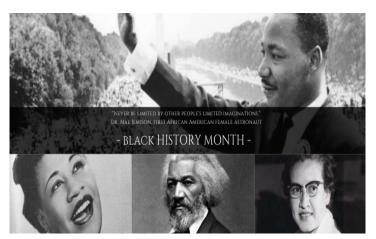
Today is the first day of Black History Month. Annapolis is home to historical and meaningful <u>museums</u> and there are <u>monuments</u> throughout our state that honor the lives of American heroes like Harriet Tubman, Frederick Douglass, and Thurgood Marshall. These courageous heroes persevered and fought for equal rights for all. While we can not visit all of these <u>museums</u> in person because of COVID-19, many have online content available that is especially appreciated during the pandemic. You and your family can still visit some of the outdoor memorials, like the <u>Foot Soldiers of the 1963 March on Washington</u> located at the People's Park.

These great children's <u>books</u> are a great resource for having conversations about Black History month with your children and can be found at our local library. These books help teach children the histories of African American leaders through their inspiring stories and contributions. Another wonderful resource to check out with your children is *PBS's for Parents* <u>Celebrating Black Leaders</u> resource page.

The Smithsonian's <u>National Museum of African American History and Culture</u> (NMAAHC) has put many of it's <u>exhibits online</u> for you and your family to enjoy from the comfort of your home.

As we continue to work towards equity and inclusion we are required to know, understand and acknowledge history. Knowing and celebrating contributions that African Americans have had and continue to make in all sectors of society is critical in our growth.

#### **Love Our Libraries**



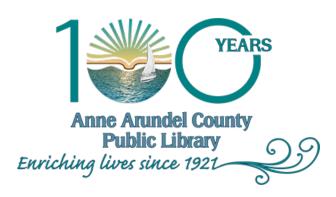
2021 is the <u>Anne Arundel County Public</u> <u>Library's</u> 100th anniversary! Our library offers a wide variety of programming and resources. In honor of their centennial celebration, each week I will be highlighting one program, resource, or event that our libraries have to offer.

In honor of Black History Month, AACPL

will be hosting <u>virtual events</u> to commemorate the accomplishments of African Americans. Enjoy performances, music, dance, authors, storytimes, and more!

This Thursday, February 4th, at 6:30 pm, join Author Kelly Starling Lyons as she discusses her journey as a writer. Registration is required to receive the Zoom link.

I would encourage everyone to follow the <u>Anne Arundel County Public Library's Facebook page</u> to get updates on programs and new resources. Also, check out their <u>calendar</u> to find the perfect event for you and your family to enjoy!



#### **Honoring Harriot Tubman**

The Biden administration recently announced that it would revive an effort to put the famed Civil War-era abolitionist, Harriet Tubman, on the \$20 bill. This change would make Tubman the first Black person to be placed on U.S. currency. White House Press Secretary, Jen Psaki, stated that this step would help our currency "reflect the history and diversity of our country."

In addition, the University of Maryland's College of Arts and Humanities (ARHU) announced that the Department of Women's Studies is changing its name to the <u>Harriet Tubman Department of Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies</u> (WGSS).

Tubman, a Maryland native, led hundreds to freedom along the Underground Railroad after escaping slavery herself. I am thrilled to see that her bravery, strength, and leadership are being memorialized not only here in her home state but across our nation.



on the floor of the Annapolis State House

Harriet Tubman memorialized

#### **Personal Health Drive**

Bread and Butter Kitchen is running Personal Care Drive and needs your help!

# Personal Care Drive

# February 2021

- Bring us all the things!
- shampoo
- toothpaste toothbrushes
- deodorant laundry detergent
- soap
- feminine hygiene
- **new** bath towels

BREADANDBUTTERKITCHEN.COM



They are looking for:

- Shampoo
- Toothpaste
- Deodorant
- Laundry Detergent
- Soap
- Feminine
- Hygiene products
- NEW bath towels

They are hoping to collect enough of each to

provide 450 Personal Care boxes to the Tyler Heights Elementary School Resource Fair. You can order items from their Amazon Wish List or drop items at Bread and Butter Kitchen, 7 days a week, between 7:30 am -2:30 pm.

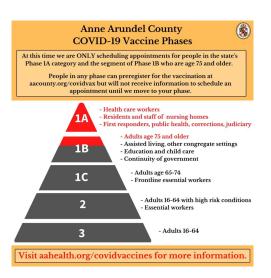
# **Support Our Restaurants**

The City of Annapolis is home to many unique and delicious restaurants hit hard by the pandemic. If you would like to help support these establishments, you can access the Annapolis Carryout List to see which restaurants are open for curbside pickup, delivery, outdoor dining, and carryout. The list is constantly changing so, please call ahead or check the restaurant's website for further information before placing your order. You can also view this <u>Interactive Map</u> for carryout during COVID-19 that the City has put together to help you navigate.

My family has documented many of the restaurants we've visited over the past few months on my Official Facebook page. Tell me about your favorite place to eat by using the hashtag "#DelegateDanaDinesOut" on Instagram, Facebook, or Twitter.

#### **COVID-19 Vaccinations**

The Governor and the Maryland Department of Health allocate vaccine doses to the Anne Arundel County Department of Health each week. In addition, the Governor has chosen a decentralized, public, and private vaccine distribution system for the state. Unfortunately, our county has received a very limited number of doses. Due to this limited allocation, Anne Arundel County Department of Health will focus on providing vaccines to senior adults age 75 and over as it works through the state's Phase 1B category. At this time, only people in the state's Phase 1A category and the segment of Phase 1B 'age 75 and over' are being scheduled for appointments. HOWEVER, this is a very fluid situation and I encourage you all to follow any of my social media pages for up-to-date information as it



becomes publicly available.

People in any phase can pre-register online with Anne Arundel County or by phone on weekdays at

410-222-3663 to be alerted when their phase is up for vaccinations. When there is the supply for your phase, the county will send you an invitation to select a date and time for an appointment. As mentioned above, additional doses are being allocated to private sector providers. Since each private provider operates independently through state contracts, each has its own registration portal. Due to the Governor's decentralized, public and private vaccine distribution system for the state, county residents will now have to check and sign up on multiple websites.

- Anne Arundel County Health
  Department
- <u>UMD Baltimore Washington Medical</u> Center
- <u>Luminis Health at Anne Arundel</u> <u>Medical Center</u>
- Giant Food (Annapolis & Glen Burnie)

#### \*SNOW UPDATE\*

Due to inclement weather, all COVID-19 Testing and Vaccination Clinics run by the

County are canceled for Feb. 1st. Those who had appointments will receive a phone message or email (via the email they used to register) with rescheduling information.

# How Can I Get a COVID Vaccine in Anne Arundel County?

#### **Anne Arundel County Department of Health**

Preregister now at aacounty.org/covidvax

You will be notified when appointments are available for your group.

#### **University of Maryland Baltimore Washington Medical Center**

Preregister now at

umbwmc.org/getthevaccine

You will be notified when appointments are available for your group.

#### **Luminis Health Anne Arundel Medical Center**

Preregister now at

luminis.health/community-vaccine

You will be notified when appointments are available for your group.

#### **Giant Food (Annapolis & Glen Burnie)**

Make an appointment at giantfood.com/pages/covid-info

You will be placed in a virtual line and will only be able to register if appointments are available.

Visit aahealth.org/covidvaccines or call 410-222-7256 for more information.

Information on additional vaccine clinics will be shared as soon as it is made available.

#### **COVID-19 Tests**

<u>Anne Arundel County offers testing at no cost</u>. Symptoms are not required for testing, and a doctor's note is not needed. Test results are usually available in three to five days. You can call the Anne Arundel county COVID-19 Health Information Line: 410-222-7256 with all of your COVID-19 related questions.



# Join the fight

Scientists and healthcare providers still <u>need your help to develop safe and effective</u> <u>medicines and vaccines</u> to prevent and treat COVID-19. If you have already had COVID-19, you can <u>donate plasma</u> which is being used as a lifesaving treatment to help others recover. You can also learn more about treatment options near you.



# **COVID Relief and Resources**

Many food pantries have expanded their services since the start of the pandemic last spring. Below is a list of recurring free food distributions here in Anne Arundel County.

- Light of the World Family Ministries @ Pip Moyer Rec Ctr., 273 Hilltop Lane Annapolis, MD
  - o Every Tuesday 12:00pm-2:00pm
- Tyler Heights Elementary School, 11 Janwall St. Annapolis, MD
  - Every 1st & 3rd Saturday of the month 10:00am-12:00pm
- Mills Parole Elementary School, 1 George & Marion Phelps Lane Annapolis, MD
  - Every 2nd & 4th Saturday of the month 10:00am-12:00pm
- Asbury United Methodist Church, 87 West St Annapolis MD
  - Every Wednesday & Friday 9am-11pm
- Heritage Baptist Church, 1740 Forest Drive Annapolis MD
  - Tuesday 9:30am-11am (must provide id and proof of residency)
- First Baptist Church of Annapolis, 31 W. Washington Street
  - o Every Saturday, 11 am 1 pm

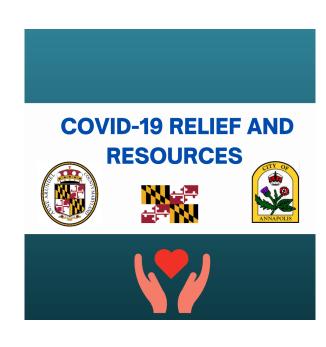
You can also use the <u>County's Interactive Map</u> to find pantries, soup kitchens, and clothing banks that are near your address. If you are unable to pick-up food in person you can call the Office of Emergency Management at 410-260-2211 to Schedule a Fresh Food Delivery Option. A <u>full</u> breakdown of resources - everything from eviction prevention to utility assistance, <u>is available here</u>. If you or someone you know needs help navigating any state resources, you can always reach out to my office. My Chief of Staff, Lydia McPherson, or I can assist you.

# **Durable Medical Equipment Reuse Program**

The Maryland Department of Aging has launched a new program to provide durable medical equipment (DME) to Marylanders with any illness, injury, or disability, regardless of age, at no cost. This service will improve the quality of life for many Maryland residents and provides them the opportunity to avoid costlier levels of care.

Donations are now being accepted at 11701 Crain Highway, Cheltenham, MD 20623 Monday-Friday 8 am-4 pm. Each donation will be sanitized, repaired, and provided to an individual in need. You can click here to learn more!





# **Neighbors Helping Neighbors**

A big thank you to Lily of Anne Arundel County who <u>raised over \$850 to assist with the City's Winter Relief program</u>. Lily and her family donated food, cleaning supplies, and sanitary products that will go directly to those experiencing homelessness in our community. Regardless of her age, her leadership is an inspiration to all. Lily, your community thanks you for your work, dedication and leadership to helping those in need. You are an example of how through this pandemic there are still ways we can come together for one another.





Lily and her family with Chief Simmons from the <u>Office of Emergency Management</u> helping to unload the donated supplies.

# A New Word for a New World



On January 20th, 2021, Vice President Harris's husband, Doug Emhoff, became the first male spouse of a president or vice president. In light of this milestone, the Merriam-Webster added an entry for "Second Gentleman" to their dictionary, defined as "the husband or male partner of a vice president or second in command of a country or jurisdiction."

Emhoff has said he is honored to take on this historic role

and will devote time as second gentleman to social justice issues among other projects to support the Biden administration. In the Second Gentleman's own words: "I might be the first, but I won't be the last."

You can follow me on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, and <u>Instagram</u> to learn about volunteer opportunities, community resources, COVID-19 updates, and much more. If you have any questions or concerns, you can always contact my office by email at <u>Dana.Jones@house.state.md.us</u> or by phone at 410-841-3211.

Stay safe and healthy,

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Connect With Us:	Contact Info:
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<u>Instagram</u>	
<u>Twitter</u>	

By Authority: Friends of Dana Jones; Karen M. White, Treasurer P.O. Box 4237, Annapolis, MD 21403



February 8, 2021

Hello Neighbors,

This Thursday, I will present two of my bills to the House Ways and Means Committee, of which I am a member. The first bill is a simple bill to improve government transparency and efficiency. Since 2007, the Bureau of Revenue Estimates has conducted a "Tax Incidence Study" used to help identify where Maryland's tax burden lies in helping legislators, like me, make informed decisions. My bill would expand the scope of this study to use a wider range of data to make it as comprehensive as possible. This will help lawmakers create informed and efficient policies.

The other bill that I will be presenting is my diaper donations bill. Currently, there is no national or statewide welfare program that can be used to purchase diapers or other essential hygiene products. I saw this need first-hand through my experiences working with food & necessity donation lines throughout my district. Diapers and other hygiene products were often the first to run out, and food banks and diaper pantries did not have the supply to keep up with demand. My bill creates a tax deduction of up to \$1,000 for donations of diapers and other hygiene products for children or infants, as well as feminine hygiene products, to charitable entities. This issue is one that transcends party lines, which is why I have asked my Republican colleague, Senator George Edwards, to lead the bill in the Senate.



along information to the organizers as well as put them in contact with Tyler Heights. Over the past two weeks, PASA collected over <a href="six thousand">six thousand</a> diapers, which will help families who disproportionately continue to experience the effects of the pandemic.

It was great to join PASA parents and teachers this past Saturday to pass out these much-needed supplies. PASA holds a special place in my family's heart as our son is an Alumnus.



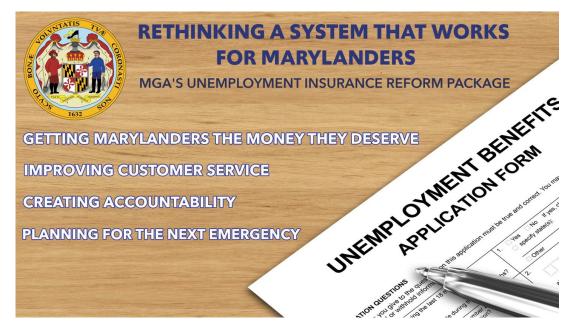
Delegate Dana Jones with PASA Parent & the School's Director Amy Hoffman

# **Fixing our Unemployment System**

Since the beginning of this pandemic, over 500 constituents have reached out to myself and my fellow D30A delegation for help navigating this horribly disappointing Unemployment Insurance BEACON system (UI). Dozens contacted us more than once due to the delayed response and lack of answers from the Department of Labor. Last week House & Senate leadership announced that we would be taking legislative action. The legislative package includes several immediate fixes, including:

- Modernizing the UI system by ensuring that people can receive their unemployment benefits through direct deposit and simplifies the steps to get a paper check
- Ensures the call center is adequately staffed, makes it easier to allow people to leave a call back number, and requires caller-ID for UI calls to claimants
- Requires adequate language access and a comprehensive review of all UI materials including the website for reading accessibility
- Provides UI applicants a checkbox to get their information to the Health Benefit Exchange for health insurance assistance
- Requires the Department of Labor to track the percentage of laid-off workers who apply for benefits and establish mandated goals
- Creates metrics for claim adjudication and requirements for response times

Additionally, the legislation will include a variety of measures to ensure that the problems that arose during the pandemic do not happen again. After nearly a year of seeing firsthand the devastating effects that these inefficiencies have had on Marylanders, I am glad to see that the Maryland General Assembly is taking the necessary first steps to help fix this broken system.



