

SOUTHERN MARYLAND
Bridal Expo
 2017
FREE ADMISSION
Sunday, January 15, 2017
11:30am - 3:00pm
Bay District Volunteer
Fire Department Social Hall
46900 South Shangri-La Drive
Lexington Park, MD 20653



GRAND PRIZE! SPONSORED BY BDVFD
REGISTER TO WIN A FREE WEDDING GOWN
FROM TODAY'S BRIDE
(up to \$1,000 value)

Wedding Specialists will share their secrets and services to help you plan your special day! From gowns to gorgeous finishing touches, you'll see it all in one place.

For further information, contact **Patrick Stanley** at **301-863-1029** or **hallrental@bdvfd.org**

PICTURES AND INFORMATION ON THE WEB:
www.bdvfd.org/content/hall/



13TH ANNUAL
MARTIN
LUTHER KING, JR.
PRAYER BREAKFAST
 at St. Mary's College of Maryland
 Keynote Address by David Kendall
 Attorney and Activist

JANUARY 16, 2017
 J. Frank Raley Great Room,
 Campus Center
 Breakfast:
 6:30 a.m. (\$10 at the door)
 Program:
 8:00 a.m. (free)
 Day of Service:
 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. (free)

Sponsored by:
 St. Mary's College of Maryland
 St. Mary's County,
 Human Relations Commission
 St. Mary's County Public Schools
 College of Southern Maryland
 Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.

Bring packaged snacks and school supplies for the Day of Service.

For more information, contact:
 Linda Jones at
events@smcm.edu

Older adults can find their voice in Encore choir group

Singing can help people feel better.

That's the message behind the Encore Chorale in Southern Maryland, which will begin weekly rehearsals for its winter/spring season on Wednesday, Jan. 11. Rehearsals will be from 1 to 2:30 p.m. and will take place in the auditorium in the Asbury Solomons Retirement Community, located at 11100 Asbury Circle in Solomons.

Encore is a nonprofit organization that provides a high-quality and accessible artistic environment for older adults, regardless of experience or ability, who seek arts education and performance opportunities under a professional artist. Encore Chorale has 20 choral groups in the Washington/Virginia/Maryland area, serving more than 1,000 singers.

Stanley "Joey" Hoopengardner will be directing the Southern Maryland Encore Chorale again this year.

"Singing is lifelong, something they can do forever. They don't need to be really great. There's no audition required. The camaraderie is really nice," Hoopengardner said.

Hoopengardner, who majored in music education at the University of Maryland, taught choral music in the St. Mary's public schools for 33 years. He also directed St. Maries Musica for seven years, and in the summer serves as the musical director for the county's department of recreation and parks Sumerstock productions. Hoopengardner will be assisted by chorale master Dick Staley.

For those looking to return to singing or continue a lifelong passion, Encore offers a chance to join other music enthusiasts for weekly rehearsals of fun and challenging music. The program does not require auditions.

Participants may stand or sit for rehearsals and performances. The concerts at the end of the 15-week semester are free and open to the public.

Hoopengardner said he's had chorale members come to a practice complaining of aches and pains, but after an hour and a half of singing, their worries melt away.

"Singing makes you happy. It's good for you," he said.

The spring repertoire for includes "Porgy and Bess," "Va pensiero," "Les Miserables" and "Do, Lord Remember Me."

This year marks the 10th anniversary of the founding of Encore by Jeanne Kelly. To celebrate this milestone, all the Encore chorales will join together for a gala concert at DAR Constitution Hall on May 13.

The Southern Maryland Encore Chorale is open to all adults, age 55 or older. The fee for the fall semester is \$175, which includes weekly 90-minute rehearsals, sheet music, a rehearsal CD and several performance opportunities at the end of the semester.

Registration is now open. See <http://encorecreativity.org>, call 301-261-5747 or email info@encorecreativity.org.

Church to celebrate King's life, legacy

First Missionary Baptist

THIS 'N' THAT

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Yeatman
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Church on Pegg Road in Lexington Park will celebrate the life and legacy of Martin Luther King Jr. on Jan. 8 at 3 p.m. The theme for this occasion is "Renewing the Dream: We Still Have Hope!" and the guest speaker will be the Rev. Robin A. Toogood II of Purity Baptist Church and Urban Center, Washington, D.C. For more information, call 301-863-8388.

