

[For a better viewing experience, click here to view this email in your browser.](#)

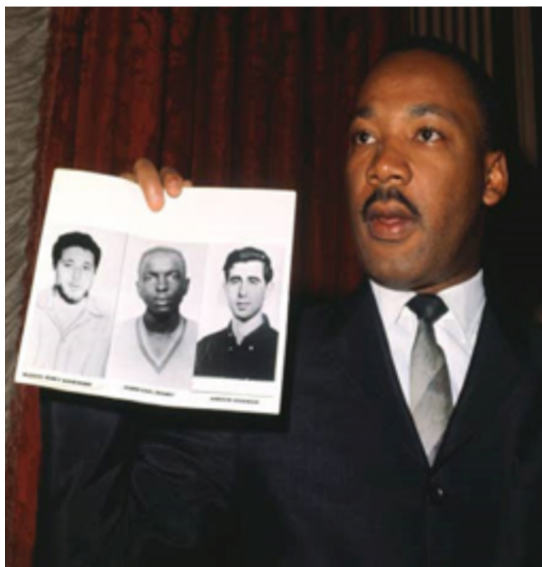


[Volunteer](#) | [Join](#) | [Renew](#) | [Donate](#) | [Website](#)

WDC Newsletter – January 17, 2023

From the President

Diana Conway



“The arc of the moral universe is long ...” and WDC invites you to help bend it toward justice. Will you join us?

The **Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.** was born in 1929 and assassinated in 1968. I suspect most people reading this are older than he was at his death. President Reagan signed the

As it bends, will that arc of justice bend onto our former president? Find out more when WDC hosts [MSNBC legal commentator Chuck Rosenberg](#): "Update on the Investigations of the Former President" on January 26. This is our first in-person luncheon in two years. Registration is below; bring your questions!

Our Advocacy teams are also working to bend the arc at the state level. Starting January 11, Annapolis hosts 47 state senators and 141 state delegates. They have three months to draft, discuss, revise, and pass the bills Marylanders need. I am proud to say that WDC is a known and trusted voice in the work of driving policy toward justice on our progressive issues.

WDC is working for women's access to reproductive care, for the [Blueprint for Maryland's Future](#), to reform our outdated criminal justice system, and to bring real help to Marylanders on issues like food security, health care and mental health care, protection from domestic abuse, affordable child care, affordable housing, and more. Going forward we will take a bigger role in areas like protecting the [Chesapeake Bay](#) and [our drinking water](#), the transition to green energy, resiliency and sustainability. Come work with us!

Since our county has the largest population, we have the largest state delegation and a number of our senators and delegates hold [key leadership posts](#). Several have also moved to the new Moore-Miller administration. The upshot is that *our* county has a powerful presence, and WDC is working closely with legislators on WDC priority bills.

We'd love to have you join us on an issue that speaks to you—free training provided! Want to know more?

- Sign up for our Advocacy Alerts [here](#)
- Contact [Advocacy Committee Chair JoAnne Koravos](#)
- Take a look at our 2023 legislative priorities [here](#)

In closing: Join us for lunch with Chuck Rosenberg on Jan. 26, look for the return of *Happy Hour with a Purpose* events and *Community Education* panels covering state and regional issues with leading experts. And consider participating in WDC's powerful advocacy community. Either way, whether you're a WDC member or not (we hope you are, or soon will be), we are eager for your energy and ideas.

Stay in touch—we are stronger together.

Diana



Upcoming WDC Events



MONTGOMERY
COUNTY, MARYLAND
WOMEN'S
DEMOCRATIC CLUB

THURS, JAN 26 | 12-2 PM | IN-PERSON LUNCH

WDC PRESENTS
**JUSTICE DEPARTMENT UPDATE
INVESTIGATIONS OF
THE FORMER PRESIDENT**

Featuring
Chuck Rosenberg

[Register Now](#)

WDC In-Person Luncheon with Guest Speaker Chuck Rosenberg

When: Thursday, Jan. 26, 2023, 12-2 p.m.

Our democracy continues to be under threat, and Mr. Rosenberg is uniquely qualified to comment on it all. Currently, he is a respected NBC and MSNBC law enforcement analyst. He has worked at the highest levels of the Justice Department, ran the Drug Enforcement

Among the subjects Mr. Rosenberg will cover are: the implications of the new House Insurrection Protection subcommittee; the publication of former President Trump's tax returns; and, the Fulton County Grand Jury investigation.