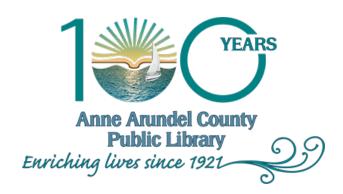
2021 is the <u>Anne Arundel County Public Library's</u> 100th anniversary! Our library offers a wide variety of programming and resources. Each week, I will be highlighting one program, resource, or event that our libraries have to offer in honor of their centennial celebration.

In honor of Black History Month, the Library is hosting a variety of online events. This week, check out *Freedom Bound: Runaways of the Chesapeake* to learn more about the Marylanders who escaped to freedom and hear their stories through an interactive virtual tour. The event starts at 6:00 pm on February 10th and you can <u>register here!</u>

This week I also wanted to highlight the *Library By Mail* program. Did you know that any resident of Anne Arundel County, who is homebound due to illness, injury, or disability can get free home delivery of library materials? For more information about the program and instructions on how to sign up for this service, <u>click here!</u>

# I would encourage everyone to

follow the <u>Anne Arundel County Public Library's Facebook page</u> to get updates on programs and new resources. Also, check out their <u>calendar</u> to find the perfect event for you and your family to enjoy!



#### **Fighting Against Gun Violence**

This past week was National Gun Violence Survivors week (#GVSurvivorsWeek). This is an issue that affects so many. Last week, I met with advocates from *Moms Demand Action* who shared their personal stories and spoke to me about their legislative priorities for this upcoming session. I promise to do what I can as your Delegate to make Maryland a safer place for all.



Just a little over 2 years ago, five <u>Capital Gazette</u> reporters were killed while simply trying to do their job. The Maryland Congressional Delegation recently chose to honor these individuals by <u>urging President Joe Biden to award the Presidential Medal of Freedom</u> to them for their sacrifices in defense of the First Amendment.



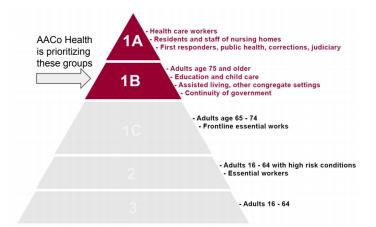
Rob Hiaasen, John McNamara, Wendi Winters, Gerald Fischman, and Rebecca Smith

#### **COVID-19 Vaccinations**

Maryland has been reducing vaccine allocations to local health departments as they prepare to build pharmacy chain capacity and large state-run sites. The Governor has chosen a decentralized, public, and private vaccine distribution system for the state. Unfortunately, our county has received a very limited number of doses. To make matters worse, the County is not told the number of Vaccinations they will receive ahead of time, making it difficult to schedule appointments for residence. This continues to be a very fluid situation, and I encourage you all to follow any of my social media pages for up to date information as it becomes publicly available.

Anne Arundel County is currently in Phase 1B. However, people in **any phase** can <u>pre-register online</u> with the County or by phone on weekdays at 410-222-3663 to be alerted when their phase is up for vaccinations. When there is the supply for your phase, the county will send you an invitation to select a date and time for an appointment. As mentioned above, additional doses are being allocated to private sector providers. Since each private provider operates independently through state contracts, each has its own registration portal. Due to the Governor's decentralized, public and private vaccine distribution system for the state, county residents will now have to check and sign up on multiple websites.

- Anne Arundel County Health Department
- <u>UMD Baltimore Washington Medical</u>
   Center
- MedStar Health Baltimore
- <u>Luminis Health at Anne Arundel Medical</u>
   <u>Center</u>
- Giant Food
- Safeway
- Walgreens
- VA Maryland Health Care System (Eligible Veterans only)
- Six Flags America Mass Vaccination Site



You can also use the State of Maryland Vaccination

<u>Site Search Tool</u> to search for all vaccination locations within the state. If you would like to learn more about Anne Arundel county's Vaccination efforts, you can refer to <u>this week's Covid-19 Update</u> from the County Executive's office.

#### **COVID-19 Tests**

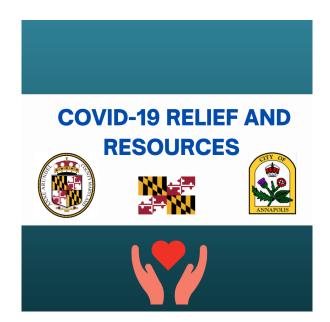
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    - Every 2nd & 4th Saturday of the month 10:00am-12:00pm
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  - 87 West St Annapolis MD
    - Every Wednesday & Friday 9am-11pm
- First Baptist Church of Annapolis,
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    - o Every Saturday, 11 am 1 pm



You can also use the <u>County's Interactive Map</u> to find pantries, soup kitchens, and clothing banks that are near your address. If you are unable to pick-up food in person, you can call the Office of Emergency Management at 410-260-2211 to Schedule a Fresh Food Delivery Option. A <u>full</u> breakdown of resources - everything from eviction prevention to utility assistance, <u>is available here</u>. If you or someone you know needs help navigating any state resources, you can always reach out to my office. My Chief of Staff, Lydia McPherson, or I can assist you.

## Remembering a Pillar of Our Community



Annapolis mourns the death of Keith Jones, an active member of the community and well-known owner of Chick & Ruth's Delly, who passed away on January 22 at the age of 58.

Keith attended Stanford University, where he studied economics and was a starting player on the varsity basketball team. He was inducted into the school's Athletic Hall of Fame in 2013 and even who once outscored Michael Jordan, who was attending the University of North Carolina at the time.

After spending years as part of the upper management at Kaiser Permanente, Keith decided to purchase the iconic Chick & Ruth's Delly in 2017. This decision made him the only black businessman on Annapolis' historically white Main Street. Keith's kindness, passion, and leadership will be sorely missed. In lieu of flowers, the family has asked for donations to the National Brain Tumor Society and the National Restaurant Association Education Foundation.

## **Opportunity for Young Environmentalist**

The Chesapeake Bay Trust is excited to announce the <u>Chesapeake Conservation Corps</u> is open for applications! The Corps is a one-year term of paid service for young adults (ages 18-25) with nonprofits or government agencies to work full-time in the environmental field. Chesapeake Conservation Corps is a

great opportunity for young professionals to gain experience, vital green-career skills, and build a network of connections in the environmental field.

Applications for the Corps Program must be submitted through the Trust's online system by

March 4, 2021, at 4:00 pm. To learn more and apply, click here!



#### **Support Local Artists**



The *Annapolis Shakespeare Company* has been bridging Broadway to Annapolis for over a decade. Although COVID-19 has stopped inperson shows for now, you can still enjoy their shows virtually! Safely stream their monthly Cabaret shows On-Demand to enjoy a night of entertainment on the Company's newly renovated stage. There will be a new show each month from now through August. Support these local artists and buy your ticket today. Follow their Facebook page to get updates on their new shows.

#### From Navy to NASA

Not one but two Naval Academy graduates will be joining NASA's Artemis Team. Congratulations to Kayla Barron, class of 2010, and Nicole Mann, class of 1999, who were selected among thousands of applicants to become one of the 18 astronauts chosen. Both women have accomplished college athletes and have extensive resumes that made them stand out among the thousands of other applicants. I wish them both the best of luck as they embark on this new journey.



Kayla Barron



Nicole Mann

You can follow me on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, and <u>Instagram</u> to learn about volunteer opportunities, community resources, COVID-19 updates, and much more. If you have any questions or concerns, you can always contact my office by email at <u>Dana.Jones@house.state.md.us</u> or by phone at 410-841-3211.

Stay safe and healthy,



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<u>Twitter</u>	

By Authority: Friends of Dana Jones; Karen M. White, Treasurer P.O. Box 4237, Annapolis, MD 21403



February 15, 2021

# Hello Neighbors,

Last week I joined with colleagues in overriding several vetos, including the Blueprint for Maryland's Future. This bill would revolutionize our education system by creating a more equitable school funding formula. The Blueprint will expand career technical education, provide additional support for special needs students, provide funding for much-needed support staff, and more.

Funding for the first three years of the Maryland Blueprint has already been secured, and my fellow colleagues and I will be working on legislation that will secure future funding from sources that will not put an undue burden on hard-working Marylanders.

In addition, the House of Delegates took a historic step with the bipartisan passage of the Recovery for the Economy, Livelihoods, Industries, Entrepreneurs, and Families (RELIEF) Act, which provides over \$1.5 billion in pandemic relief. The RELIEF Act will infuse the State's economy with \$509.0 million in spending and provide over \$1.0 billion in tax relief and credits. This bill will:

- Raise Maryland earned income tax credit for individuals with no children from nearly \$100 to \$530
- Exempt unemployment insurance payments from the State income tax, keeping over \$225.0 million in the pockets of unemployed Marylanders
- Provides stimulus payments of up to \$500 Marylanders who qualified for the earned income tax credit in 2019
- Allows small businesses to keep sales tax collections of up to \$9,000 over three months
- Helps up to 100,000 small businesses & nonprofits to defer paying unemployment insurance taxes until the first three months of 2022
- Forgives Maryland taxes on COVID loans and grants
- Converts up to \$50,000 of Minority and Small Business Equity Participation Program loans into grants



I am so proud that my Committee, the Ways and Means Committee, voted to amend the legislation to allow those who pay taxes with Individual Tax Identification Number (ITIN) to be eligible for this relief. This amendment means that ALL hardworking Marylanders will get the assistance they need.



#### **Onto the Senate**



I am thrilled to announce that the House voted to pass my bill, HB87, which would improve school bus safety by helping to ensure every student has a seat on their way to and from school. As I said in the <u>recent Capital Gazette article</u> "We can't pack children on the bus. We can't encourage them to sit on laps, and we can't encourage them to sit on the floor, this is a commonsense piece of legislation."

Multiple audit reports have found that school systems across the state are not managing their transportation services efficiently and suggest that overcrowded busses could be solved simply through the use of routing software already owned by the counties.

This is an important safety issue with such a simple solution. Thank you to those who came to testify in favor of this common-sense bill! Stay tuned as we take this bill over to the Senate.

# **Sensible Gun Safety**

I was proud to join many of my colleagues in voting for sensible gun legislation to ensure that all rifle and shotgun transfers are done above board. This legislation closes a loophole in the background check process for rifle and shotgun transfers by requiring a licensed firearms dealer to facilitate a private long gun sale. This bill does not apply to transfers to immediate family members.

An estimated three million children witness gun-related violence each year. When trauma like this occurs, it's important for children to hear messages from adults that inspire hope & healing. Learn about <u>Sesame</u> Street's new Community and Gun Violence initiative here.



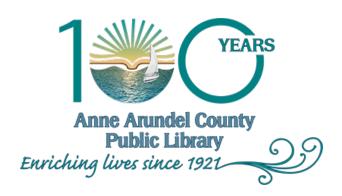
#### Love Our Libraries

2021 is the <u>Anne Arundel County Public Library's</u> 100th anniversary! Our library offers a wide variety of programming and resources. In honor of their centennial celebration, each week, I will be highlighting one program, resource, or event that our libraries have to offer.

If you haven't already, I would suggest reading <u>Bay Weekly's article</u> that highlights our library's rich history and gives heartwarming personal accounts of local patrons.

Music lovers; Join the AACPL and the Coalition for African Americans in the Performing Arts (CAAPA) this Thursday, February 18th at 7:00 pm for *Generations: Music and The Black Family Concert*. Enjoy this virtual performance of family-based music performed by Black classical musicians.

I would encourage everyone to follow the <u>Anne Arundel County Public Library's Facebook page</u> to get updates on programs and new resources. Also, check out their <u>calendar</u> to find the perfect event for you and your family to enjoy!



# **Honoring Black History Month**



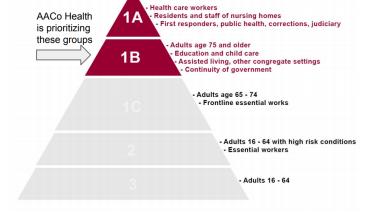
In honor of Black History Month, Speaker of the House, Adrienne A. Jones, will be featured this week in a <u>virtual conversation</u> series. Speaker Jones will discuss her path to success, the barriers she has faced, and the path forward.

You can tune in live by visiting the <u>Baltimore</u> County Government's Facebook Page.

#### **COVID-19 Vaccinations**

Maryland has been reducing vaccine allocations to local health departments as they prepare to build pharmacy chain capacity and large state-run sites. The Governor has chosen a decentralized, public, and private vaccine distribution system for the state. Unfortunately, our county has received a very limited number of doses. To make matters worse, the County is not told the number of Vaccinations they will receive ahead of time, making it difficult to schedule appointments for residence. This continues to be a very fluid situation, and I encourage you all to follow any of my social media pages for up-to-date information as it becomes publicly available.

Anne Arundel County is currently in Phase 1B. However, people in **any phase** can <u>pre-register online</u> with the County or by phone on weekdays at 410-222-3663 to be alerted when their phase is up for vaccinations. When there is the supply for your phase, the county will send you an invitation to select a date and time for an appointment. As mentioned above, additional doses are being allocated to private sector providers. Since each private provider operates independently through state contracts, each has its own registration portal. Due to the Governor's decentralized, public and private vaccine distribution system for the state, county residents will now have to check and sign up on multiple web sites.



- Anne Arundel County Health Department
- UMD Baltimore Washington Medical Center
- MedStar Health Baltimore
- Luminis Health at Anne Arundel Medical Center
- Giant Food
- Safeway
- Walgreens
- <u>VA Maryland Health Care System</u> (Eligible Veterans only)
- Six Flags America Mass Vaccination Site

You can also use the <u>State of Maryland Vaccination Site Search Tool</u> to search for all vaccination locations within the state. If you would like to learn more about Anne Arundel county's Vaccination efforts, you can refer to <u>this week's Covid-19 Update</u> from the County Executive's office.

