

# MFRW Officers President Sharon Carrick

2024-2025

1st Vice President Luanne Ruddell

2nd Vice President Vikki Birkett

3rd Vice President Jana Hobbs

4th Vice President Liliana Norkaitis

> Treasurer Anne White

Assistant Treasurer Maria Sofia

Recording Secretary Melissa Brown

Corresponding Secretary Becca Tittermary

#### Standing Committees

Bylaws Liliana Norkaitis

> Finance Anne White

Legislative Ella Ennis

Literacy Liz Mumford

Membership Linda Stine Flint

Programs Anne Rutherford

**Trumpeter Editors**Anne White
Carol Randall

## The Trumpeter

#### From the President's Pen



#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Campaigning is well under way, even though the deadline for filing a Certificate of Candidacy is still almost 6 months away -- Tuesday, February 24, 2026.

Our members have always been engaged in the support of Republican candidates. Every elected Republican, whether city, county, state or federal, acknowledges the integral part our members play in their election successes.

Some MFRW members have expressed frustration that the Federation (or their club) is not openly supporting a particular candidate. I wanted to take this opportunity to explain the reason for that.

The actions of the Maryland Federation of Republican Women and Maryland's 26 federated clubs are governed by the National Federation of Republican Women (NFRW). The NFRW's *Endorsement Policy* requires that the state federation and the local clubs (and their president and campaign chair) remain neutral in a competitive Republican Primary.

The Federation and its clubs can share information on candidates or invite them to speak; but those opportunities must be equally and fairly extended to all candidates.

Except for the club president and the club campaign chair, members are free to support the Republican candidate of their choice. However, be careful that your actions do not imply the support of the NFRW, the MFRW, or your club.

Perception is everything. We all know individuals who have voiced an intent to run but have not yet formally entered the race. Let's err on the side of caution and assume that every office on the 2026 Primary Election ballot will be a competitive Republican Primary.

Sharon

The "Women Increasing Numbers" (WIN) campaign will mobilize thousands of NFRW members to deliver victories for Winsome Sears and Jack Ciattarelli. This partnership recognizes what we've always known: Republican women are the driving force behind electoral success.

The timing is perfect. With Democratic approval ratings at their lowest point in over three decades, we have a unique opportunity to deliver Republican victories in both gubernatorial races and down-ballot contests.

WIN will mobilize thousands of our members nationwide, deploying trained grassroots teams across **Virginia** and **New Jersey** for comprehensive voter engagement—from registration drives to poll watching to aggressive get-out-the-vote operations.

This joint campaign shows the RNC's confidence in NFRW to deliver results. Republican women have repeatedly proven our effectiveness in election integrity and voter mobilization efforts. **RNC Co-Chair KC Crosbie,** our **NFRW sister** from Kentucky, recognizes the unique value Republican women bring to every election and championed this partnership.

Virginia and New Jersey will serve as proving grounds for the kind of effective, women-led ground game that wins elections nationwide. This campaign also represents our opportunity to set the tone for Republican success in the 2026 mid-term.

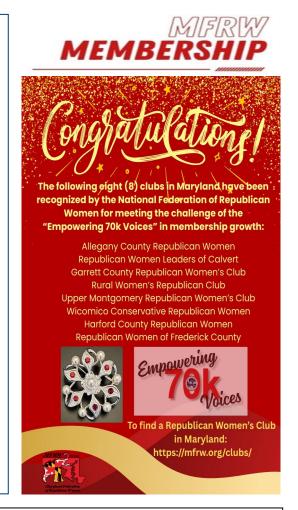
\*\*\*Click HERE to sign up to volunteer!\*\*\*
There are several ways you can contribute!

## MFRW Fall Convention October 25, 2025 Ocean City, MD



MFRW members from 16 (so far) clubs will convene in Ocean City in October. The annual Business Meeting will include the election of officers for 2026-2027 term, voting on Bylaws amendments, approval of the 2026 Budget, committee reports, and SPEAKERS!

Bonus activities — it's SUNFEST WEEKEND IN O.C. The room block cutoff date is September 23rd. Details and Sign up to attend <u>HERE</u>





### **NEWS FROM NATIONAL**

The 43rd NFRW Biennial Convention is fast approaching and a record 45 MFRW members will meet in Orlando, FL September 24th - 28th to learn about NFRW updates, participate in a workshop on "Leading with Confidence" and elect officers for the 2026-2027 term of office.