We look forward to getting Mr. Rosenberg's thoughtful analysis of what is happening to democratic governance.

Where: [The Universities of Shady Grove, 9630 Gudelsky Dr., Rockville, MD, Building 2, Conference Center](#)

Admission

- Free - First 40 Students
- \$35.00 - WDC Member
- \$40.00 - Non-WDC Member



MONTGOMERY
COUNTY, MARYLAND
WOMEN'S
DEMOCRATIC CLUB

FRI, FEB 3 | 12:30-1:30 PM | ZOOM

WDC PRESENTS

**VLADIMIR PUTIN AND
HIS WAR WITH UKRAINE:**
A Conversation with
FIONA HILL

[Register Here](#)

When: Friday, Feb. 3, 2023, 12:30-2:30 p.m.

Where: Zoom meeting

Fiona Hill is the Robert Bosch Senior Fellow at the Center on the United States and Europe in the Foreign Policy program at the Brookings Institution. She recently served as

national intelligence officer for Russia and Eurasia at The National Intelligence Council. Dr. Hill is the author of *There Is Nothing for You Here: Finding Opportunity in the 21st Century* and co-author of *Mr. Putin: Operative in the Kremlin*.

Advocacy Corner

JoAnne Koravos, Advocacy Committee Chair



Montgomery County Women's Democratic Club 2023 Advocacy Priorities

During the 444th legislative session, we saw an effort by the General Assembly to resume the normal course of business with in-person hearings. The move to virtual communications throughout 2020 and 2021 demonstrated not only how flexible our legislative body and constituents can be when faced with life-threatening challenges, but also unexpectedly revealed how a virtual or hybrid environment opens the legislative process to more Marylanders who were previously locked out due to a variety of limitations. WDC urges both the Senate and House to consider this new paradigm as we move forward.

In 2023, WDC will continue to focus our advocacy on those legislative priorities disproportionately impacting women and their families. Top-level issue areas for the 2023 legislative session are Affordable Housing, Aging, Criminal Justice Reform, Children and Youth, Health, Immigration, and our newest subcommittee created in response to national events—Reproductive Health & Justice. However, we will continue to monitor the reintroduction of bills we supported during the last session that did not pass or were vetoed, as well as to provide ongoing oversight of significant enacted bills to ensure they are being implemented.

We will continue our support for a countywide approach to evaluate local and state legislation through a racial, social, environmental, and economic equity lens. The theme of equity and justice is not only woven into our advocacy, but it also extends into everything we do.

The burden on women and their families in Montgomery County resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic has not subsided. Many areas still need to be addressed. Therefore, WDC will continue to prioritize legislation that provides programs and funding to alleviate the current impact and long-term side effects of the pandemic, particularly on families. See below for a list of Advocacy Priorities for this year.

We look forward to an active and productive legislative year working alongside our Montgomery County State Delegation!

2023 Advocacy Priorities

Address housing insecurity and provide access to affordable and safe housing options

Aging

Economic and physical security for our aging population

Children and Youth

Create a strong foundation for your children and youth at home, school, and in the community

Criminal Justice Reform

Eliminate inequities at all points of contact with the criminal justice system

Health

Cost-effective, efficient, and affordable health care for ALL residents. Health equity.

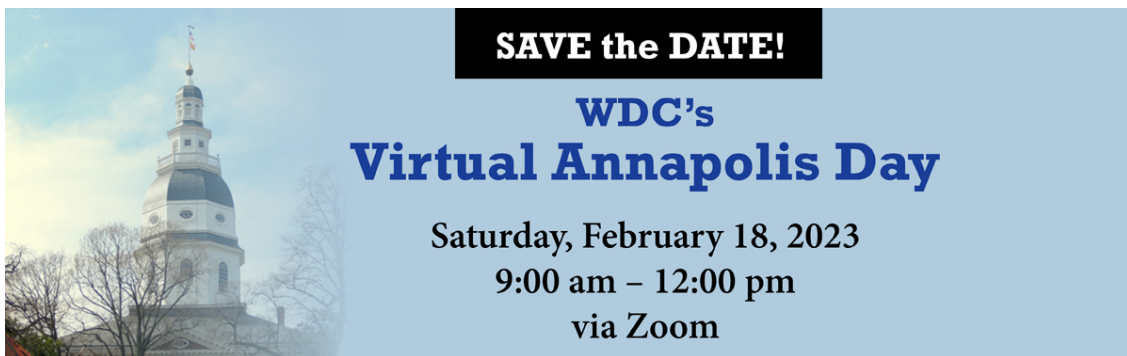
Immigration

Address issues that disproportionately impact the economic security, education, healthcare, and public safety of immigrant women and their children