#### **COVID-19 Tests**

<u>Anne Arundel County offers testing at no cost</u>. Symptoms are not required for testing, and a doctor's note is not needed. Test results are usually available in three to five days. You can call the Anne Arundel county COVID-19 Health Information Line: 410-222-7256 with all of your COVID-19 related questions.



# **New Grant Opportunity**



The Anne Arundel Economic Development Corporation recently announced the Hotel Relief Grant program. This program is aimed at helping hotels, inns, and bedand-breakfast establishments that have been severely impacted by reduced tourism due to COVID-19.

Qualified businesses include hotels and motels that;

- Have at least ten sleeping rooms (or a bed and breakfast establishment with at least five sleeping rooms),
- Can affirm that their business experienced a pandemicrelated reduction in year-over-year gross revenue of at least 25 percent for the period of April to November of 2020 compared to the revenue level for the same period in 2019.

The program has \$5 million in funds and will begin to take applications on Friday, February 19.

#### **Fresh Food Distributions**

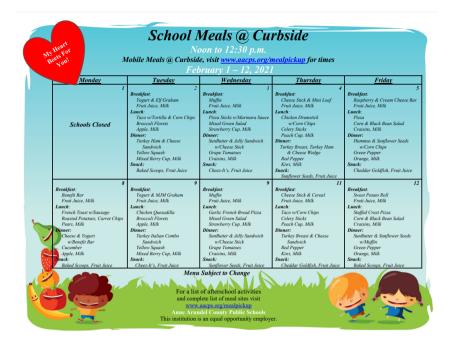
Many food pantries have expanded their services since the start of the pandemic last spring. Below is a list of recurring free food distributions here in Anne Arundel County.

- Light of the World Family Ministries @ **Pip Moyer Rec Ctr.**, 273 Hilltop Lane Annapolis, MD
  - o Every Tuesday 12:00pm-2:00pm
- Tyler Heights Elementary School, 11 Janwall St. Annapolis, MD
  - Every 1st & 3rd Saturday of the month 10:00am-12:00pm
- Mills Parole Elementary School, 1 George & Marion Phelps Lane Annapolis, MD
  - Every 2nd & 4th Saturday of the month 10:00am-12:00pm
- Asbury United Methodist Church, 87 West St Annapolis MD
  - o Every Wednesday & Friday 9am-11pm
- First Baptist Church of Annapolis, 31 W. Washington Street
  - o Every Saturday, 11 am 1 pm

You can also use the <u>County's Interactive Map</u> to find pantries, soup kitchens, and clothing banks that are near your address. If you are unable to pick-up food in person you can call the Office of Emergency Management at 410-260-2211 to Schedule a Fresh Food Delivery Option.

For students - Anne Arundel County Public Schools (AACPS) has over 120 locations providing school meals to students during Virtual Learning! Parents can learn more about where they can pick up a free breakfast, lunch, dinner, and snack for their child by <u>clicking here</u>.

**My full breakdown of resources** - everything from eviction prevention to utility assistance, <u>is available</u> <u>here</u>. If you or someone you know needs help navigating any state resources, you can always reach out to my office. My Chief of Staff, Lydia McPherson, or I can assist you.



# **Opportunities for Students**



Anne Arundel County's Student Member of the Board of Education (SMOB) is the only SMOB in the nation on a local board who has full voting rights.

Join AACPS for their virtual Information Night scheduled for 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 24, 2021. This informational meeting is for all interested parties to learn about the process of nomination, campaigning, election, and appointment. All high school juniors, in good academic standing, who are

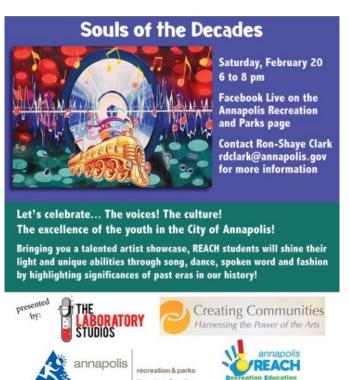
interested in becoming the SMOB member for the 2021-2022 year are encouraged to attend.

#### Virtually Visit the Statehouse

The Visitors Program in the Department of Legislative Services is offering free virtual educational tours of the legislative complex to groups. Groups of 10 or more people may request a "live" guided Virtual Visit of the legislative complex by submitting the online request form. This is the perfect opportunity for students, history buffs, or any other Marylander to learn more about our State's historic capital. If you would like further assistance, do not hesitate to reach out to this office and we would love to help your group secure a Virtual Visit!



# **Community Concert**



Enjoy a Facebook Live performance by students in the <u>Annapolis REACH</u> program. Young artists will showcase their talents in the upcoming show, *Souls of the Decades*!

Annapolis REACH -- Recreation Education Achievement Community Health -- is an after-school program in Annapolis that gives children a safe place to learn, play and grow into their potential and future needs.

Join <u>Annapolis Recreation & Parks</u> and the Annapolis REACH program this Saturday, February 20th, from 6 to 8 pm.

You can follow me on <u>Facebook, Twitter</u>, and <u>Instagram</u> to learn about volunteer opportunities, community resources, COVID-19 updates, and much more. If you have any questions or concerns, you can always contact my office by email at <u>Dana.Jones@house.state.md.us</u> or by phone at 410-841-3211.

Stay safe and healthy,



Connect With Us:	Contact Info:
<u>Facebook</u>	
<u>Instagram</u>	
<u>Twitter</u>	

By Authority: Friends of Dana Jones; Karen M. White, Treasurer P.O. Box 4237, Annapolis, MD 21403



February 22, 2021

Hello Neighbors,



In 2020, I was appointed by Speaker Jones to Maryland's <u>Student Data Privacy Council</u>. Teachers are increasingly incorporating digital tools into their instruction, which has been amplified by the COVID-19 pandemic and the prevalence of virtual learning. The Student Data Privacy Council plays an essential role in ensuring that the personal information of our students, their parents, and teachers is protected and not being utilized by corporations for profit.

As the only Delegate appointed to the committee, I was asked to sponsor a bill that would codify the recommendation made in the Council's 2020 report. This bill will update current law to keep up with technological advancements and creates a reporting requirement for schools to ensure that the digital tools being used are public knowledge. In addition, the bill extends the Council for an additional four years to help implement the recommendations and continue to study the best practices for student data

privacy protection.

#### **New COVID-19 Vaccination Support Center**

Many of our constituents have reached out to me with concerns and confusion over the online vaccine registration. I am relieved to announce that Marylanders can now call the new COVID-19 Vaccination Support Center at 1-855-MDGOVAX (1-855-634-6829). This resource is available seven days a week from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. and can be used to ask vaccine-related questions, learn about nearby providers and even get help scheduling vaccination appointments.

# **Diaper Donations**

Diapers and feminine hygiene products are typically the first items to be out of stock at distribution centers, and the recent pandemic has heightened demand. This month I presented my bill, HB711, which would incentivize donations of diapers, sanitary products, and other essential personal items to the House Ways and Means Committee. I was so thankful to have the support of the Maryland Diaper Bank, Downtown Hope, Student Support Network, Greater DC Diaper Bank, The National Diaper Bank Network, NARAL Pro-Choice Maryland, & Maryland Catholic Conference!

Senator George Edwards, who has agreed to sponsor the bill in the Senate, has a bill hearing this upcoming Wednesday in the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee. You can read more about this bill and the need for it in the <u>recent Capital Gazette</u> <u>article</u>. I look forward to bringing you an update soon!



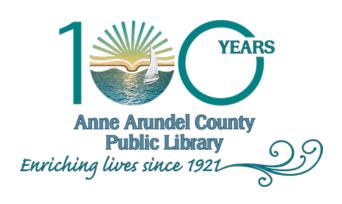
Speaker
Adrian Jones & Del. Dana Jones
talking on the House Floor

#### **Love Our Libraries**

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This Saturday, February 27th at 10:00 am join AACPL for a Black History Month event <u>How To Be A</u> <u>Children's Book Author and Illustrator: One Artist's Journey</u>. Hear Don Tate, a celebrated author and illustrator of more than 80 children's books, speak about his path to finding success.

I would encourage everyone to follow the <u>Anne Arundel County Public Library's Facebook page</u> to get updates on programs and new resources. Also, check out their <u>calendar</u> to find the perfect event for you and your family to enjoy!



# **Honoring Katherine Johnson**

This weekend my family and I drove down to Chincoteague Island to watch NASA's Wallops Flight Facility's \*SS Katherine Johnson\* rocket cargo resupply launch, which reached the International Space Station this morning.

This launch coincided with the 59th anniversary of John Glenn's flight on Project Mercury's Friendship 7, who was the first American to orbit Earth. The <u>Cygnus spacecraft is named in honor of NASA "hidden figure" Katherine Johnson</u>, who calculated the trajectory for the flight.

This past Saturday, Feb 20th was also Maryland's first Civil Rights Heroes Day. I'm so proud that our state is choosing to recognize and celebrate our iconic civil rights leaders.



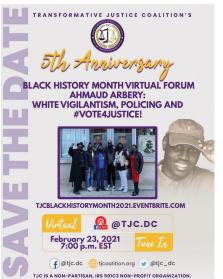


# **Helping Texas**

As we have watched the crippling effects of weather and a breakdown of infrastructure in the Texas energy grid. People are freezing in their homes, without water and freezing temperatures coupled with power outages are disrupting the food supply chain. If you were looking at ways you could chip in to help support fellow American's you can donate to Feeding Texas.



## **Honoring Black History Month**



Tomorrow, February 23rd at 7pm, the Transformative Justice Coalition, in partnership with the Ahmaud Arbery family's quest for justice, will host the 5th Anniversary Black History Month Virtual Forum. This event will highlight the important connection between voting and fighting injustices.

For additional details and to reserve a ticket, <u>click here!</u>

#### Scam Alert



The Annapolis Police Department is reporting scams that involve paying off arrest warrants with gift cards. No state or federal agency including the police, courts, Social Security, IRS, INS require payment through gift cards.

If you or someone you know is approached by someone claiming to be from a government agency asking for payment in the form of a gift card, contact the police and report the phone number to the FTC.

In addition, The MVA has received recent reports of a text messaging scam. Residents have received a text message with a link to a fake MVA page that requires various personal information. MDOT and MVA only use text messages to confirm, modify or cancel customer appointments, NOT to collect contact information. If you or someone you know think you have received this fraudulent message, you can email MVACS@mva.maryland.gov for assistance.

Maryland-MDot
Urgent
Due to update on our new
regulation compliant please
update your contact
information. For detail visit:
ow.ly/5kUJ50DACru

\*Example of Fraudulent Text

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AACo Health
is prioritizing
these groups

- Residents and staff of nursing homes
- First responders, public health, corrections, judiciary
these groups

- Adults age 75 and older
- Education and child care
- Assisted living, other congregate settings
- Continuity of government

- Adults age 65 - 74
- Frontline essential works

- Adults 16 - 64 with high risk conditions
- Essential workers

- Adults 16 - 64

county residents will now have to check and sign up on multiple websites.

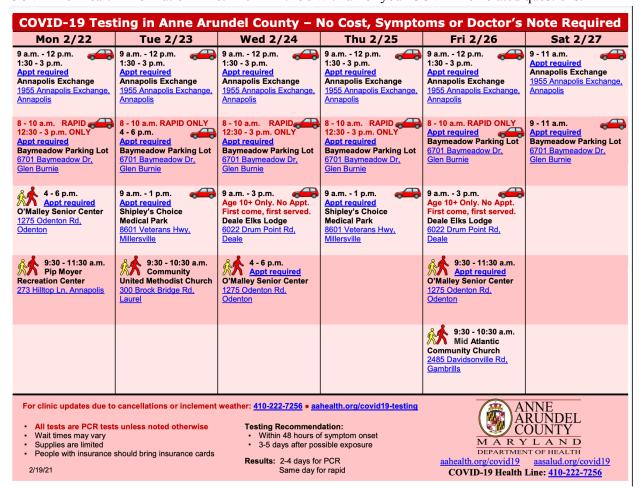
- Anne Arundel County Health Department
- <u>UMD Baltimore Washington Medical Center</u>

- MedStar Health Baltimore
- Luminis Health at Anne Arundel Medical Center
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- Walgreens
- CVS (Those without online access can call 800-746-7287)
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You can also use the <u>State of Maryland Vaccination Site Search Tool</u> to search for all vaccination locations within the state. If you would like to learn more about Anne Arundel county's Vaccination efforts, you can refer to <u>this week's Covid-19 Update</u> from the County Executive's office. This continues to be a very fluid situation, and I encourage you all to follow any of my social media pages for up-to-date information as it becomes publicly available.

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**My full breakdown of resources** - everything from eviction prevention to utility assistance, <u>is available here</u>. If you or someone you know needs help navigating any state resources, you can always reach out to my office. My Chief of Staff, Lydia McPherson, or I can assist you.

#### **Real Talk for Teens**

Maryland Mentor is hosting a virtual forum "Real Talk: Maryland High School Students Forum on Race Equity" next Wednesday, February 24th from 4-6 pm. The program will feature a panel of students from all over the state who will discuss their experiences and the issues around race equity. Students can register to participate here!



# Get up and Moving



annapolis recreation & parks

As we approach the one-year mark of this pandemic..., pandemic it is important to continue to stay active for our physical and mental health. Especially since the recent winter weather has made it even more difficult to get exercise.

The Annapolis Department of Recreation and Parks offers a wide variety of virtual and in-person fitness classes for city residents. These are a great way for you and your family to get moving. You can review the "Pip" Moyer Recreation Center 2021 Winter Fitness Classes schedule to find a class that's perfect for you.

2021 marks Oyster Harbor's 70th birthday. In honor of this milestone, I joined my colleagues in celebrating them through a <u>community video tribute</u>. I am so honored to represent Oyster Harbor and its residents in the Maryland General Assembly. You can learn more about their community's long history by <u>clicking here!</u>



You can follow me on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, and <u>Instagram</u> to learn about volunteer opportunities, community resources, COVID-19 updates, and much more. If you have any questions or concerns, you can always contact my office by email at <u>Dana.Jones@house.state.md.us</u> or by phone at 410-841-3211.