CSM campuses are all now smoke-free

The College of Southern Maryland, beginning this week, is joining the growing number of institutions across the country that are going smoke-free. CSM has established a smoke-, tobacco- and vape-free learning and working environment on all of its campuses, college locations and property. The new policy was recommended by CSM President Brad Gottfried and approved by the CSM board of trustees last summer.

The policy applies to all members of the CSM community including students, faculty, staff, volunteers, contractors, visitors and anyone entering onto CSM properties. All events hosted by CSM and outside groups on CSM campuses will be tobacco-free as well. All tobacco and vape-producing products will be prohibited from being used anywhere on any CSM property, including in all buildings and facilities, outdoor areas, athletic fields, parking lots and vehicles traveling on a campus.

CSM will place quit kits around all three campuses for those who are already in the process of quitting. Several other resources are available such as the Maryland Quit Line at 1-800-QUIT-NOW and online at www.smokingstopshere.com.

Cessation classes will be available through each county health department and are free to the public. Typically classes begin in January, run for eight weeks, and meet for an hour once a week.

The college will make smoking-cessation resources and counseling available on all campuses. Information on available resources will be shared at www.csmd.edu/breatheclean.

Make shawls for a good cause

The Shawl Ministry of St. Mary's will meet Thursday, Jan. 5, at 4 p.m. at the Garvey Senior Activity Center in Leonardtown. Comfort shawls and lap robes will be collected for Hospice of St. Mary's. For more information, call Marianna Nystrom at 240-298-1887.

Hospice to host support group for grieving spouses

Hospice of St. Mary's will be hosting a Spousal Support Group to help individuals through the pain and grief that often is experienced with losing a loved one. The group will

meet from 6 to 7:30 p.m. every Wednesday from Jan. 11 through March 1 in the conference room at Hospice House, located at 44724 Hospice Lane in Callaway. Space is limited, so call and register at 301-994-3023. There is no charge for this support group.

Choral festival to be held Sunday

The New Year's Choral Festival, part of the Kalnasy Concert Series, will be held on Sunday, Jan. 8, at 3 p.m. at St. Aloysius Catholic Church. This celebration of song includes traditional Christmas carols, liturgical hymns, and songs of praise sung by student and adult choirs as well as performances by the handbell ensemble, praise band and vocal soloists. The event is free, but guests are encouraged to bring canned food items or a small cash donation to benefit Helping Hands Food Bank. For more, call 301-475-8064 or visit www.saintaloyuschurch.org.

Fracking, judicial reform to be topics

Public information and advocacy training sessions about fracking in Maryland and pre-trial judicial reform will be held this month in Southern Maryland. The series of free, public information-sharing events will open discussion regarding these two issues, both scheduled to be considered by the Maryland legislature during the upcoming session.

In St. Mary's, the session will be held Wednesday, Jan. 11, from 7 to 9 p.m. in the auditorium of College of Southern Maryland's Leonardtown campus. In addition, sessions will be held from 7 to 9 p.m. at CSM's La Plata campus on Jan. 5 and at the Prince Frederick campus on Jan. 19.

Elms to host master naturalist program

The Elms Environmental Education Center will be the first Master Naturalist training site in St. Mary's. As a Certified Maryland Master Naturalist will serve as catalysts for local environmental conservation through education, research and stewardship.

Lessons go beyond classroom lecture; the Elms offers an outdoor environment where participants can immerse themselves in hands-on experiences that supplement the lesson materials. Field work and field trips supplement the training.

The training is on Tuesday evenings from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. from Feb. 28 through June 6, plus four Saturday field trip days. Those wishing to train must complete an application and pay the \$250 course fee.

Read more at <http://extension.umd.edu/masternaturalist>. Download an application from that site, and send completed application to Margarita Rochow, Elms master naturalist facilitator, via email (preferred) to mrrochow@smcps.org or by mail to Margarita Rochow, Elms Environmental Education Center — St. Mary's Co. Public Schools, 23160 Moakley St., Leonardtown, MD 20650.