Women's Reproductive Health and Justice

Protect and support women's reproductive health care

Click [HERE](#) to access WDC's full advocacy priorities document



SAVE the DATE!

WDC's
Virtual Annapolis Day

Saturday, February 18, 2023
9:00 am – 12:00 pm
via Zoom

Other Upcoming Events



Swearing-In Ceremony of Governor-Elect Wes Moore and Lt. Governor-Elect Aruna Miller

Wednesday, January 18, 2023, 12 p.m.

Maryland State Capitol
100 State Circle
Annapolis, MD 21401

Free and open to the public. No advance registration required.
Outdoor event; please dress appropriately for winter weather.
Free round-trip bus service from across Maryland available. Please register [here](#).

In the News

New Leaders from Montgomery County

WDC congratulates **Del. Marc Korman** on his new role as Majority Leader of the Maryland House of Delegates, **Del. Emily Shetty** on being appointed Democratic Caucus Chair, and **Del. Jheanelle Wilkins** on her election as chair of the Legislative Black Caucus.

We also congratulate the newly named House leaders for several joint legislative committees:

- **Del. Jared Solomon**, House Chair of the Joint Audit and Evaluation Committee
- **Del. Anne Kaiser**, House Chair of the Joint Committee on Cyber Security, Information Technology & Biotechnology
- **Del. Lorig Charkoudian**, House Chair of the Joint Committee on Unemployment Insurance Oversight

And, the Montgomery County delegates who have earned leadership positions in House subcommittees. They are:

Appropriations

Environment and Transportation

- **Sara Love**, Chair, Motor Vehicle & Transportation
- **Vaughn Stewart**, Chair, Land Use & Ethics

Economic Matters

- **Lily Qi**, Chair, Business Regulation
- **David Fraser Hidalgo**, Chair, Property & Casualty Insurance

Health and Government Operations

- **Ariana Kelly**, Chair, Public Health & Minority Health Disparities

WDC also extends congratulations to **County Councilmember Kate Stewart** on her election to Board Chair at the [Council of Governments](#).

State Senator Susan Lee to Serve as Maryland's Secretary of State

WDC congratulates Sen. Susan Lee (Dist. 16) on her recent nomination as Maryland's next Secretary of State. Gov.-elect Wes Moore made the announcement on Tuesday, Jan. 10.

Sen. Lee has been a political trailblazer for more than 20 years and will become the first Asian-American Secretary of State in Maryland history. In the Senate, Lee has focused on issues that include domestic violence, technology and cybersecurity, and consumers' rights.



"Senator Susan Lee has been a force in Maryland for decades and I'm honored to have her join my Administration," Moore said. "I know with Sen. Lee alongside me, we will swiftly create an economically thriving Maryland that leaves no one behind."

The Secretary of State's office in Maryland handles executive orders, extraditions and requisitions, pardons and commutations, public disclosures of Maryland business activities, certifying presidential nominees, and more.

It is not clear when Lee plans to step down from her Senate position. Her resignation will trigger the official vacancy process, with the Montgomery County Democratic Central Committee interviewing candidates and forwarding a recommendation to the new governor. Del. Ariana Kelly, elected to her fourth term, plans to apply for the Senate vacancy, and appears to be the early frontrunner for the appointment.

See also a recent article in [Maryland Matters](#).

Bernice Mireku-North Wins D14 Delegate Seat

WDC congratulates Bernice Mireku-North on her appointment to the Maryland House of Delegates. On Jan. 3, the Montgomery County Democratic Central Committee voted to send her to the General Assembly, replacing Del. Eric Luedtke who resigned. Mireku-North, an attorney and criminal justice reformer, was supported by 14 members of the committee after two rounds of voting.