Stay safe and healthy,



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<u>Twitter</u>	

By Authority: Friends of Dana Jones; Karen M. White, Treasurer P.O. Box 4237, Annapolis, MD 21403



March 1, 2021

Hello Neighbors,

Today is March 1st which not only means we are just past the halfway point of the legislative session but also it is the first day of Women's History Month! We have so much to celebrate - from our first women Vice President Kamala Harris, to right here in Maryland, where <a href="Novavax's ALL-FEMALE team">Novavax's ALL-FEMALE team</a> is leading the vaccine development efforts, women are leading the way during this critical time in history.

In 2020 we celebrated the centennial celebration of the 19th Amendment, which granted women the right to vote. This year we continue the celebration with this year's National Women's History Alliance's theme being, "Valiant Women of the Vote: Refusing to Be Silenced." Consider honoring Women's History month this year by visiting one of Maryland's historic sites that commemorate the great works of local women who came before us. Or check out the Smithsonian's online exhibit 'Because of Her' which highlights the accomplishments of women from across the county.

Each day this month I will be highlighting woman leaders on my <u>Twitter</u>, <u>Instagram</u>, and <u>Facebook</u> Page. Today I have decided to honor those brave women who conducted the nation's first woman's rights convention in Seneca Falls, New York. Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Susan B. Anthony, Lucretia Mott, and the other women who were also active in the anti-slavery movement. This first convention resulted in a Declaration of Independence which demanded rights for women, including suffrage.



# **Diaper & Sanitary Donation Bill Update**

Today my bill <u>HB711</u>, which incentivizes donations of diapers, Sanitary hygiene products, and other essential personal items, received a favorable report from the House Ways and Means Committee, where it had been jointly referred. This means that the bill will soon be voted on by the entire House in the upcoming weeks.

I am so proud that my fellow committee members have decided to support this essential legislation to help our struggling families gain access to these necessary hygiene products.



*Next stop, the House Floor.* 

Additionally, my bill <u>HB 712</u>, increases government transparency by enhancing an existing tax burden report, has also passed out of the House Ways and Means Committee <u>as well as</u> the Appropriations Committee where it was jointly filed.

Please stay tuned to this newsletter and social media for news on both of these bills hitting the House floor for a vote!

#### **Madam Vice President Addresses Local Residents**

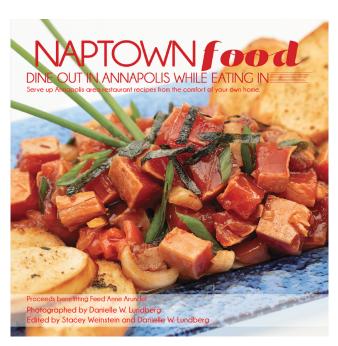
This past Saturday, Congressman Steny Hoyer was joined by Vice President Kamala Harris as they addressed hundreds of Anne Arundel and Prince George's County residents at the <u>40th Annual Black History Month Celebration</u>.

Vice President Harris focused her remarks on the devastating effects that this pandemic has had on black families and how the new administration is focusing their efforts on addressing resource disparities. If you missed it live, you can watch the full event by <u>clicking here</u>.



Vice President Kamala Harris speaks at the 40th Annual Black History Month virtual celebration, at the Eisenhower Executive Office Building on the White House complex in Washington, Saturday, Feb. 27, 2021. (AP Photo/Manuel Balce Ceneta) (Manuel Balce Ceneta/AP)

#### **Cuisine for a Cause**



Annapolis is known for its restaurants. Now you can enjoy some of your favorite local dishes from home with the newly released cookbook titled *Dine Out In Annapolis While Eating In* by local food photographer and blogger Danielle Lundberg. Over 30 local restaurants have contributed recipes, and all proceeds from the book are being donated to <u>Feed Anne Arundel</u>. You can pre-order your book <u>here</u>!

# **Important Unemployment Tax Update**

Due to the RELIEF Act, there are some important changes that the Comptroller of Maryland wants you to know:

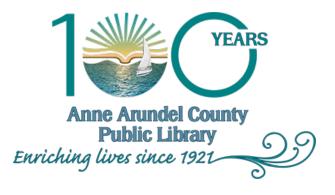
- The RELIEF Act calls for unemployment to be non-taxed/subtracted for individuals earning less than \$75,000 or couples who file jointly and earn less than a total of \$100,000.
- PLEASE WAIT to file your taxes until forms and systems can be updated to match the details of
  the legislation. This process should be completed within the next few weeks, and you will receive
  an alert when the forms are available.
- If you have already filed and are eligible for the unemployment tax subtraction, PLEASE WAIT to amend your taxes until the systems & forms are updated.

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- ❖ Join AACPL on March 3nd at 3:30 pm for SoCo Knits (Virtually!). This is the perfect event for knitters and crocheters to get inspiration for your next project and to meet other crafters like you!
- ❖ Another great family fun virtual family event on Wednesday, March 3, 2021 at 7pm! Disney Virtual Trivia Night! Join AACPL virtually for Disney Trivia that will cover songs, classics, and characters. Grab your household team, play individually or call up a socially distant friend.

I would encourage everyone to follow the <u>Anne Arundel County Public Library's Facebook page</u> to get updates on programs and new resources. Also, check out their <u>calendar</u> to find the perfect event for you and your family to enjoy!



## **Dress for Success**

Each year the Talbots runs a Dress for Success campaign to help women gain financial independence. From now until March 21, you can make a monetary donation at our local **Talbots in the Annapolis Town Center**. Even a donation of \$5 can help provide the gas or public transportation needed to get to an interview. If you would like to learn more, you can click here!



## **Fighting Fraud**

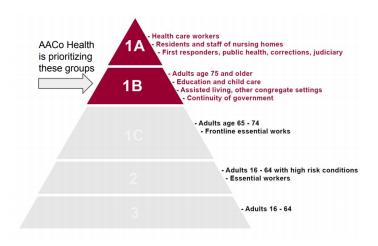


Checking your credit score often is one of the best ways to protect yourself against ID theft by catching it early. Federal law allows you to get a free copy of your credit report every 12 months from each credit reporting company. However, due to

the COVID pandemic, you are entitled to a <u>free credit report once per week through April 2021</u>. Check yours today by going to <u>AnnualCreditReport.com</u>.

# **COVID-19 Vaccinations**

Anne Arundel County is currently only vaccinating people in Phase 1A and 1B. County Public Schools staff and contractors will receive appointment invites directly from AACPS and should not pre-register through the Health Department. Others in Groups 1A and 1B, including nonpublic and college educators, should pre-register on the COVID Vaccinations Sign-Up Form here or by phone on weekdays at 410-222-3663 to be alerted when your phase is up for vaccinations. When there is the supply for your



phase, the county will send you an invitation to select a date and time for an appointment. The Governor has chosen a decentralized, public, and private vaccine distribution system for the state. Additional doses are being allocated to private sector providers. Since each private provider operates independently through state contracts, each has its own registration portal. Due to the Governor's decentralized, public and private vaccine distribution system for the state, county residents will now have to check and sign up on multiple websites.

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- M&T Bank Stadium

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If you or someone you know has been able to receive a vaccine from a mass vaccination site like Six Flags or a pharmacy like a CVS, please take the time to remove your name from any preregistration waitlists you used. This small step makes a big difference to others still waiting for their shot. This continues to be a very fluid situation, and I encourage you all to follow any of my social media pages for up-to-date information as it becomes publicly available.

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### **Support the Light House Shelter**

The <u>Annapolis Light House</u> has been helping Anipolitians struggling with homelessness for over 30 years. They provide shelter and essential services to help empower people as they transition toward employment, housing, and self-sufficiency.

You can support the Light House and all the work they do by participating in the 18th Annual Friends of The Light House Golf Tournament. This year's event will be held on June 10th at the Renditions Golf Course in Davidsonville. Registration is now open!



# **Annapolis Oyster Fest**

From Today until March 21st, restaurants throughout downtown Annapolis will be participating in the Annapolis Oyster Fest, which includes providing a wide variety of oyster-based dishes. This event will not only boost sales for local restaurants but will help support Maryland's watermen as well as raise funds for Chesapeake Bay Foundation's restoration projects, shell recycling, and oyster restoration efforts. Meals from participating restaurants will be available for carry-out, so you can enjoy some local cuisine from the comfort of your own home.



# **Helping Texas**

Although the winter storm that hit Texas has passed, many residents are still dealing with its devastating effects. Right now, over a half a million Texans are still without water and the supply chain is continuing to experience problems getting food to stores. Feeding Texas is raising money to support food banks distributing water and food to those in need. You can pitch in to help buy a case of water for Texans waiting for repairs by donating to Feeding Texas.



You can follow me on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, and <u>Instagram</u> to learn about volunteer opportunities, community resources, COVID-19 updates, and much more. If you have any questions or concerns, you can always contact my office by email at <u>Dana.Jones@house.state.md.us</u> or by phone at 410-841-3211.

Stay safe and healthy,



Connect With Us:	Contact Info:
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<u>Instagram</u>	
<u>Twitter</u>	

By Authority: Friends of Dana Jones; Karen M. White, Treasurer P.O. Box 4237, Annapolis, MD 21403



March 8, 2021

Hello Neighbors,

As we fly past the halfway mark of the 442nd Legislative Session, things only continue to get busier. I am so proud to say that last week two of my bills passed on the House floor. HB711, which incentivizes donations of diapers, sanitary hygiene products, and other essential personal items, passed UNANIMOUSLY. Additionally, SB622, the Senate version of the bill, was passed out of its respective committee, which is a promising sign for the bill's future on the Senate floor. I am so thankful for everyone who dedicated the time to submit written or provide spoken testimony on this bill.

Additionally, <u>HB 712</u> which will increase government transparency by adding to an existing tax burden report passed in the House. This bill would help legislators better understand where the tax burden lies so we can pass informed, more equitable tax legislation. Just like my diaper donation bill, the Senate version of HB 712 received a favorable report from its committee and will be forwarded on by the entire senate in the upcoming weeks.

I will continue to bring you updates in the newsletters to come as the bill moves through the Senate.



Next stop, the Senate.

# Women Veterans Day



This Wednesday, March 10th, join the Maryland Women's Caucus in a virtual celebration honoring Women Veterans. This will be an opportunity to hear from current women leaders and honor Maryland's first woman veteran, Harriet Tubman.

This virtual event will take place from 8:30--11:00 am, and tickets are **FREE**. In order to participate, you must register in advance <a href="here">here</a>.

# Women in the Legislature

As we continue to celebrate Women's History Month, I wanted to take a moment to recognize all the women leaders serving as legislators in their State. Maryland is one of only six states that has a women legislator in a leadership position within the legislature.

Speaker Adrienne A. Jones made history when she was unanimously elected by the House of Delegates to serve not only as the first African-American but the first woman Speaker of the Maryland House of Delegates. I am so proud to have the opportunity to serve alongside her as your representative.



# **Inspiring Young Women**

In honor of Women's History Month, Watermark is offering Women of Achievement walking tour on Saturday, March 13th. On this two-hour tour, you will be guided through the Annapolis Historic District and learn about notable female Marylanders, such as Harriet Tubman and Barbara Mikulski.

To inspire the next generation with these trailblazing women's accomplishments, Watermark is offering a complimentary ticket to each child with an accompanying adult. (One



complimentary child's ticket is available with the purchase of an adult ticket.) For reservations, <u>click</u> here!

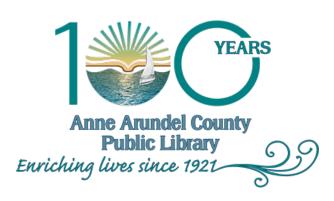
#### **Love Our Libraries**

2021 is the <u>Anne Arundel County Public Library's</u> 100th anniversary! Our library offers a wide variety of programming and resources. In honor of their centennial celebration, each week, I will be highlighting one program, resource, or event that our libraries have to offer.

In a very exciting press release last week, <u>AACPL announced that they are now fine-free!</u> Over \$360,000 in overdue fines have now been forgiven for the more than 28,000 people who owed them.

❖ Join AACPL and the Annapolis/Anne Arundel Financial Education Coalition tomorrow, March 9th, at 6:00 pm for <u>Family Finances</u>. Learn tips and methods to teach financial education to your family at this educational event.

I would encourage everyone to follow the <u>Anne Arundel County Public Library's Facebook page</u> to get updates on programs and new resources. Also, check out their <u>calendar</u> to find the perfect event for you and your family to enjoy!



#### **COVID VACCINE UPDATE - Child Care Workers & Teachers**

President Biden has announced that COVID vaccines will now be <u>available to all K-12 teachers</u> & child care workers through the federal pharmacy program.

Teachers & childcare workers can now make an appointment at select pharmacies throughout the state, including:

- CVS (Those without online access can call 800-746-7287)
- Giant Food
- Safeway
- Walgreens
- <u>Walmart</u>

If you would like to learn more about this decision and where teachers and childcare workers can get a vaccination, <u>click here!</u>



#### **COVID-19 Vaccinations**

Anne Arundel County is currently only vaccinating people in Phase 1A and 1B. County Public Schools staff and contractors will receive appointment invites directly from AACPS and should not pre-register through the Health Department. Others in Groups 1A and 1B, including nonpublic and college educators, should pre-register on the COVID Vaccinations Sign-Up Form here or by phone on weekdays at 410-222-3663 to be alerted when your phase is up for vaccinations. When there is the supply for your phase, the county will send you an invitation to select a date and time for an appointment. The Governor has chosen a decentralized, public, and private vaccine distribution system for the state. Additional doses are being allocated to private sector providers. Since each private provider operates independently

through state contracts, each has its own registration portal. Due to the Governor's decentralized, public and private vaccine distribution system for the state, county residents will now have to check and sign up on multiple websites.

- Anne Arundel County Health Department
- <u>UMD Baltimore Washington Medical Center</u>
- MedStar Health Baltimore
- Luminis Health at Anne Arundel Medical Center
- Giant Food
- <u>Safeway</u>
- Walgreens
- CVS (Those without online access can call 800-746-7287)
- <u>VA Maryland Health Care System</u> (Eligible Veterans only)
- Six Flags America Mass Vaccination Site
- M&T Bank Stadium

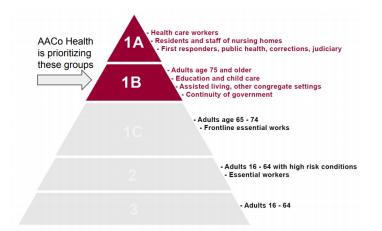
You can also use the <u>State of Maryland Vaccination Site Search Tool</u> to search for all vaccination locations within the state. If you would like to learn more about Anne Arundel county's Vaccination efforts, you can refer to <u>this week's Covid-19 Update</u> from the County Executive's office.