Meeting NFRW members from across America and trading state pins is a highlight of the weekend.



Rosen Shingle Creek Resort



CHECK OUT THE MANY RESOURCES AVAILABLE AT WWW.MFRW.ORG

- LEGISLATIVE UPDATES
- MFRW SUBMITTED BILL TESTIMONY
- EVENT HANDOUTS (ABOUT US/RESOURCES)
  - PROGRAMS—AMERICANISM



# ALL PROCEEDS FROM THE LATEST MFRW RAFFLE WILL BENEFIT THE DIANA WATERMAN SCHOLARSHIP FUND.

THE WINNING TICKET WILL DRAWN AT THE MFRW FALL CONVENTION ON OCTOBER 25TH

YOU CAN SECURE YOUR RAFFLE TICKET AT WWW.MFRW.ORG

THE THE PRIZE IS DIANA'S OWN RWFF PIN—A LIMITED EDITION ANN HAND DESIGN

<u>Ann Hand Exclusive Pin</u> — Republican Women's Federal Forum

DIANA WATERMAN SERVED ON THE RWFF ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR SEVERAL YEARS.

THE RWFF SPONSORS A MONTHLY LUNCHEON SPEAKER SERIES AT THE CAPTIOL HILL CLUB IN WASHINGTON, D.C. .

VISIT <u>HTTPS://RWFFORUM.ORG</u> TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE ORGANIZATION AND UPCOMING LUNCHEON SPEAKER OPPORTUNITIES



#### DID YOU KNOW?

THERE WERE 332 MUNICIPAL SEATS UP FOR ELECTION IN MARYLAND, THIS YEAR.

THERE HAVE ALREADY BEEN 98 REPUBLICAN WINS WITH MORE TO COME

HELP BUILD THE REPUBLICAN BENCH BY SUPPORTING YOUR LOCAL RACES



## What is the Bay Club?

The **BAY CLUB** is a donor group supporting the work of the Maryland Federation of Republican Women.

Funds generated from Bay Club membership enable the mailing of printed *Trumpeters* to our MFRW members who don't use the Internet, MFRW state and local leaders, women featured in Trumpeter stories, and, of course, Bay Club members.

Bay Club membership for 2025 stands at 26 individuals and 15 club members.

Nineteen Bay Club members met at the entrance gate on a scorching hot day on July 8th for a White House Tour. After about 5 security checks, the group entered the East Wing visitors entrance where various White House historical artifacts are on display.

The self guided tour proceeded through the East Colonnade to several rooms on the first floor including, the Library, the Family Theater, the China Room and the Vermeil Room.

Upstairs visitors continued through the East Room, the Green Room, the Blue Room, the Red Room, and the famous State Dining Room where many diplomats have been served throughout history.

Cross Hall was visible from the doorway where notable presidential portraits are on display.



The tour ended at the dignitaries' entry hall where visitors could see the steps leading to the President's residence.

The President and First Lady are often seen greeting dignitaries from these steps. Sadly, no sightings on July 8th!

# 2025 Bay Club Individual Members as of August 31, 2025 ine Baker Barbara Freilich Beth Rodier

**Martine Baker Barbara Freilich** Jana Barberio **Patty Hammond Linda Bradley** Lisa Herman **Sharon Carrick** Jana Hobbs **Sylvia Darrow** Jean Hruz Jean Delcher **Karen McKinley** Lynne DeMinco **Erin McPate Ella Ennis** Liliana Norkaitis **Carol Randall** 

Gary Ruddell Luanne Ruddell Anne Rutherford Linda Stine Flint Anne White Sandy Zitzer

**Donna Zupancic** 

Kim Rosado

#### 2025 Club Members

RW of Calvert County RW Leaders of Calvert RW of Cecil County RW Charles County Chesapeake RW Chevy Chase WRC RW of Frederick County Garrett County RWC Harford County RW Patuxent RW Potomac RWC Severna Park RWC RW of St. Mary's Wicomico Conservative RW RW of Worcester County

#### MFRW Happenings from the Clubs

## Republican Women of Baltimore County

Many thanks to our club president, Louise Baker, and her husband, Tom, for hosting another "Members Celebrating New Members Party" at their lovely home on August 23<sup>rd</sup>. It was a beautiful day in every way as RWBC celebrated our new members.