An attorney in private practice since 2015, Mireku-North sought the Democratic nomination for Montgomery County State's Attorney in 2022. She served as the co-chair of Montgomery County's Reimagining Public Safety Task Force, promoting increased transparency in policing. Previously, Mireku-North was an assistant state's attorney in Anne Arundel County for six years.

Features

Del. Julie Palakovich Carr: A Champion for Progressive Reform

by Carol May

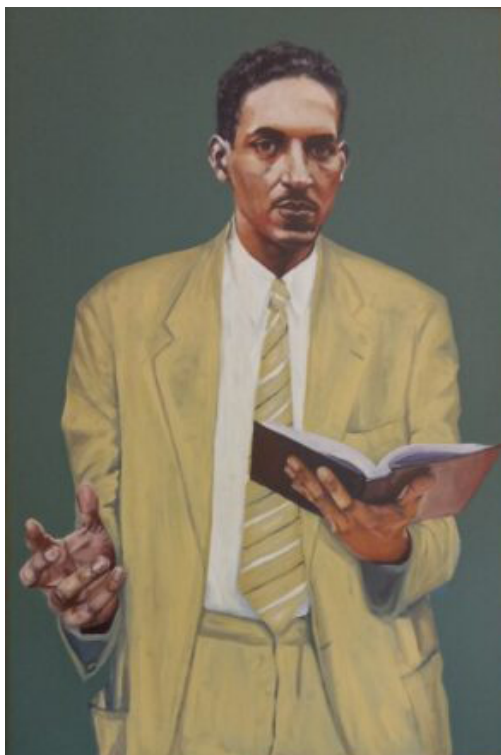
Julie Palakovich Carr was elected Chair of the Montgomery County House Delegation, the largest delegation in the General Assembly in November, 2022. As Chair, Del. Palakovich Carr is committed to lifting up the priorities of all Montgomery County residents by considering the needs of her 25 colleagues along with the concerns of her own district. Through coalition building and collaboration, she is committed to leveraging the multitude of perspectives and geography reflective of Montgomery County's increasing population growth, diversity, and urbanization.



First elected as a Montgomery County District 17 Delegate in 2018 and re-elected in 2022, Palakovich Carr is known for championing progressive reforms in elections, transportation, and taxation.

In the following interview, Delegate Palakovich Carr shares her thoughts on some of the

To read the full interview, click [here](#).



Black Artist's Portrait of Supreme Court Judge Thurgood Marshall Replaces that of Likely Slaveowner Cecilus Calvert

by Bonnie Chernikoff

A recent [Washington Post article](#) described how Maryland Sen. William C. Smith, Jr. (D20) replaced a painting of purported enslaver Cecilus Calvert with a portrait of the first Black Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall. Importantly, the newly unveiled portrait is a powerful, public symbol of how diverse and inclusive Maryland has become.

Since 2016, Sen. Smith has walked through the three-hundred-year-old Maryland Senate office building, past numerous pictures of White men. And every time Sen. Smith, the first Black person to chair the Senate Judicial Proceedings

Committee, entered the room where lawmakers hear bills about criminal justice, he was confronted by the picture of Cecilus Calvert.

Eighteen months ago, Sen. Smith determined that, to make this public space “more open and welcoming for everyone,” Calvert’s portrait should be removed. He worked closely with Ernest Shaw, Jr., an artist and teacher from Baltimore, and, on January 5, 2023, Smith and Shaw presented a painting of a young Thurgood Marshall, a Baltimore native, a civil rights champion and the first U.S. Black Supreme Court justice.

About the same time that Sen. Smith was elected, a group of Black elementary students from Baltimore visited Annapolis. Writing to their senator to thank him, they said they “looked everywhere around us, and we didn’t see anyone who looked like us.”

Ginger Macomber, a former WDC Board member, has written to Sen. Smith about the significant change he has made at the Statehouse, and she shared [her letter](#) with us. Ginger told him that the Marshall portrait makes a major statement. “Symbols send a powerful message to all. Who is represented in the halls of power matters.” She noted that, for three years, she had worked to retire Maryland’s Confederate State song, testifying twice in favor of the bill that was eventually enacted in 2021. Ginger is the parent and grandparent of children of color and she knows now when she brings them to Annapolis, they will see that “they too belong.”