**NEW!** - University of Maryland student, Mathew Steininge, has created a website and alert system to help eligible individuals find available vaccine appointments. <u>Learn more here!</u>

If you or someone you know has been able to receive a vaccine from a mass vaccination site like Six Flags or a pharmacy like a CVS, please take the time to remove your name from any preregistration waitlists you used. This small step makes a big difference to others still waiting for their shot. This continues to be a very fluid situation, and I encourage you all to follow any of my social media pages for up-to-date information as it becomes publicly available.

## **COVID-19 Tests**

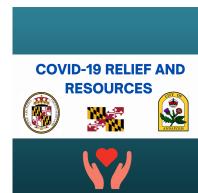
<u>Anne Arundel County offers testing at no cost</u>. Symptoms are not required for testing, and a doctor's note is not needed. Test results are usually available in three to five days. You can call the Anne Arundel county COVID-19 Health Information Line: 410-222-7256 with all of your COVID-19 related questions.



Mon 3/8	Tue 3/9	Wed 3/10	Thu 3/11	Fri 3/12	Sat 3/13
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4 - 6 p.m. Appt required O'Malley Senior Center 1275 Odenton Rd. Odenton	9 a.m 1 p.m. Appt required Shipley's Choice Medical Park 8601 Veterans Hwy, Millersville	9 a.m 3 p.m. Age 10+ Only. No Appt. First come, first served. Deale Eliks Lodge 6022 Drum Point Rd, Deale	9 a.m 1 p.m. Appt required Shipley's Choice Medical Park 8601 Veterans Hwy, Millersville	9 a.m 3 p.m. Age 10+ Only. No Appt. First come, first served. Deale Eliks Lodge 6022 Drum Point Rd. Deale	
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All tests are PCR test:     Wait times may vary     Supplies are limited	cancellations or inclement s unless noted otherwise should bring insurance cards	weather: 410-222-7256 • aa  Testing Recommenc • Within 48 hours o • 3-5 days after pos  Results: 2-4 days fo Same day fo	dation: f symptom onset ssible exposure r PCR	MARY	

# **COVID-19 Resources**

My full breakdown of resources - everything from eviction prevention to utility assistance, <u>is available here</u>. If you or someone you know needs help navigating any state resources, you can always reach out to my office. My Chief of Staff, Lydia McPherson, or I can assist you.



# **Important Eviction Update**

Unfortunately, the CDC's eviction moratorium ends March 31st, and it is unclear if it will be extended. For those individuals who live within public Housing Authority, City of Annapolis (HACA) housing, there is still time to enter into a repayment agreement.

Anne Arundel Community Development Services (ACDS) is partnering with Anne Arundel County and Civil Justice, Inc. to extend free financial counseling, legal help, and connection to possible financial



resources to households residing in HACA units who are at risk of eviction. If you are a HACA resident and are behind on your payments, PLEASE contact them at (443) 582-3596 right away to discuss your payment options.

Additionally, ACDS also offers rental assistance. Applications for the <u>Eviction Prevention Program</u> are available <u>online here</u>. Applications will be processed on a first-come, first-serve basis and are subject to eligible funding.

# **Maryland Day**

1916, the General Assembly authorized the celebration of <u>Maryland Day</u> as a statewide holiday which commemorates the formal founding of the colony of Maryland. This year will be a three-day celebration from March 19th - 21st, including both in-person and virtual events that celebrate our great states' history.

In-person events include historical tours of <u>Hancock Resolution</u>, <u>Historic London Town</u>, and the <u>Charles Carroll House</u> as well as an outdoor art festival presented by <u>Maryland Hall</u> and a boat-building event hosted by the <u>Annapolis Maritime Museum</u>. You can visit the <u>official Maryland Day website</u> for a full list of events.



## **Honoring a Local Educator**

Congratulations to Dr. Linda Jacobs, Executive Director of <u>The Harbour School</u>, who has been awarded the Outstanding Educator of the Year award by the Division of Learning Disabilities of the <u>International Council for Exceptional Children</u>. Each year, this award is presented to an educator who has provided transformative leadership in the education of children with special learning needs.



The Harbour School has been dedicated to providing a supportive, caring, and individualized education to students with learning differences for nearly 40 years. Thank you Dr. Jacobs for your service and dedication to the students of our community.

You can follow me on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, and <u>Instagram</u> to learn about volunteer opportunities, community resources, COVID-19 updates, and much more. If you have any questions or concerns, you can always contact my office by email at <u>Dana.Jones@house.state.md.us</u> or by phone at 410-841-3211.

Stay safe and healthy,



Connect With Us:	Contact Info:
<u>Facebook</u>	
<u>Instagram</u>	
<u>Twitter</u>	

By Authority: Friends of Dana Jones; Karen M. White, Treasurer P.O. Box 4237, Annapolis, MD 21403



Next stop, the Senate.



March 15, 2021

# Hello Neighbors,

A little over a year ago, we confirmed the first case of COVID-19 in Anne Arundel county. So much has changed in just a year, the way we work, the way our children learn, the way we interact with others, and even the way we spend our free time. Through the last year, I have had the honor to work alongside so many in our City and County to help feed, clothe and provide essential goods to members of our community who have been hit the hardest. While the last year has brought pain that will not soon be forgotten, it has been in the small moments that provided light and hope which have carried me through. Teenagers showing up every weekend at Tyler Heights distribution to prepare supplies for those who were barely making it week to week; elementary children holding small fundraisers & clothing drives for others; neighbors coming together to host diaper drives for families needing help. It is those actions and reactions to this pandemic that highlighted how amazing the people of Annapolis are and continue to be to one another.

Thanks to the hard work of our County employees and volunteers with nonprofits like the Maryland & Anne Arundel Food Banks and Feed Anne Arundel, <u>over 6 million meals</u> have been distributed to Anne Arundel County to residents since the start of the pandemic. Additionally, Anne Arundel County was one of the first in the state to have a comprehensive Eviction Prevention Program. Arundel Community Development Services (ACDS) provided legal services to over 200 renters facing eviction and made over 1,329 rent payments on behalf of residents *and* landlords in need. I encourage you to read the entire <u>Anne Arundel County Covid Impact Report</u> to see all the ways that our community has supported one another over the past year.

As we finally start to round the corner of this pandemic, I ask that we all please keep the 538 <u>Anne Arundel County</u> residents and 7,873 <u>Marylanders</u> who fell victim to this horrible disease and their families in your hearts.

# Tax Update

The Comptroller's Office has extended the state income tax filing deadline by three months until July 15, 2021.

All new tax forms will be added or updated by April 15th. Taxpayers looking to subtract unemployment income, make other adjustments related to the RELIEF Act, or amend their previously filed taxes should wait until that time to file. However, please be aware that **federal** taxes are still due on April 15th at this time.

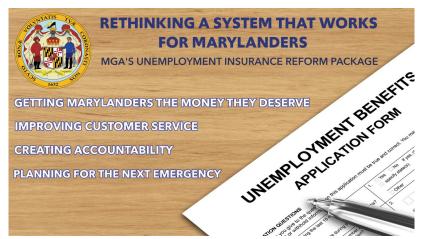
If you have questions or are in need of assistance filing your state taxes, you can email RELIEFAct@marylandtaxes.gov.



## **Improving Unemployment**

Last week the House passed & I voted in favor of immediate and structural fixes that will help streamline the process and make the UI system more efficient. Since the beginning of this pandemic, nearly 550 constituents have reached out to the D30A delegation for help navigating this horribly disappointing Unemployment system. Due to the delayed response and lack of answers, dozens contacted us more than once due to the delayed response from the Department of Labor. These bills will require the Depart of Labor to:

- Modernize the UI system to ensure that Marylanders can get the money they deserve
- Improve customer service
- Create more accountability
- Plan for the next emergency



After over a year of seeing

firsthand the devastating effects that these inefficiencies have had on Marylanders, I was glad to vote in favor of all of these bills and see that the House is supporting legislation to help fix this broken system.



The killing of George Floyd and Breonna Taylor highlighted many of the systemic problems within our law enforcement establishment. Over the past several months, my seatmates and I have met with advocates, police officers, and local officials to gain insight into our local police departments. During the 2020 interim, the Maryland Senate and House engaged committee hearings and workgroup analysis to develop police reform policy recommendations for our 2021 legislative session. Collectively, the workgroups facilitated more than 15 hours of oral testimony and briefings as well as accepted written testimony from members of

the public and organizations including; the Maryland State's Attorneys Association, Maryland Office of the Public Defender, State Law Enforcement Officers Labor Union, Maryland Police Standards and Training Commission, NAACP, Public Justice Center, American Civil Liberties Union, among others.

Last week, the issue of statewide police reform made it to the House floor with the bill HB 670. This comprehensive police reform bill is based on the recommendations of the workgroup to address Police Reform and Accountability. If passed in the Senate, the bill will work to improve transparency and accountability in policing across Maryland by fully repealing of the Law Enforcement Officers' Bill of Rights, enhancing civilian—driven transparency in police misconduct, supporting civilian complaints, imposing swift and uniform penalties for police misconduct, allowing for more transparent police records, providing stronger limitations for use of force statutes and no-knock warrants, and establishing independent investigations for police misconduct. The bill also creates a Maryland Loan Assistance Repayment Program and Scholarship for Maryland Police Officers to help support these public servants. I was so proud to join many of my colleagues in voting yes on HB 670.

#### A Win for the Planet

The house took a stand for our environment with the passage of HB 314. This bill would prohibit retail establishments from distributing plastic shopping bags to customers. If this bill passes in the Senate, Maryland will join the nine other states that already have a statewide bag ban in place.

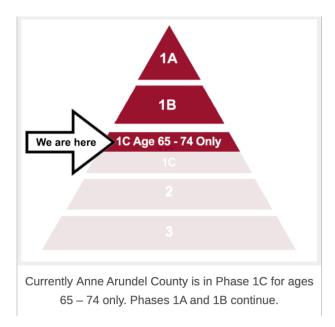
The average American family takes home almost 1,500 plastic shopping bags a year. Unfortunately, plastic bags don't break down completely. Instead, photo-degrade, becoming



microplastics that are often absorbed into the environment or eaten by our marine life. HB 314 is a great first step in dealing with our plastic pollution problem. I was proud to vote in support of HB 314.

STARTING TODAY! Anne Arundel County is moving into phase 1C. At this point in time, Phase 1C only applies to County residents age 65 and older. You can pre-register on the COVID Vaccinations Sign-Up Form here or call 410-222-7256 to be alerted with available clinic locations and appointment times. You can click here for pre-registration step-by-step tips.

- Anne Arundel County Health Department
- <u>UMD Baltimore Washington Medical</u> <u>Center</u>
- MedStar Health Baltimore
- <u>Luminis Health at Anne Arundel Medical</u>
   Center
- Giant Food
- Safeway
- Walgreens
- CVS (Those without online access can call 800-746-7287)
- VA Maryland Health Care System (Eligible Veterans only)
- Six Flags America Mass Vaccination Site
- M&T Bank Stadium



**NOTE To Those Who Have ALREADY Received The Vaccine:** If you have been able to receive a vaccine from a mass vaccination site like Six Flags or a pharmacy like a CVS, **please take the time to remove your name from any pre-registration waitlists you used**. This small step makes a big difference to others still waiting for their shot. This continues to be a very fluid situation, and I encourage you all to follow any of my social media pages for up-to-date information as it becomes publicly available.

You can also use the <u>State of Maryland Vaccination Site Search Tool</u> to search for all vaccination locations within the state. If you would like to learn more about Anne Arundel county's Vaccination efforts, you can refer to <u>this week's Covid-19 Update</u> from the County Executive's office. Find out how to get alerted when appointments become available <u>here!</u>



If you have any questions about the vaccine rollout or are eligible for a vaccine and need help making an appointment, please email <a href="mailto:Dana.Jones@house.state.md.us">Dana.Jones@house.state.md.us</a>, and our office will assist you.

### **Calling All Artist**



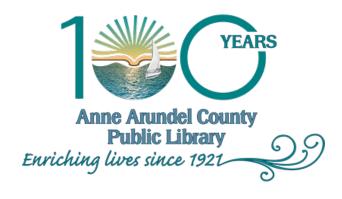
Anne Arundel County Mural Project Request for Proposals The Anne Arundel County Office of Central Services, in partnership with the Arts Council of Anne Arundel County (ACAAC), is now taking mural design proposals for an installation at the County Council Chambers. The County is inviting artists based in Anne Arundel County (ages 18 and older) to submit designs. The application **deadline is Thursday, April 29, by 5:00 pm**. Click <a href="https://example.com/here-to-learn more">here-to-learn more</a>.

#### **Love Our Libraries**

2021 is the <u>Anne Arundel County Public Library's</u> 100th anniversary! Our library offers a wide variety of programming and resources. In honor of their centennial celebration, each week, I will be highlighting one program, resource, or event that our libraries have to offer.

Join AACPS this Thursday, March 18th from 1:00pm - 2:00pm for a special Women's History Month event. Wild Women of Maryland: Grit and Gumption in the Free State will be an opportunity to learn more about our state's famous women figures.

I would encourage everyone to follow the <u>Anne Arundel County Public Library's Facebook page</u> to get updates on programs and new resources. Also, check out their <u>calendar</u> to find the perfect event for you and your family to enjoy!



#### **COVID-19 Tests**

<u>Anne Arundel County offers testing at no cost</u>. Symptoms are not required for testing, and a doctor's note is not needed. Test results are usually available in three to five days. You can call the Anne Arundel county COVID-19 Health Information Line: 410-222-7256 with all of your COVID-19 related questions.

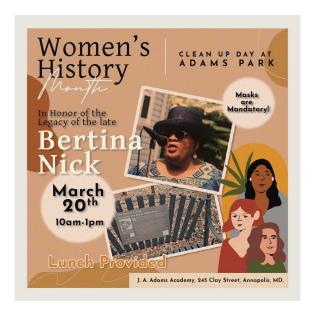


#### **COVID-19 Resources**

My full breakdown of resources - everything from eviction prevention to utility assistance, <u>is available here</u>. If you or someone you know needs help navigating any state resources, you can always reach out to my office. My Chief of Staff, Lydia McPherson, or I can assist you.