We're excited that the club is growing and look forward to future events.

We also welcomed guest candidates to briefly explain their platforms and meet club members:

**Delegate Nino Mangione** - running for County

Council: District 42 A

**Kevin Ford** - running for State Senate 42 A **Kathy Szeliga** - running for Delegate 7 A

Pat Dyre - running for County Executive

**Kimberly Stansbury** - running for County Executive

Alex Harlan - running for Delegate 42 A

Nicole Shroeder - running for Register of Wills



We also heard from Judge Juliet Fisher (former president Carol Randall's stepdaughter) about the Baltimore County Orphans Court.



We're thrilled that our club's Election Integrity Chairman Jean Benhoff was this year's recipient of the Baltimore County GOP's top award for her dedication to election integrity and secure the vote. This award could not have been given to a more deserving person within

our local party.

Congratulations to Jean!

← Jean Benhoff receiving her award from Karen Tully (center) and Louise Baker

RWBC Membership Chair Sophia Montgomery kicked off the Maryland State Fair at the Baltimore County GOP booth. Here folks could register to vote, find election volunteer opportunities, learn about local candidates, join various Republican clubs, etc.



←Labor Day State Fair weekend volunteers from left to right: Delegate Ric Metzgar, candidate for Baltimore County Executive Pat Dyer, former RWBC President Jolie McShane, election integrity champion Barry Chodak and Delegate Nino Mangione who is now a candidate for Baltimore County Council.

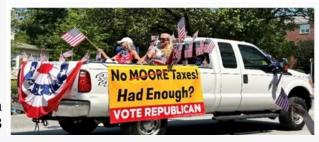
Finally, this post was extremely well received on Social Media yielding over 50,000 views, 2.6 K likes, 286 shares and 183 comments! Seems most agree that Wes Moore needs to go.



RWBC at the Towson 4th of July Parade! ■ ■ ■

To purchase NO MOORE yard signs:

https://secure.anedot.com/ baltimore-county-gop/events/ yard-signs



## Republican Women Leaders of Calvert



#### **NFRW HEADQUARTERS**

RWLC members explored the beautiful NFRW headquarters in Alexandria, Virginia and even met President Julie Harris.

Pictured L/R: Carolyn Rice, Julie Harris, Jana Barberio, Donna Zupancic, and Judith McCarthy



#### WHITE HOUSE TOUR

Several RWLC members joined the Bay Club, a donor group supporting the work of the MFRW, and toured the White House.

Interested in joining the Bay Club (or RWLC)? Send us an email and we will forward the details.



#### **SUMMER PARTY**

Several RWLC members joined the Bay Celebrating the Summer, RWLC members gathered at the home of our member, Angela Kittrell, for fellowship and food. Sean McGuire from "Save Lusby, Inc" presented to the group.

## Potomac Women's Republican Club

**Operation Summer Cheer Brings Smiles to Children** 

The Potomac Women's Republican Club once again brought joy to young patients through its **Operation Summer Cheer** toy drive, benefiting children receiving care at the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center Pediatric Oncology Clinic in Bethesda, MD.

This summer, more than 25 PWRC members and friends contributed **over 100 toys** to fill the clinic's special toy box, offering comfort and encouragement to pediatric cancer patients and their families. Now in its second year, the summer collection not only continued the tradition but also surpassed last year's totals.





WE NEED YOU!

A heartfelt thank-you goes to PWRC members **Christine Peterson**, **Donna Pennington**, **and Caring for America Chair Karen Walker** for their leadership in making this meaningful project such a success.

← Pictured with Walter Reed staff member (center), PWRC members Christine Peterson (left) and Donna Pennington (right) delivered the large donation.

.....To Be a Bay Club Member
Join Today!!! HERE

## Upper Montgomery Republican Women's Club

The Upper Montgomery Republican Women's Club had an amazing time representing the Maryland State GOP and the Montgomery County GOP at a Hispanic festival in Burtonsville, Maryland. We brought our rockstar Spanish-speaking members, Estela Pascale, Sara Hoffman, and Margarete Fragoso to spread the Republican word, to register voters and to introduce our candidates to the community.