Democratic Members Needed

County Democratic Central Committee Members Needed

The Montgomery County Democratic Central Committee (MCDCC) is a group of 26 volunteer members elected to four-year terms representing the nine state legislative districts within the county and the county at large. The MCDCC is responsible for leading and organizing the day-to-day operations of the local Democratic Party, as well as nominating replacements to the state legislature if an elected Democratic member from the county leaves office before the completion of their term.

Being a member of the Central Committee involves attending monthly MCDCC meetings and quarterly meetings of the state Central Committee. Members participate in activities such as fundraising, outreach, voter registration, community service, organizing, and more.

Vacancy in District 19

MCDCC will fill a vacancy for a member who identifies as female or nonbinary at its February 2023 meeting. The successful candidate will complete the unexpired term ending in November 2026.

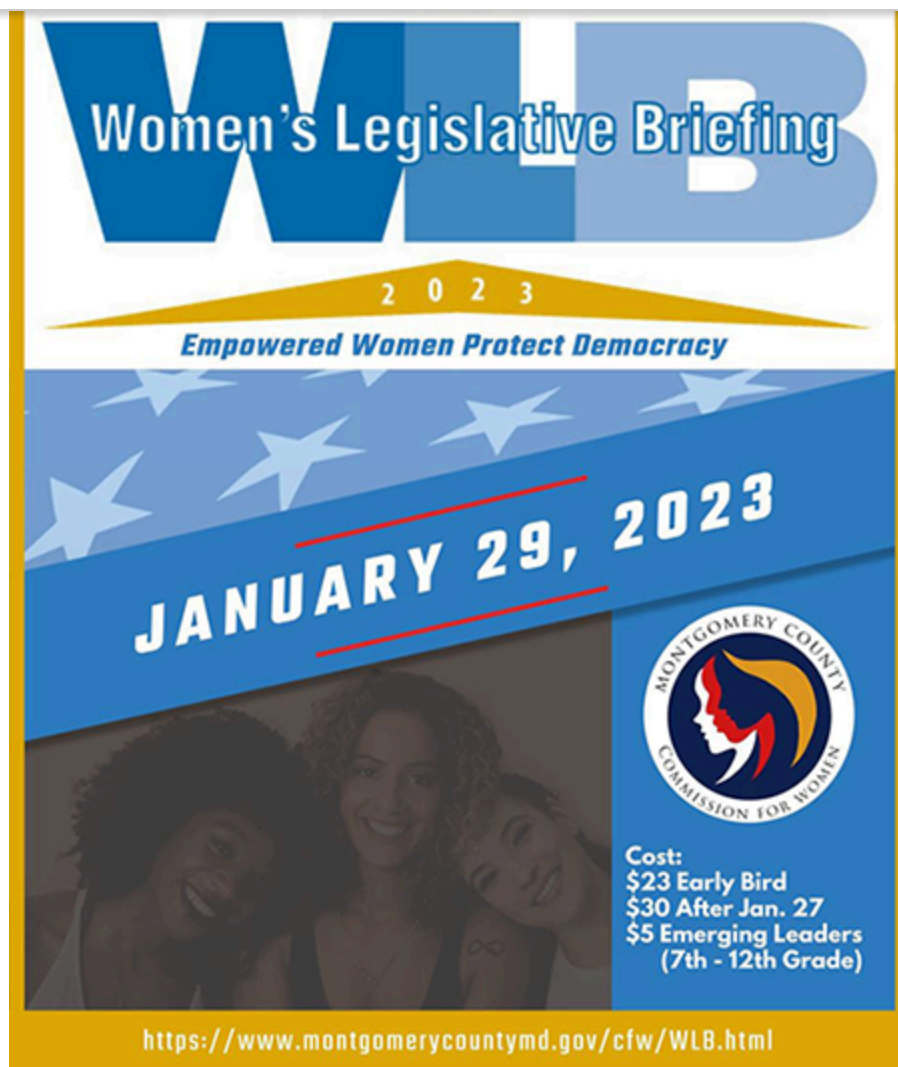
To be eligible, a candidate must fulfill the following criteria as of the date of appointment:

1. Be registered to vote as a member of the Democratic Party;
2. Be registered to vote as a resident of Maryland Legislative District 19;
3. Identify as female or nonbinary.

