

*Pleasant words are like a honeycomb;
sweet to the soul and healing to the bones!*



February 9, 2024

Dear Wonderful Spokes in the Wheel:

This is a month of love, reflection, and celebration. It is a time set aside when we talk with our children about the rich history and contributions of African Americans who helped to make this the Greatest Country in the World. There are names that we know, but there are names we will never know. We can't wait for someone to tell our story. Let's do it ourselves. Find the people you love, hug them, and tell them how special they are.

Our breakfast meeting will convene on **Monday, February 26, 2024**, at St. Margaret's Catholic Church, 410 Addison Road, South, Capitol Heights, Maryland. We will begin at **9:00 a.m.** We will have updates from Law Enforcement, Fire, and EMS agencies. We look forward to presentations from the Housing Initiative Partnership, Department of Assessments and Taxation, and Office of Finance. We are moving along with Suitland High School's construction and are happy that Fairwood Elementary School is on schedule for construction. At our meeting, we will give special recognition to three people who have been a part of our Coalition since it started.

This is a Heart Healthy Month. Our communities have the highest number of citizens who suffer from heart disease. Be sure you check with your doctor to ensure good health.

Please be advised that if it is snowing or the weather presents a travel problem, we will not be meeting. Please give yourself a "*Big Benson Hug*" with deep and profound gratitude for all that you do in "*raising the bar*" for a productive future. If you have questions or concerns, please give us a call at (301) 858-3148 or email us at: joanne.benson@senate.state.md.us.

With Love, Hugs, and a Grateful Heart,

Joanne C. Benson

Senator Joanne C. Benson
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