Group at the Pool Party

Many of our members volunteered at the MoCo Ag Fair at the MCGOP booth, and knocked doors with Fitzgerald Mofor of Restore Maryland to encourage our low-propensity voters to use mail-in ballots.



ith Estela Pascale, Brigitta Mullican, Vikki Birkett, Reardon of "Sully" Sullivan, Alfonso Talavera, Sara Hoffman, and to Margarete Fragoso manning the MDGOP booth at a low- Hispanic festival in Burtonsville, Maryland.

Our members also took time for some fun together this summer, at the Girls and Guns event at Izaac Walton League Damascus, and at our pool party at the Twinbrook Pool in Rockville.

We are laser focused on mid-term election success!

Cherie Aker, Brigitta Mullican, Doreen Rubin, Cindy Cheng, and Liz Sullivan showing off their shooting skills! →



## Wicomico Conservative Republican Women

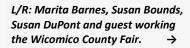
The Wicomico Conservative Republican Women hosted Michelle Talkington as our speaker for our June meeting. She was fabulous at inspiring us to step up and get involved. We also had one of our THREE scholarship winners present at the dinner along with her mother. She is a pre-veterinarian student and expressed interest in getting involved with the Young Republicans.

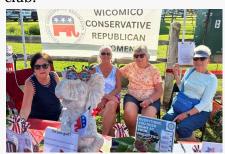


The members of our club at the White House tour exit.

In July, we went on our own trip to the White House. We also supported one of our local candidates, James Winn, at his fundraiser.

In August, we manned tables at the Wicomico County Fair during three of the hottest days in the summer. We interacted with many fair-goers and had lots of people interested in more information about our club.







Please follow, like and share this new Facebook page to prevent Court Packing.

Keep Nine Amendment



#### **LOST AND FOUND**

**Gold Hoop Earring** 

Found at Fall Convention

LAST CHANCE TO CLAIM

Email: whitesk8s@comcast.net

## Garrett County Republican Women's Club

The Club awarded three \$750 Ruth Umbel Memorial Scholarships to graduating seniors.



← L/R: Scholarship Committee Chair Lisa Herman, Austin Ross from Northern High School, and President Patty Hammond



← Brogan Moyer (ctr) from Southern High School with President Patty Hammond (L) and Scholarship Committee member Luanne Ruddell

> Lisa Herman presenting to Caleb Yoder, a home-schooled araduate.





We opened summer co-hosting with the GC Republican Central Committee for a wonderful June 14th event for Flag Day, President Trump's birthday and the 250th anniversary of the Army in the middle of the County, along Deep Creek Lake. With tents up and with refreshments, information and kids' activities available, we greeted passers-by with signs and waves, inviting them in and enjoying many honking horns in appreciation.

Pictured (front to rear) are Member Becky Heath (also Central Committee), Young Republican Isaac Browning, members Rita Watson, Janice Layton, Luanne Ruddell (also Central Committee Chair) and a young Republican supporter.

The annual Grantsville Days events took us to the northern end of the County where we walked in the Friday night parade and h we were set up in the Town Park, distributing information, recruiting members and selling our scholarships



Members staffed the **Garrett County** last week of July. Republican Central Republican platforms

hosted candidates and elected officials.



L/R: GCRWC member Lorie Friend, club and Central Committee member Becky Heath, Commissioner Ryan Savage, Commissioner Larry Tichnell (standing) Sheriff Bryson Meyers, Past Pres. Luanne Ruddell (also Central Committee Chair, and member Laura Ivkovich.

Pres. Hammond and Linda Bradley enjoying the Grantsville Park.





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Our meetings continue to focus on timely topics. The speaker for our June meeting was Col. and Dr. Jeff Wolford, fighter pilot and physician. Dr. Woolford is a physician with the Federal Aviation Administration, where he leads highly complex aviation safety special projects.

vehicle escort.

Simultaneously, he serves our nation as a Colonel in the Maryland Air National Guard, as State Air Surgeon-the senior-most military medical officer in the state. His inspiring words took us from his high school years, when he thought college was "only for the rich kids" to his service, where he began as a mechanic until he was

"ordered to attend college" to his present positions with both the federal government and the Maryland Air National Guard. He shared insight into problemsolving with the FAA to recruit the best, the intersection of human and AI operations and the efficacy of the relationship between the various agencies with planes/pilots stationed in



Lt. Gov. candidate Dr. Brenda Thiam addressing the crowd

Maryland.