## **Community Clean-up Event**



Grab your mask and join volunteers this Saturday, March 20th at 10:00 am, for a clean-up at Adams Park (245 Clay Street) to honor the legacy of the late great Bertina Nick. This Women's History month event will be a perfect opportunity to get out and enjoy the nice weather while doing something to better our community. Volunteers should bring rakes, planting tools and a chair. Masks required ~ Lunch provided! Thank you, Janice Hayes Williams, and all of the organizers for this great event!

## Happy St. Patrick's Day

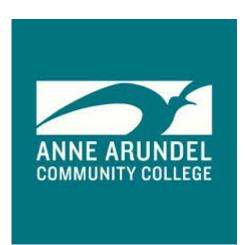
Although this year Annapolitans won't be able to do our traditional celebration on the day of St. Patrick's Day due to COVID, the fun is still scheduled to take place! This year's parade will be held on September 12th, along with a full weekend of other fun activities. In the meantime, consider getting some delicious takeout from one of our amazing local restaurants. I look forward to seeing you all in September.

St. Patrick's in September



September 12, 2021

#### **Best in the Nation**



In a recent ranking by Academic Influence, <u>Anne Arundel Community College has been rated the best community college in the U.S.</u> AACC has provided quality and affordable education to our community for 60 years! Their alumni network consists of many impressive figures including a variety of elected officials, notable scientists, Olympic athletes, and even a former Deputy Director of the National Security Agency. Congratulations to AACC and to all of the staff that have made the school what it is today.

You can follow me on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, and <u>Instagram</u> to learn about volunteer opportunities, community resources, COVID-19 updates, and much more. If you have any questions or concerns, you can always contact my office by email at <u>Dana.Jones@house.state.md.us</u> or by phone at 410-841-3211.

Stay safe and healthy,



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<u>Instagram</u>	
<u>Twitter</u>	



March 22, 2021

Hello Neighbors,

I, like many of you, have experienced intense grief and anger over the recent shootings in Atlanta. This horrible crime has drawn attention to the sharp rise of anti-Asian violence. Hate crimes against members of our Asian American Pacific Islander community have increased 150% in 2020 with the majority of these attacks affecting women. These vicious hate crimes against our fellow Americans in the AAPI community is horrific, it's wrong, and it must stop.

At a time when our brothers and sisters of the AAPI community are experiencing profound pain and trauma it is critical we have conversations and confront the hatred targeting our fellow Americans. The <a href="Making Caring Common Project">Making Caring Common Project</a> is a great resource for parents looking to teach their children about diversity, tolerance, and acceptance. It is all of our responsibilities to step up and confront racial hatred.

For those of you looking to help, consider donating to organizations that support the AAPI community such as <a href="Stop AAPI Hate">Stop AAPI Hate</a> or the <a href="AAPI Civic Engagement Fund">AAPI Civic Engagement Fund</a>.

# **Leading on the Floor**

Last week was a busy week on the floor. I was chosen to present two bills to my colleagues in the House as the floor leader. HB 1350 would create more transparency in campaign finance. HB 1062, my Student Data Privacy bill, ensures that our student's personal data & info is protected from fraud, theft, and intrusive marketing. It also creates a reporting requirement for school systems to increase transparency for parents & taxpayers.

I am proud to say that both bills passed! The passage of HB 1062 will be my fourth bill to pass this session, meaning that all of the bills that I sponsored have officially been passed by the House. I will continue to keep you updated as these bills move through the Senate.



4 for 4 in the House!



COVID-19 school closures have exacerbated learning gaps. In order to address this, we must provide additional resources to better support our students.

I am proud to say that today I joined my colleagues in voting YES for the Blueprint 2.0 to address pandemic-related learning loss and ensure that every child has the opportunity to succeed.

# 101 years of Suffrage



Last week, I joined my fellow women legislators in the House to celebrate the 101st year since the ratification of the 19th amendment. 41.0% of Maryland's legislature is made of women, and we are one of only 7 states to have a woman in a leadership position.

I am honored to be a member of the oldest Women's Caucus in the country & serve with such amazing women. The weight of the day, after a career of helping to elect women to office, was incredibly meaningful. I am so thankful to all the women who came before us to ensure that this day would be possible.





david.danajones.office@gmail.com.

Each year, legislative offices offer a scholarship award for students within the district. I am happy to say that applications for the 2021 - 2022 school year are now open! To be eligible for this scholarship, you must live within District 30a, which you can check here! Scholarships are awarded based on need and on a case-by-case basis. Prior to applying, you must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), which is available and can be submitted online at <a href="https://www.fafsa.ed.gov">www.fafsa.ed.gov</a>.

You can find directions on how to submit your application online <a href="here">here</a>.

If you have any questions, comments, and/or concerns you can contact our Scholarship Program Manager, David Duba, at 410-841-3211 or

## **Women's History Online Event**

In Honor of Women's History Month, <u>Preservation Maryland</u> is hosting an online event - *Not Nontraditional: Women In The Building Trades*, to discuss women's roles in construction, throughout history and today. This webinar will take place from 1:00 - 2:30 and you can register <u>here</u>.



# **Honoring our Childcare workers**



Families rely on available, quality, and affordable child care from providers to nurture their children while parents are at work. This Wednesday, March 24, the Maryland Women's Caucus is hosting a "A Celebration of Child Care Providers."

This celebration is made up of two events including a 9:00 am panel of child care advocates who will discuss issues impacting these workers.

At 6:00pm, we will honor the four Maryland, child care providers who passed from COVID-19.

These events will be live-streamed on the <u>Maryland</u> <u>Women's Legislative Caucus' official YouTube page</u>. Please invite others to attend these events to honor the important service of child care providers to our state.

#### **Meet Our Office**

We have a few new staff in the office that are here to help answer legislative questions, assist with unemployment problems and navigate getting a vaccine appointment. You can read more about them and how they are helping D30A residents below.

#### **Casey - Constituent Services**

Casey has years of experience as an educator and recently has been volunteering her time to help eligible Marylanders access vaccine appointments. Casey has joined our office to help constituents register for a vaccine appointment. She is an expert in all things vaccine-rollout-related and is happy to answer any questions you may have. If you would like help scheduling a vaccine appointment or have questions please email our office at <a href="mailto:dana.jones@house.state.md.us">dana.jones@house.state.md.us</a> with the subject: <a href="mailto:Vaccine Apt">Vaccine Apt</a>

#### **Heidi - Constituent Communication**

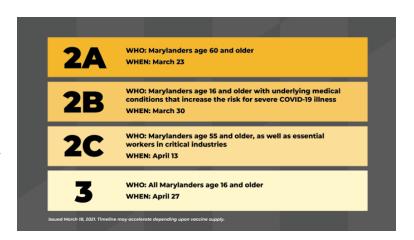
Heidi has a long history of working in constituent communication. She has been working to help our office respond to the hundreds of letters we get from constituents on a daily basis. As an active community member, she additionally assists our office with content for our newsletter and social media to promote local programs, events, and other helpful information. If you have an event you would like highlighted please email us at <a href="mailto:dana.jones@house.state.md.us">dana.jones@house.state.md.us</a>

#### **COVID-19 Vaccinations**

**STARTING TOMORROW!** Maryland will be moving into phase 2A of our vaccination plan. Anyone over the age of 60 may preregister for an appointment **NOW** by going to <a href="https://massvax.maryland.gov/">https://massvax.maryland.gov/</a>

Eligible Maryland residents can use these links to make an appointment at locations throughout the state:

- <u>UMD Baltimore Washington Medical</u> Center
- MedStar Health Baltimore
- <u>Luminis Health at Anne Arundel</u> Medical Center
- Giant Food
- Safeway
- Walgreens
- CVS (Those without online access can call 800-746-7287)
- <u>VA Maryland Health Care System</u> (Eligible Veterans only)
- Six Flags America Mass Vaccination
   Site
- M&T Bank Stadium



**NEW:** For more tips on how to register for a vaccination appointment you can <u>click here!</u>

**NOTE To Those Who Have ALREADY Received The Vaccine:** If you have been able to receive a vaccine from a mass vaccination site like Six Flags or a pharmacy like a CVS, **please take the time to remove your name from any pre-registration waitlists you used**. This small step makes a big difference to others still waiting for their shot. This continues to be a very fluid situation, and I encourage

you all to follow any of my social media pages for up-to-date information as it becomes publicly available.

Additionally, you can use the <u>State of Maryland Vaccination Site Search Tool</u> to search for all vaccination locations within the state. If you would like to learn more about Anne Arundel county's Vaccination efforts, you can refer to <u>this week's Covid-19 Update</u> from the County Executive's office. Find out how to get alerted when appointments become available <u>here!</u>



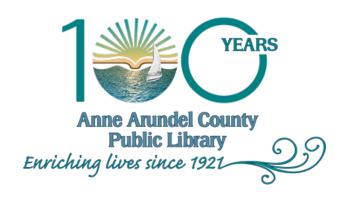
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#### Love Our Libraries

2021 is the <u>Anne Arundel County Public Library's</u> 100th anniversary! Our library system offers a wide variety of programming and resources. In honor of their centennial celebration, each week, I will be highlighting one program, resource, or event that our libraries have to offer.

This Thursday, March 25th, from 6:00pm - 7:00pm AACPS will be hosting an event to learn more about Maryland's extraordinary women who fought for suffrage before and after the passage of the 19th amendment. Register for this online event - *African American Suffragists of Maryland* here!

I would encourage everyone to follow the <u>Anne Arundel County Public Library's Facebook page</u> to get updates on programs and new resources. Also, check out their <u>calendar</u> to find the perfect event for you and your family to enjoy!



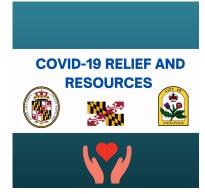
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COVID-19 Testing in Anne Arundel County – No Cost, Symptoms or Doctor's Note Required					
Mon 3/22	Tue 3/23	Wed 3/24	Thu 3/25	Fri 3/26	Sat 3/27
8:30 - 10:30 a.m.  Appt required Annapolis Exchange 1955 Annapolis Exchange, Annapolis	8:30 - 10:30 a.m.  Appt required Annapolis Exchange 1955 Annapolis Exchange, Annapolis	8:30 - 10:30 a.m.  Appt required Annapolis Exchange 1955 Annapolis Exchange, Annapolis	8:30 - 10:30 a.m.  Appt required Annapolis Exchange 1955 Annapolis Exchange, Annapolis	8:30 - 10:30 a.m.  Appt required Annapolis Exchange 1955 Annapolis Exchange, Annapolis	9 - 11 a.m.  Appt required Baymeadow Parking Lot 6701 Baymeadow Dr., Glen Burnie
8 - 10 a.m. RAPID ONLY Appt required Baymeadow Parking Lot 6701 Baymeadow Dr. Glen Burnie	8 - 10 a.m. RAPID ONLY 4 - 6 p.m. Appt required Baymeadow Parking Lot 6701 Baymeadow Dr. Glen Burnie	8 - 10 a.m. RAPID ONLY Appt required Baymeadow Parking Lot 6701 Baymeadow Dr. Glen Burnie	8 - 10 a.m. RAPID 12:30 - 3 p.m. ONLY Appt required Baymeadow Parking Lot 6701 Baymeadow Dr. Glen Burnie	8 - 10 a.m. RAPID ONLY Appt required Baymeadow Parking Lot 6701 Baymeadow Dr. Glen Burnie	
5 - 6:30 p.m.  Appt required O'Malley Senior Center 1275 Odenton Rd. Odenton		9 a.m 3 p.m. Age 10+ Only. No Appt. First come, first served. Deale Elks Lodge 6022 Drum Point Rd. Deale		9 a.m 3 p.m. Age 10+ Only. No Appt. First come, first served. Deale Elks Lodge 6022 Drum Point Rd. Deale	
		5 - 6:30 p.m.  Appt required O'Malley Senior Center 1275 Odenton Rd. Odenton			
<ul> <li>All tests are PCR test</li> <li>Wait times may vary</li> <li>Supplies are limited</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Supplies are limited</li> <li>People with insurance should bring insurance cards</li> <li>Results: 2-4 days for PCR</li> </ul>			M A R Y DEPARTMEN aahealth.org/covid19	NNE RUNDEL OUNTY LAND STOF HEALTH aasalud.org/covid19 Line: 410-222-7256

## **COVID-19 Resources**

My full breakdown of resources - everything from eviction prevention to utility assistance - <u>is available here</u>. If you or someone you know needs help navigating any state resources, you can always reach out to my office. My Chief of Staff, Lydia McPherson, or I can assist you.



# **Kitchen Supply Drive**

Do you have kitchen clutter? Tyler Heights is hosting a Community Kitchen Supply Drive this upcoming **Thursday, March 25th from 9 am to 12 pm.** Please consider donating your extra pots, pans, utensils or any other gently used kitchen items to the drive. You can direct any questions to Sarah Daniels Larson at <a href="mailto:sdanielslardon@aacps.org">sdanielslardon@aacps.org</a>.



#### **Happy Restaurant Week**

Annapolis is home to many unique, locally-owned restaurants. Each year we celebrate these small businesses and their delicious cuisine with Annapolis Restaurant week. Enjoy special menu items and deals from over 40 of your favorite places by ordering carryout, dining in, and this year, liquor to go! For a full list of participating restaurants click <a href="https://example.com/here/">here!</a>



# **Rocking my Socks**

In honor of World Down Syndrome Day, I rocked some fun mismatched socks on the Hosue Floor, provided to me by the lovely folks at <u>Chesapeake Down Syndrome Parent Group</u>.

You can	learn mor	e about a	all the	great	work	that (	CDSPG	
is doing	by clickin	g here!						

You can follow me on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, and <u>Instagram</u> to learn about volunteer opportunities, community resources, COVID-19 updates, and much more. If you have any questions or concerns, you can always contact my office by email at <u>Dana.Jones@house.state.md.us</u> or by phone at 410-841-3211.

Stay safe and healthy,



Connect With Us:	Contact Info:
<u>Facebook</u>	
<u>Instagram</u>	
<u>Twitter</u>	



4 for 4 in the House!



March 29, 2021

Hello Neighbors,

The House of Delegates passed a slew of major legislation this year. Over the past 75 days, we; passed emergency legislation (the RELIEF Act) to ensure that small businesses and hard-working Marylanders get desperately needed assistance, created new requirements and accountability measures to help improve our unemployment system, approved major police reform legislation which balanced police accountability with new support programs for officers, took major actions to improve our public education system by overriding the Governor's veto on the Blueprint, helped ensure that the students most affected by the pandemic and virtual schooling get the services they need through the Blueprint 2.0 and so much more.