Candidates are asked to submit an application that consists of a resume, cover letter, and any additional information the candidate would like the Central Committee to consider in assessing their qualifications. Applications should be submitted no later than 5:00 p.m., Friday, February 3, 2023, via email to office@mcdcc.org with the subject line **"District 19 Central Committee Vacancy."**

The vacancy will be filled at the regular public monthly meeting of the MCDCC at 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, February 14, 2023. Candidates will be given an opportunity to speak for up to 5 minutes and answer questions from current committee members.

Events in Montgomery County



WLB
Women's Legislative Briefing

2 0 2 3

Empowered Women Protect Democracy

JANUARY 29, 2023



Cost:
\$23 Early Bird
\$30 After Jan. 27
\$5 Emerging Leaders
(7th - 12th Grade)

<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/cfw/WLB.html>

The poster features a blue and yellow color scheme. At the top, the letters 'WLB' are in large blue font. Below them, the text 'Women's Legislative Briefing' is in white. A yellow banner with '2 0 2 3' is in the center. Below that, the slogan 'Empowered Women Protect Democracy' is in blue. A large blue banner with white stars and the date 'JANUARY 29, 2023' is prominent. The bottom left shows a photo of three smiling women. The bottom right contains the Montgomery County Commission for Women logo and pricing information. A yellow footer bar at the bottom contains the event website URL.

WDC Membership



Please Renew Your WDC Membership Today!

Our new membership year began October 1, 2022. If you haven't already done so, renew online [here](#). You may also mail your \$35.00 annual dues (\$25 for members 35 years old or younger) payable to "WDC" and mail to: WDC, PO Box 34047, Bethesda, MD 20827.

By renewing your membership, you are joining other Democratic women and men to achieve the following three goals:

Strengthening our county and our state by advocating for progressive democratic policy objectives; keeping Democrats informed through our luncheon/dinner speakers and our education and training programs; and building alliances with other Democratic clubs, issue-oriented coalitions, and political groups.

Strengthening our party by intensifying the work WDC has always done to elect and support Democratic candidates and increase voter involvement, with a new emphasis on strengthening our Party at the county and state levels.

Strengthening our club by connecting to our work, joining committees, and attending the high-quality events for which WDC has been known for more than 60 years.

WDC Directory

We are pleased to announce that the WDC member directory is available. The Directory includes active members of the club as of October 1, 2022. Pick up one free copy at WDC in-person events.

It's never too late to join WDC and stay involved in local and state policy and politics. When

voices heard in Annapolis!

Make a Difference—Volunteer with WDC!

WDC is looking forward to expanding its scope and has several open positions within our committees and on our board:

- Membership Co-Chair
- Community Education Co-Chair
- Finance Committee Member
- Historian Co-Chair
- Communications Committee Members
- Advocacy Committee Chair, Co-Chair, or Member

Interested? To learn more, please contact [Diana Conway](#).

Are you friendly, persuasive, and interested in helping WDC build up our active membership? If yes, please join our Membership and Outreach Committee! In particular, we are looking to recruit assistance/expertise in the following areas:

- Membership follow-up/outreach to WDC members—reaching out via phone calls, texts, or emails
- Membership outreach to non-WDC members who have attended WDC events
- Technical Assistance with data reports. We will teach you how to use our MyWDC database.
- Assistance with locating venues/logistics for live happy hours once they resume

To learn more please contact [Enid Light](#).

Do You Enjoy Using Software?

If you would like to join our WDC team, please volunteer to help us. You can learn one or more of our software or social media tools and have a real impact.

Contact [Mary Lou Fox](#).

WDC Resources[Facebook](#)[Twitter](#)[YouTube Speakers & Events](#)

WDC Social Media & Email

Contact us [here](#).

WDC has gone GREEN by using electronic communications.

Please continue to receive WDC event notices and news and do not unsubscribe.

Replies to this update will be sent to

wdc@womensdemocraticclub.org

DONATE to WDC

Copyright © 2023 WDC | Montgomery County Women's Democratic Club, All rights reserved.

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).



Calendars:

[WDC](#) • [Community](#) • [WNDC](#) • [MCDCC](#) • [MDDEMS](#)

Tag Us on Facebook @MCWDC or on Twitter @MoCoWDC

[Join Our Members Only Facebook Group](#)