The annual picnic was held in July, with our Republican elected officials and any Republican candidate who has filed to run in 2026 invited to speak.

Chair of the Board of County Commissioners Paul Edwards gave a "state of the County" presentation in August. Commissioner Edwards shared lots of exciting news on the economic development and jobs fronts, along with ongoing challenges and future concerns.



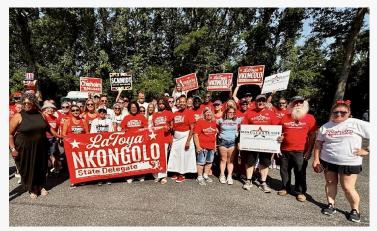
We continue to collect for Rose Terrace's residency and

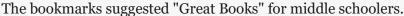
L/R: at a recent drop off are Community Action representatives Shawnee Reynolds and Wendi Rodeheaver, Joanne Ashby (Caring for America Chair), Pres. Patty Hammond and Linda Bradley



## Severna Tark Republican Women's Club by Amy Leahy, President

Once again, the SPRWC provided a float in the Severna Park Independence Day Parade, this time celebrating our 60th anniversary! Some members walking alongside the float passed out bookmarks along the parade route.







## Republican Women of Worcester County

On Thursday, June 26, 2025, the Republican Women of Worcester County, held their Annual June Red, White and Blue Luncheon at the Lighthouse Sound Restaurant. The guest speaker was Julie Harris, President of the National Federation of Republic Women.

Seated L/R: NFRW President Julie Harris and Sharon Carrick, President of the Maryland Federation of Republican Women.

Standing L/R: Maryland State Senator Mary Beth Carozza, RWWC President Jean Delcher, Worcester County Commissioner Chip Bertino, Carol Frazier, RWWC 1st VP, Nikki Beaver of NFRW and Gwen Crisafulli, RWWC Recording Secretary.







### DO YOU HAVE YOUR CLUB SWAG?

NEW ITEMS – CLOTHING, JEWELRY, AND OTHER FUN STUFF HAVE JUST BEEN ADDED TO THE COUNTRY STORE CHECK IT OUT HERE (ZAZZLE.COM)

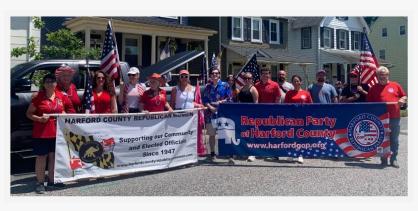


DID YOU KNOW ?? YOU DON'T HAVE TO WAIT FOR THE NEXT MFRW EVENT TO ORDER YOUR MFRW LOGO ITEMS YOU CAN ORDER THEM RIGHT HERE

## Harford County Republican Women By Linda Stine Flint

HCRW participated in two parades during the fourth of July in Darlington and Havre de Grace. What made this year's participation different was that they invited and got participation from the Young Republicans, Republican Alliance and the Harford Central Committee. It was important to continue the working together to keep Harford Red and show Harford County that Republicans are United!!

Harford County RW set up a tent at the Harford County Farm Fair. It was a lot of fun, and we had many members, several of whom were brand new, who volunteered their time during the week





Here is it VP Diana Sadowski, Amy Wagner, Tina Wagner and President Linda Stine Flint saying the Pledge of Allegiance with the kids.



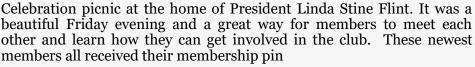
Anyone who wanted a flag, children and adults, they had to say the Pledge of Allegiance! The club gave out over 900 flags.

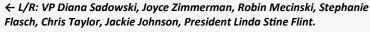
While we had many women leave us their address and info, 6 decided to become members during the fair.

Tuesday 26 August, members of the Harford County Republican Women took a shuttle bus and visited and toured the White House. They then went to the Capitol for lunch, and also toured the US Capitol.

There was so much to see and learn! Thankful for a beautiful day!