With just over two weeks left in Session, my colleagues and I will be working around the clock to ensure that critical legislation passes both chambers. I want every person who reaches out to my office to know that I care deeply about what you have to say and am so appreciative of those who take the time to share their thoughts with me. Please always feel free to reach out to our office at Dana. Jones@house.state.md.us or by phone at 410-841-3211.

## **Protecting the Chesapeake**



When constituents reached out to my office in droves in regards to HB843, I was shocked to hear that many of the community members most affected by the bill did not even know of its existence. Over the past several weeks, I worked to make sure that my colleagues in the Anne Arundel County Delegation and the Environment and Transportation Committee considered the concerns of my constituents before repealing long-standing environmental protections. I want every person who reaches out to my office to know that I care deeply about

what you have to say and am so appreciative of those who take the time to share their thoughts with me. Please always feel free to reach out to our office at Dana.Jones@house.state.md.us or by phone at 410-841-3211.

#### Michelle Obama Award 2021

I was so appreciative and honored to recently be named a recipient 2021 Michelle Obama Award. I want to thank the office of County Executive Steuart Pittman and the Caucus of African American Leaders for this amazing honor.

I'm overwhelmed. This truly means so very much to me and my family. Named after one of my role models - as a woman, as a servant to others, and as a mother. I am humbled to be named alongside such tremendous leaders in our community who I regard so highly.

I want to thank all of those who I have worked with, especially Feed Anne Arundel, Tyler Heights

Elementary, Georgetown East Elementary, Light of the World Family Ministries, and so many others who have established food pantries and distribution lines. Thank you to the hundreds of those who donated food, money, thousands of diapers & sanitary items to your

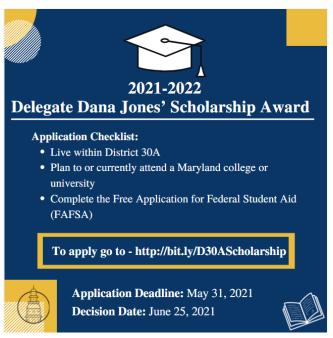


neighbors. Thank you to all the volunteers who spent countless hours through this pandemic serving those in need. When we all work together, we all do better. I look forward to continuing to work with you all - to serve our shared communities.

A brief award ceremony will be held on Tuesday, March 30, at 6:00 pm. You can watch by going to any of the links or channels listed below -

- <u>facebook.com/aacoexec</u>
- bit.ly/arundelty
- Arundel TV YouTube
- Channel 38 on Verizon
- Channel 98 on Comcast / Broadstripe

#### **Legislative Scholarship**



Applications for the 2021 - 2022 school year are now open! To be eligible for this scholarship, you must live within District 30a, which you can check here! Scholarships are awarded based on need and on a case-by-case basis. Prior to applying, you must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), which is available and can be submitted online at www.fafsa.ed.gov.

You can find directions on how to submit your application online <a href="here">here</a>.

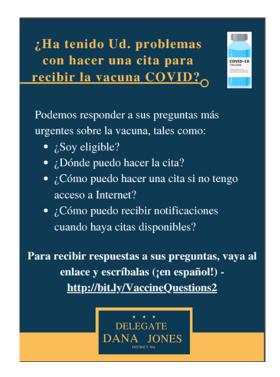
If you have any questions, comments, and/or concerns, you can contact our Scholarship Program Manager, David Duba, at 410-841-3211 or david.danajones.office@gmail.com.

### **Vaccine Appointment Assistance & Information**

Do you have questions about how to make or want help making a vaccine appointment? Our office has answers!

You can submit your questions to us by going to -http://bit.ly/Vaccinequestions1 O http://bit.ly/VaccineQuestions2 para en español.





#### Volunteers Needed!



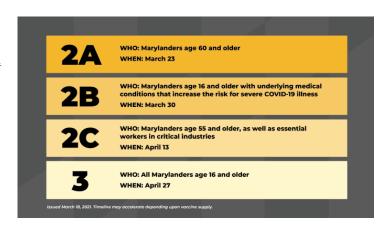
The City of Annapolis needs your help! They are looking for volunteers (Spanish-speaking preferred) to help get information out on accessing the vaccine. Volunteers will be handing out informational flyers and engaging directly with community members. Please email Laura Gutierrez at <a href="mailto:lgutierrez@annapolis.gov">lgutierrez@annapolis.gov</a> with the subject line "volunteer" if you are interested in helping out or would like more information

#### **COVID-19 Vaccinations**

**STARTING TOMORROW!** Maryland will be moving into **Phase 2B** of our vaccination plan. Under this stage, Marylanders over 16 years old *with* underlying medical conditions that increase the risk for severe COVID-19 illness are now eligible. Those eligible may preregister for an appointment by going to <a href="https://massvax.maryland.gov/">https://massvax.maryland.gov/</a>

Eligible Maryland residents can use these links to make an appointment at locations throughout the state:

- <u>UMD Baltimore Washington Medical</u> Center
- MedStar Health Baltimore
- <u>Luminis Health at Anne Arundel Medical</u> Center
- Giant Food
- Safeway
- Walgreens
- CVS (Those without online access can call 800-746-7287)
- VA Maryland Health Care System (Eligible Veterans only)
- Six Flags America Mass Vaccination Site
- M&T Bank Stadium



For more tips on how to register for a vaccination appointment, you can click here!

**NOTE To Those Who Have ALREADY Received The Vaccine:** If you have been able to receive a vaccine from a mass vaccination site like Six Flags or a pharmacy like a CVS, **please take the time to remove your name from any pre-registration waitlists you used**. This small step makes a big difference to others still waiting for their shot. This continues to be a very fluid situation, and I encourage

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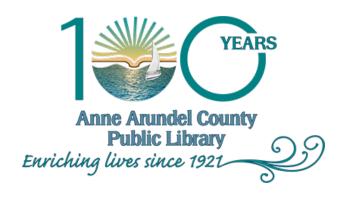
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Wednesday, March 31, at 4:00pm, the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center (SERC) is coming to AACPL. Hear from scientists in the SERC Molecular Ecology Lab, take a tour of one of their field sites, and get a closer look at how fungus friends are helpers in our forests. Students can even conduct hands-on activities right from home! Just Pick up a kit at your nearest Public Library starting March 24th at no cost (while supplies last). Click here to register for this exciting event.

I would encourage everyone to follow the <u>Anne Arundel County Public Library's Facebook page</u> to get updates on programs and new resources. Also, check out their <u>calendar</u> to find the perfect event for you and your family to enjoy!



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#### **Attention College Students**



The Maryland Student Legislature has been providing college students with an invaluable hands-on education opportunity for more than three decades. The program allows students to participate in a simulation of the Maryland General Assembly, helping them gain real-world experience of our legislative process. This year, MSL will hold its 32nd Annual Session virtually on Saturday, April 17th, from 12-4 pm. Students can sign up to participate <a href="here">here</a>!

## Stand Up for the Light House

Annapolis Canoe and Kayak is partnering with the Light House - Homeless Prevention Support Center to

provide you with an opportunity to win fun prizes while supporting a great cause. Enter this two-week-long raffle to win a stand-up paddleboard or a \$1,000 Amazon Gift Card! All proceeds go to support The Light House Shelter to support the essential services they provide.

Tickets on Sale NOW through Thursday, April 8th at noon. Purchase either a SUP Board Ticket or Amazon Ticket here!



#### Juneteenth



Today the City of Annapolis announced that we will be hosting Maryland's first Juneteenth Festival this summer. The festivities kick off on Friday, June 18th, with a special VIP Reception and Awards Ceremony followed by a parade and music festival on Saturday the 19th. You can learn more about this inaugural celebration <a href="https://example.com/here/">here!</a>

## **Introducing the New D30A Mascot**

I am overjoyed to introduce MD District 30a's official mascot, Annie Chesapeake. Annie is ready to serve the great people (& pups) of Annapolis & Anne Arundel County!

You can follow my adventures on my Twitter <u>@DanaCJones</u> or hit her up on Instagram <u>@AnnieChesapeake</u>



You can follow me on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, and <u>Instagram</u> to learn about volunteer opportunities, community resources, COVID-19 updates, and much more. If you have any questions or concerns, you can always contact my office by email at <u>Dana.Jones@house.state.md.us</u> or by phone at 410-841-3211.

Stay safe and healthy,

Dana Jams

Contact Info:



April 5, 2021

# Hello Neighbors,

Hard to believe that we are just days away from Sine Die 2021. This historic legislative session has been conducted and masterfully executed by the most dedicated State staff in America.

Extraordinary lengths were taken to ensure new health regulations were in place to protect all those who worked in the Maryland General Assembly by the House & Senate leadership staff. I want to thank the House staff who facilitated the creation of two House chambers - which communicated as one, a tremendous technological lift to make all of this work. The committee analysts who worked late most nights and many weekends to get legislation ready for debate and amended on a moment's notice. Our brave State Troopers that have kept us safe in the unsure times we have found ourselves. Administrative staff who prepared all of the MGA buildings right down to installing plexiglass around speaking podiums. All of this additional planning and preparation is outside of the colossal 'normal amount' of work to pass the people's legislation and keep our state solvent in a 90-day window.

In the Jones 30a office, thousands of requests for assistance and correspondence were received in the last 82 days. On top of all of the normal legislative correspondence the office receives during a legislative session, we continued to provide COVID-related assistance, including help with Unemployment Insurance claims, answering COVID-19 testing questions, helping small businesses find their way to financial support, and assisting constituents in making vaccine appointments. All led by our extraordinary Chief of Staff, Lydia McPherson – whose professionalism and love of her home district is unmatched. The Jones office team of Heidi, Casey, Katherine & David have gone above and beyond in their dedication to the residents of our district, and I'm forever grateful.

This week I thank all of the MGA staff who have worked tirelessly for the state of Maryland. Your dedication is awe-inspiring.

# **Supporting our Community**



We have just ONE WEEK LEFT in this year's legislative Session. Among all the legislative work that has to get done, the Anne Arundel County Delegation was able to take a moment to recognize and support a local organization. The Anne Arundel County Food Bank has been working overtime to ensure that our neighbors hit hardest by the pandemic have the food and supplies they need. I was honored to join my fellow Delegation members in presenting AACo Food Bank with a check to help them continue to do their amazing work. If you would like to support our community's food bank, click here!

## **Building the Budget**

As you may know, the Maryland Constitution requires that our State budget be balanced, meaning that the legislature cannot spend more money than we bring in. Thanks to our State's quickly recovering economy and the additional \$3.9 billion in federal aid from the American Rescue Act, we are able to provide much-needed relief to Marylanders rather than make difficult cuts. The budget bill covers the costs of the bipartisan RELIEF Act, which was passed earlier this session. This state-level stimulus package includes direct stimulus payments to low-income Marylanders, expand the state's Earned Income Tax Credit, cuts taxes on unemployment income, and provide financial assistance to struggling businesses. Additional federal funds will be used to help enhance the state's unemployment system, bolster economic relief programs, and improve access to broadband internet service. The final budget plan that was decided upon and passed by the House last week also **dedicates \$2.1 billion to state savings accounts** and eliminates any projected budget deficits for the next two years.

As your Delegate, I have the privilege of advocating for funding to be used for community projects. This year my fellow seatmates and I worked to secure around \$500,000 to fund projects throughout Annapolis and Anne Arundel county.

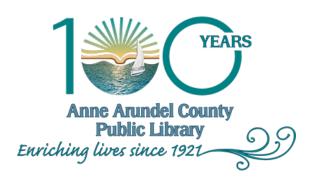
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**Starting next Monday** (April 12th), the AACPL system will reopen for walk-in services. <u>Safety protocols remain in place</u> at the library, and it is important that community members be respectful to library staff and fellow patrons when enjoying in-person services.

Are you thinking about doing some gardening before summer arrives? Get inspired with AACPL! This Thursday, from 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm, join the <u>Garden Round Table Book Discussion: Rethinking Your Lawn</u>. You can register for this discussion here.

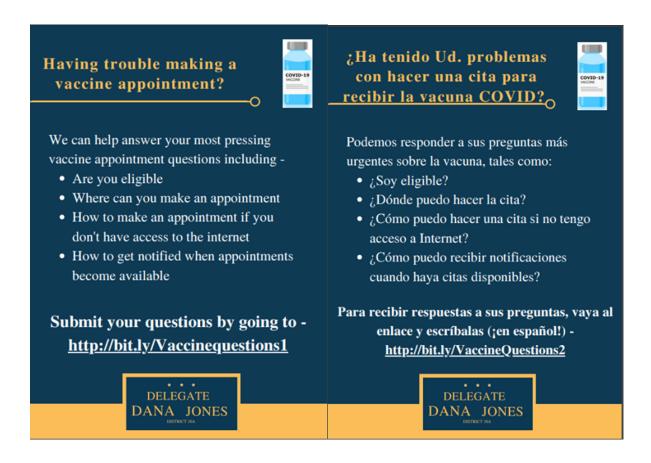
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You can submit your questions to us by going to -http://bit.ly/Vaccinequestions1 O http://bit.ly/VaccineQuestions2 para en español.



# STARTING TOMORROW April 6th, ALL Maryland mass vaccination sites will move into Phase 3 meaning that any Marylanders over the

Phase 3 meaning that any Marylanders over the age of 16 will be eligible for a vaccine from these sites. \*\*Please note that at this time, individuals aged 16-17 years old must receive Pfizer vaccines, which are not available everywhere. \*\* Additionally, walk-up appointments are now accepted at the Salisbury and Hagerstown mass vaccination sites. Starting next week, walk-ups will be accepted at the M&T Bank Stadium mass vaccination site.

