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WDC Weekly Update – Tuesday, March 9, 2021

Events, Advocacy, Community Events

Events

- [March 10, John Barry author of *The Great Influenza*](#)
- [March 18, Juvenile Justice Reform: Getting Maryland Out of Last Place](#)
- [Community Events](#)

Resources

- [Calendars](#)
- [Montgomery County Covid19 Information Portal](#)
- [Volunteer in Response to COVID-19](#)
- [COVID-19 Resources](#)
- [WDC YouTube Channel](#)

WDC Committee Updates

- [WDC Advocacy](#)
- [WDC Volunteer](#)
- [#ICYMI View Recent WDC Speakers](#)





John Barry

Award-winning author and historian

Join Us!

Wednesday, March 10, 1 pm

<http://bit.ly/wdc-march-10>

Guest Speaker John Barry
Wednesday, March 10, 1:00 pm
Register at <https://bit.ly/wdc-march-10>

John M. Barry is an award-winning author and historian. His #1 *New York Times* bestseller, ***The Great Influenza: The Story of the Deadliest Pandemic in History***, landed him as a guest on numerous news shows in the past year, such as “Meet the Press” and “All Things Considered.” He has written for scientific journals as well as for news outlets such as *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *Time*, and *Esquire*. As an advisor to the Bush and Obama administrations on pandemic preparedness and response, he served on the original team that recommended public health measures to mitigate a pandemic before a vaccine becomes available.

After Hurricane Katrina, Barry's earlier book, ***Rising Tide: The Great Mississippi Flood of 1927 and How It Changed America***, placed him in a policy role in his home state of Louisiana, where the state's Congressional delegation asked him to chair a bipartisan working group on flood protection. He served on both the Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority and the levee board protecting metropolitan New Orleans. In that latter role, he was the architect of a 2013 lawsuit against Exxon and nearly 100 other companies for the coastal land loss they caused.

Barry has worked with the private sector and with state, federal, United Nations, and World Health Organization officials on pandemics, water-related disasters, and risk communication. He serves on numerous advisory boards and is a professor at the Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine. He is the only non-scientist ever to give the National Academies of Sciences Abel Wolman Distinguished Lecture, and he was the only non-scientist on a federal government Infectious Disease Board of Experts.



Juvenile Justice Reform: Getting Maryland Out of Last Place

Wednesday, March 18, noon

[Register here](#)

In October 2020, Human Rights for Kids published a State Ratings Report, which evaluated 12 categories of laws and practices that create the basic legal framework for a state's juvenile criminal system. What it found is that Maryland tied for last place with Alabama, Mississippi, Georgia, Tennessee, and Wyoming in the way it treats juveniles in the criminal system. The State Ratings Report evaluated four main areas: (1) entrance into the juvenile and criminal justice systems, (2) the treatment of children as adults, (3) conditions of confinement, and (4) release and social reintegration of child offenders. Maryland failed just about every test. If you are scratching your head and saying, "Really? Maryland?" then please join WDC on March 18 from 12-1:30 pm to learn more about Maryland's abysmal juvenile justice system, and to learn from a distinguished panel of a prosecutor, lawmaker, and advocates what we need to do to change it.

The moderator for this program is Professor Margaret Martin Barry, Director of the Re-Entry Clinic at Washington College of Law, American University, and a member of WDC's Criminal Justice Reform and Public Safety Advocacy Subcommittee.

Panelists for the program include:

- Aisha Braveboy, State's Attorney, Prince George's County
- Del. Charlotte Crutchfield (D19), Chair of Juvenile Law subcommittee, House Judiciary Committee.

Campaign for the Fair Sentencing of Youth team members:

- Eddie Ellis, MoCo resident, formerly incarcerated juvenile, Co-Director of Outreach and Member Services
- Preston Shipp, Senior Policy Counsel
- Crystal Carpenter, Chief Advocacy and Engagement Manager

Register Here

WDC Committee Reports



[The WDC Advocacy Committee recently released this Advocacy Alert](#)

calling on close to 400 members of the advocacy alert team to reach out to the House members who worked so tirelessly to pass the **Police Reform and Accountability Act of 2021**. If you are a member of WDC consider doing the same. If you aren't a member of WDC please [join](#) the organization and sign up for our Advocacy Alerts!

[View the Advocay Alert](#)

Women's History Month

Advocate for a Marshall Plan for Working Women!!

...nevertheless she persisted

By Ginger Macomber, WDC Advocacy Committee

As a member of the Women's Democratic Club you can celebrate Women's History month by advocating for policies that support Working Women –especially mothers. Here's how.

It is no secret that women have been the hardest hit by the COVID 19 pandemic. During the pandemic, women have disproportionately been responsible for keeping their families safe, while juggling work schedules, fulltime childcare, and home schooling. Many women have reached their breaking point. Since the pandemic started, more than 2 million women have dropped out of the labor force - a rate four times that of men. Many more have cut back on their work hours. By some estimates, women's labor force participation is now no better than it was twenty years ago. When women earn less, a family's standard of living declines, family savings disappear, and a women's future retirement income

We need policies that support working women and their families like other industrialized countries. We also need policies that will help women re-enter the workforce after this pandemic ends - policies like paid family leave, affordable childcare, and pay equity - all long standing priorities of our Women's Democratic Club.