Harford County Republican Women held their first Member







Club members on the White House Tour

## Republican Women of Frederick County

The Republican Women of Frederick County said "until we meet again" to past president Constance "Connie" Lynn Onspaugh. After a courageous two-year battle with brain cancer, she passed away peacefully surrounded by her family in Ijamsville on August 11, 2025. She was born October 21, 1967, in Frederick to Russell and Susan (Buchanan) Olden. She was married to Robert Onspaugh 33 years and had three boys: Drew, Kenton and Josh.

Connie was a heavily involved member of the RWFC before becoming President in 2022. She was the backbone of Frederick County politics. Anyone who was involved in county politics knew Connie.

She was fiercely loyal to family and friends. We were blessed to know her and call her our friend. She heads Home leaving behind a legacy of determination, warmth and devotion. She is already missed.

A celebration of life for Connie will be held on Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025, at the Urbana Fire and Rescue Service Hall, 3602 Urbana Pike, Frederick, from 1-5 p.m." Rest in Peace, Connie.



# Hopkins Republican Women by Gail Thies, President

On September 3rd, 2025, the HWRC met at Monaghan's Pub in the Gwynn Oak area of Baltimore. Our featured speaker was Louise Baker, President of the Republican Women of Baltimore County and Maryland Leader of the Madison Coalition for the "Keep Nine" Amendment — an amendment to maintain the Supreme Court at nine judges, incidentally, indirectly endorsed by the late Supreme Court justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg serving from 1993 -2020 and the Republican National Committee among others. Baker's main message to us was that we, as individuals, are empowered to promote this amendment by mentioning it to essentially anyone we encounterfrom those seeking office to elected officials to everyday people. Of note: our country has had nine Supreme Court justices for 156 years! Text of the amendment: The Supreme Court shall be composed of nine Justices.

Victor Clark, who was also in attendance, apprised us of the latest Baltimore City Central Committee's goings-on. During this meeting we had a moment of silence for the Minneapolis Annunciation School victims of Wednesday, August 27th, the Ukraine and the Middle East casualties. Mark Hart Baltimore City Election Judge, mentioned the need for more Baltimore City Republican Election Judges, and mentioned the can top collection project proceeds of which help transport veterans to medical appointments. MFRW President Sharon Carrick (in attendance) updated us on the NFRW convention in Orlando at the end of September and MFRW convention in Ocean City at the end of October 2025.

Our October 1st meeting will be a potluck at the Fairbanks' home featuring speaker/educator Blanca Tapahuasco, member of Baltimore City Republican Central Committee.

# Chevy Chase Women's Republican Club by Susan Baker, 1st VP

The Chevy Chase Women's Republican Club had a very active summer hosting a number of interesting and wellattended events. On June 8, the club welcomed our new members at a tea reception and club meeting, held at the lovely home of Loretta Downey.



MFRW President Sharon Carrick was the special guest speaker. Although the weather was rather unsettled, with a deluge of rain that prevented attendees from enjoying the gardens, the mood indoors was sunny and bright (although you'll have to ask August why wearing a bathrobe in the photo!).



L/R: Kerry August, Lisa Merriam, Nancy Griffin

The club hosted a Let's Talk Politics reception and meeting on the evening of July 22 in the Club Room at Park Potomac. Speaker Amy Swearer of the Heritage Foundation gave a very interesting and provocative talk that engendered a lively question and answer period that could have gone much longer into the evening. Hostess Nancy Griffin gently kept the event to a reasonable time.

In addition to these events, CCWRC also hosted three wellattended social events during the summer in the form of monthly happy hours at Clyde's Tower Oaks Lodge. The



conversations always carried attendees past the happy hour and into some small groups that stayed for dinner.



DID YOU KNOW ?? YOU DON'T HAVE TO WAIT FOR THE NEXT MFRW EVENT TO ORDER YOUR **MFRW LOGO ITEMS** YOU CAN ORDER THEM RIGHT HERE

## **Upcoming Dates to Remember**



### Save the Dates: for 2025 Events

- Sunday, September 21st MFRW Fall on the Farm
- September 25-28 NFRW Biennial Convention, Orlando, FL
- October 25-26 MFRW Fall Convention in Ocean City (Sunfest weekend)

Please submit articles on club activities

# by December 1st

for the Fall Trumpeter Issue



Deadline is FINAL — submit early — Thank you Sorry, but unlabeled photos will NOT be used





P.O. Box 6040, Annapolis, 21401 www.mfrw.org email: president@mdfrw.org