You can preregister for an appointment by going to <u>covidvax.maryland.gov</u>

Eligible Maryland residents can also these links to make an appointment at locations throughout the state:

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- MedStar Health Baltimore
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- Walgreens
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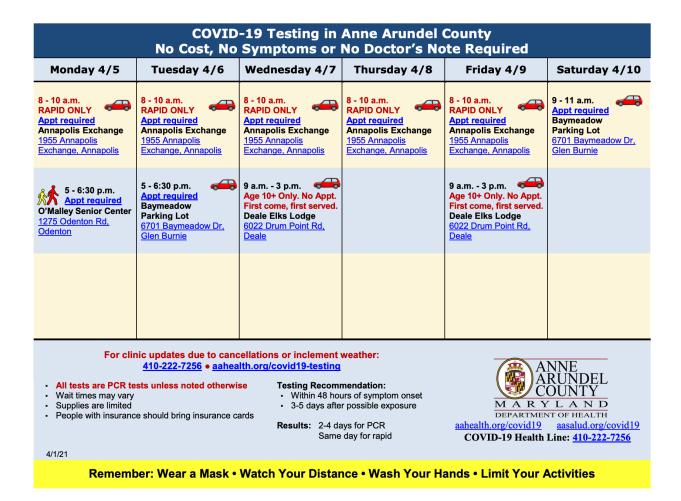




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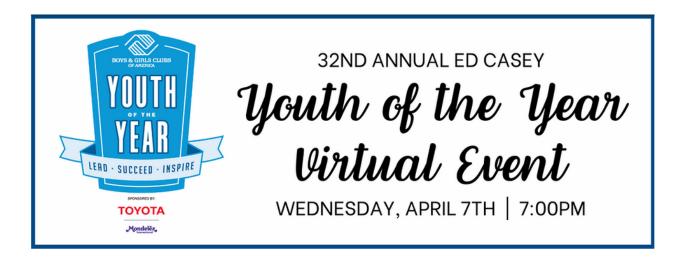
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## Youth in Leadership

Congratulations to Annapolis High school students, Jalen and Todd, who are both being honored at the 32nd Annual Youth of the Year presented by the Boys & Girls Clubs of Annapolis & Anne Arundel County. If you would like to learn more about the honorees, you can read their bios <a href="here">here!</a> The Award ceremony will be held virtually on April 7th at 7:00 pm and will be streamed live to Facebook and Youtube.



#### **Museums Back in Action**

Annapolis is a town rich in history, with many of our buildings dating back to the 18th Century. After nearly a year, many of our City's historical museums have begun welcoming back visitors. You can read more about which museums plan to open and the programs they have available here.



#### **Support for Restaurants**

The Anne Anne Arundel Economic Development Corporation (AAEDC) is offering another round of <u>RFS Grants</u> to support our restaurants. The list of eligible businesses has changed slightly to reflect AAEDC's aim to assist businesses that were not served in previous application rounds. If you have any questions, you can email <u>grants@aaedc.org</u>.

Click here to learn about additional resources for small businesses.



# **Recognizing Annapolis**

Our home town of Annapolis was listed among the top 30 "most charming small cities in the USA" by <u>Travel Magazine</u>. The article cites our colonial architecture, rich history, sailing culture, and boutique shopping as just some of the attributes that make Annapolis so captivating. I couldn't agree more with this recognition and feel so lucky to represent such a lovely town and its residents!



You can follow me on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, and <u>Instagram</u> to learn about volunteer opportunities, community resources, COVID-19 updates, and much more. If you have any questions or concerns, you can always contact my office by email at <u>Dana.Jones@house.state.md.us</u> or by phone at 410-841-3211.

Stay safe and healthy,

Dana	ams
	)

Connect With Us:	Contact Info:
<u>Facebook</u>	
<u>Instagram</u>	
<u>Twitter</u>	

By Authority: Friends of Dana Jones; Karen M. White, Treasurer P.O. Box 4237, Annapolis, MD 21403



April 5, 2021

# Hello Neighbors,

Hard to believe that we are just days away from Sine Die 2021. This historic legislative session has been conducted and masterfully executed by the most dedicated State staff in America.

Extraordinary lengths were taken to ensure new health regulations were in place to protect all those who worked in the Maryland General Assembly by the House & Senate leadership staff. I want to thank the House staff who facilitated the creation of two House chambers - which communicated as one, a tremendous technological lift to make all of this work. The committee analysts who worked late most nights and many weekends to get legislation ready for debate and amended on a moment's notice. Our brave State Troopers that have kept us safe in the unsure times we have found ourselves. Administrative staff who prepared all of the MGA buildings right down to installing plexiglass around speaking podiums. All of this additional planning and preparation is outside of the colossal 'normal amount' of work to pass the people's legislation and keep our state solvent in a 90-day window.

In the Jones 30a office, thousands of requests for assistance and correspondence were received in the last 82 days. On top of all of the normal legislative correspondence the office receives during a legislative session, we continued to provide COVID-related assistance, including help with Unemployment Insurance claims, answering COVID-19 testing questions, helping small businesses find their way to financial support, and assisting constituents in making vaccine appointments. All led by our extraordinary Chief of Staff, Lydia McPherson – whose professionalism and love of her home district is unmatched. The Jones office team of Heidi, Casey, Katherine & David have gone above and beyond in their dedication to the residents of our district, and I'm forever grateful.

This week I thank all of the MGA staff who have worked tirelessly for the state of Maryland. Your dedication is awe-inspiring.

# **Supporting our Community**



We have just ONE WEEK LEFT in this year's legislative Session. Among all the legislative work that has to get done, the Anne Arundel County Delegation was able to take a moment to recognize and support a local organization. The Anne Arundel County Food Bank has been working overtime to ensure that our neighbors hit hardest by the pandemic have the food and supplies they need. I was honored to join my fellow Delegation members in presenting AACo Food Bank with a check to help them continue to do their amazing work. If you would like to support our community's food bank, click here!

## **Building the Budget**

As you may know, the Maryland Constitution requires that our State budget be balanced, meaning that the legislature cannot spend more money than we bring in. Thanks to our State's quickly recovering economy and the additional \$3.9 billion in federal aid from the American Rescue Act, we are able to provide much-needed relief to Marylanders rather than make difficult cuts. The budget bill covers the costs of the bipartisan RELIEF Act, which was passed earlier this session. This state-level stimulus package includes direct stimulus payments to low-income Marylanders, expand the state's Earned Income Tax Credit, cuts taxes on unemployment income, and provide financial assistance to struggling businesses. Additional federal funds will be used to help enhance the state's unemployment system, bolster economic relief programs, and improve access to broadband internet service. The final budget plan that was decided upon and passed by the House last week also **dedicates \$2.1 billion to state savings accounts** and eliminates any projected budget deficits for the next two years.

As your Delegate, I have the privilege of advocating for funding to be used for community projects. This year my fellow seatmates and I worked to secure around \$500,000 to fund projects throughout Annapolis and Anne Arundel county.

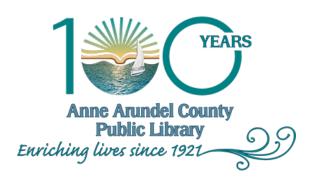
#### **Love Our Libraries**

2021 is the <u>Anne Arundel County Public Library's</u> 100th anniversary! Our library system offers a wide variety of programming and resources. In honor of their centennial celebration, each week, I will be highlighting one program, resource, or event that our libraries have to offer.

**Starting next Monday** (April 12th), the AACPL system will reopen for walk-in services. <u>Safety protocols remain in place</u> at the library, and it is important that community members be respectful to library staff and fellow patrons when enjoying in-person services.

Are you thinking about doing some gardening before summer arrives? Get inspired with AACPL! This Thursday, from 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm, join the <u>Garden Round Table Book Discussion: Rethinking Your Lawn</u>. You can register for this discussion here.

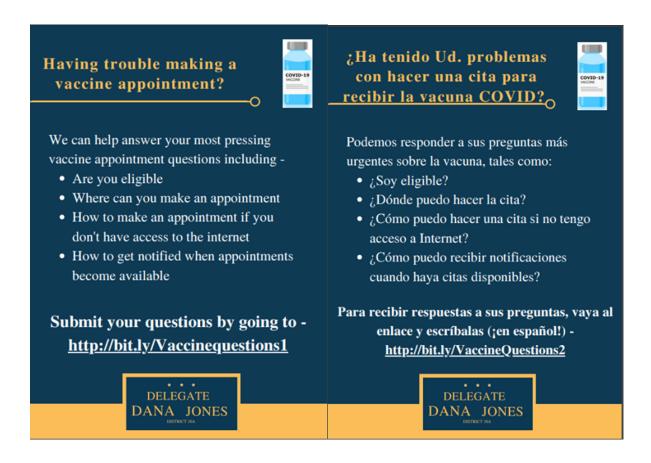
I would encourage everyone to follow the <u>Anne Arundel County Public Library's Facebook page</u> to get updates on programs and new resources. Also, check out their <u>calendar</u> to find the perfect event for you and your family to enjoy!



## Vaccine Appointment Assistance & Information

Do you have questions about how to make or want help making a vaccine appointment? Our office has answers!

You can submit your questions to us by going to -http://bit.ly/Vaccinequestions1 O http://bit.ly/VaccineQuestions2 para en español.



# STARTING TOMORROW April 6th, ALL Maryland mass vaccination sites will move into Phase 3 meaning that any Marylanders over the

Phase 3 meaning that any Marylanders over the age of 16 will be eligible for a vaccine from these sites. \*\*Please note that at this time, individuals aged 16-17 years old must receive Pfizer vaccines, which are not available everywhere. \*\* Additionally, walk-up appointments are now accepted at the Salisbury and Hagerstown mass vaccination sites. Starting next week, walk-ups will be accepted at the M&T Bank Stadium mass vaccination site.

You can preregister for an appointment by going to <u>covidvax.maryland.gov</u>

Eligible Maryland residents can also these links to make an appointment at locations throughout the state:

- <u>UMD Baltimore Washington Medical Center</u>
- MedStar Health Baltimore
- Luminis Health at Anne Arundel Medical Center
- Giant Food
- <u>Safeway</u>
- Walgreens
- CVS (Those without online access can call 800-746-7287)
- <u>VA Maryland Health Care System</u> (Eligible Veterans only)
- Six Flags America Mass Vaccination Site
- M&T Bank Stadium

For more tips on how to register for a vaccination appointment, you can click here!

**NOTE To Those Who Have ALREADY Received The Vaccine:** If you have been able to receive a vaccine from a mass vaccination site like Six Flags or a pharmacy like a CVS, **please take the time to remove your name from any pre-registration waitlists you used**. This small step makes a big difference to others still waiting for their shot. This continues to be a very fluid situation, and I encourage you all to follow any of my social media pages for up-to-date information as it becomes publicly available.

Additionally, you can use the <u>State of Maryland Vaccination Site Search Tool</u> to search for all vaccination locations within the state. Find out how to get alerted when appointments become available <u>here!</u>

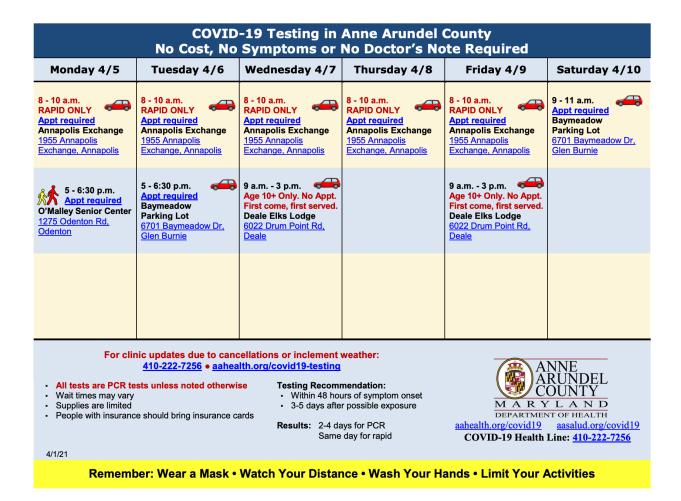




If you have any questions about the vaccine rollout or are eligible for a vaccine and need help making an appointment, please email <a href="mailto:Dana.Jones@house.state.md.us">Dana.Jones@house.state.md.us</a>, and our office will assist you.

#### **COVID-19 Tests**

Anne Arundel County offers COVID-19 testing at no cost. Symptoms are not required for a test, and a doctor's note is not needed. Test results are usually available in three to five days. You can call the Anne Arundel county COVID-19 Health Information Line: 410-222-7256 with all of your COVID-19 related questions.



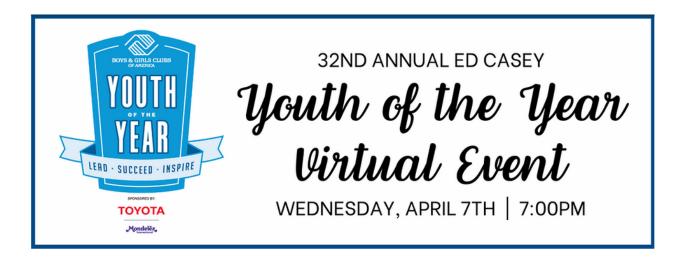
#### **COVID-19 Resources**

My full breakdown of resources - everything from eviction prevention to utility assistance - <u>is available here</u>. If you or someone you know needs help navigating any state resources, you can always reach out to my office. My Chief of Staff, Lydia McPherson, or I can assist you.



## Youth in Leadership

Congratulations to Annapolis High school students, Jalen and Todd, who are both being honored at the 32nd Annual Youth of the Year presented by the Boys & Girls Clubs of Annapolis & Anne Arundel County. If you would like to learn more about the honorees, you can read their bios <a href="here">here!</a> The Award ceremony will be held virtually on April 7th at 7:00 pm and will be streamed live to Facebook and Youtube.



#### **Museums Back in Action**

Annapolis is a town rich in history, with many of our buildings dating back to the 18th Century. After nearly a year, many of our City's historical museums have begun welcoming back visitors. You can read more about which museums plan to open and the programs they have available here.



#### **Support for Restaurants**

The Anne Anne Arundel Economic Development Corporation (AAEDC) is offering another round of <u>RFS Grants</u> to support our restaurants. The list of eligible businesses has changed slightly to reflect AAEDC's aim to assist businesses that were not served in previous application rounds. If you have any questions, you can email <u>grants@aaedc.org</u>.

Click here to learn about additional resources for small businesses.



# **Recognizing Annapolis**

Our home town of Annapolis was listed among the top 30 "most charming small cities in the USA" by <u>Travel Magazine</u>. The article cites our colonial architecture, rich history, sailing culture, and boutique shopping as just some of the attributes that make Annapolis so captivating. I couldn't agree more with this recognition and feel so lucky to represent such a lovely town and its residents!



You can follow me on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, and <u>Instagram</u> to learn about volunteer opportunities, community resources, COVID-19 updates, and much more. If you have any questions or concerns, you can always contact my office by email at <u>Dana.Jones@house.state.md.us</u> or by phone at 410-841-3211.

Stay safe and healthy,

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By Authority: Friends of Dana Jones; Karen M. White, Treasurer P.O. Box 4237, Annapolis, MD 21403