Below are three actions you can take right now! Let's all honor the women who came before us and fought so hard for our rights, by fighting for women's economic rights today.

1. In January, fifty prominent women signed an open letter to President Biden calling for a **Marshall Plan for Moms**. Many prominent men joined them. Some of the plan's elements are included in President Biden's COVID relief bill, but longer-term solutions are needed. You can read about this call for a Marshall Plan and **sign the Marshall Plan for Moms petition** [here](#).

2. Congresswoman Grace Meng (NY) has introduced [H.Res. 121](#) and Senators Amy Klobucher (MN) and Tammy Duckworth (IL) have introduced [S.Res. 87](#) **Marshall Plan for Moms**. These Resolutions call on the United States to implement a Marshall Plan for Moms to revitalize and restore mothers to the workforce, that includes passing legislation that establishes paid family leave, rebuilds the childcare industry, ends child poverty and hunger, invests in quality education, increases the minimum wage to \$15/hour, and provides access to mental health support for mothers. None of our Montgomery County Congressmen or Senators have co-sponsored these Resolutions.

Email your Congressman and ask him to support H.Res. 121 Marshall Plan for Moms.

- Congressman David Trone: <https://trone.house.gov/contact>
- Congressman Jamie Raskin: <https://raskin.house.gov/contact/email>
- Congressman John Sarbanes: <https://sarbanes.house.gov/contact>

Email your Senators and ask them to support S.Res. 87 Marshall Plan for Moms.

- Senator Chris Van Hollen: <https://www.vanhollen.senate.gov/contact/email>
- Senator Ben Cardin: <https://www.cardin.senate.gov/contact/>

3. At the State level, an important bill - the **Time to Care Act** ([HB0375](#) and [SB0211](#)) – is being considered by the applicable House and Senate Committees. The Time to Care Act will establish an insurance fund pool to provide up to twelve weeks of paid leave to an individual who is taking leave to care for a newborn or newly adopted child, a family member with a serious health condition, themselves if they have a serious health condition, or a military service member who is next-of-kin or has a specified need because of the military deployment of a family member. WDC has already submitted testimony, but **it is not too late to make your voice heard and urge a favorable vote for the Time to Care Act bills**. For Committee contact information, [click here](#).

WDC [Advocacy Alert](#) HB0375 & WDC [Advocacy Alert](#) SB0211





UpCounty Democrats and Elected Officials Meet to Discuss "Kitchen Table Issues"

Wednesday, March 10, 7- 8:30 pm, virtual meeting

Free and open to the public. Register at [http://bit.ly/upcounty0310](https://bit.ly/upcounty0310).

Featured guests include U.S. Senator Chris Van Hollen, MD Senate Majority Leader, State Senator Nancy King (D39), State Senator Craig Zucker (D14), State Delegate Lily Qi (D15), and Councilmember Craig Rice (Council-D2).

Sponsored by the D14 & D15 Democratic Caucuses, the D39 Democratic Club, and the Germantown Democratic Club.

<https://www.facebook.com/events/156379162984852/>

Montgomery County Democratic Party

Events Calendar, [click here](#).

Thursday, March 11, 6:30 pm, **The Democratic Club of Leisure World** welcomes County Council President Tom Hucker. They will cover the hot topics of the day, including COVID vaccines, Beltway/I-270 expansion, policing and, of course, your questions. Attendees must pre-register. Sign up now at bit.ly/dclw-03-11; login info will be provided by auto-reply email.

Sunday, March 21, 4-5:00 pm, **Greater Silver Spring Democratic Club** Town Hall with County Council President Tom Hucker. To register, [click here](#)

MCNOW Celebrates Women's History Month

Wednesday, March 24, 5:30-7:00 pm, MCNOW "Favorite Woman in History" Happy Hour

Questions or RSVP to info@mcmdnow.org

Facebook event page: <https://www.facebook.com/events/544729689807138>

Marylanders Rise Up for ERA

Monday, March 29, 7-8:30 pm

Free virtual event

Maryland leaders who are representative of organizations and communities across the state

The MoCo Public Libraries will recognize **Women's History Month** throughout the month of March. A series of seven speaker-events will examine women's history, slavery, voting rights, the Equal Rights Amendment, employment, and more. For information on individual events, [click here](#) and type "women's history" into the "search box."

As of February 25, 2021, WDC has submitted written and/or oral testimony for the following bills, [click here](#).

Join us to make change! Volunteer on a WDC Committee

Visit our [website](#) for committee descriptions and sign up!



[Our Committees](#)

- Advocacy
- Digital Communications
- Community Education
- Events
- Finance
- Historian
- Membership & Outreach
- Programs
- Political Action and Civic Engagement (PACE)
- Partnership and Outreach

VOLUNTEER

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WDC has gone GREEN by using electronic communications.

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wdc@womensdemocraticclub.org

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