

Frauds & Scams Targeting the Seniors

Thursday, January 20, 2022

RECAP by Janet S. Weinstock, MDSC Secretary

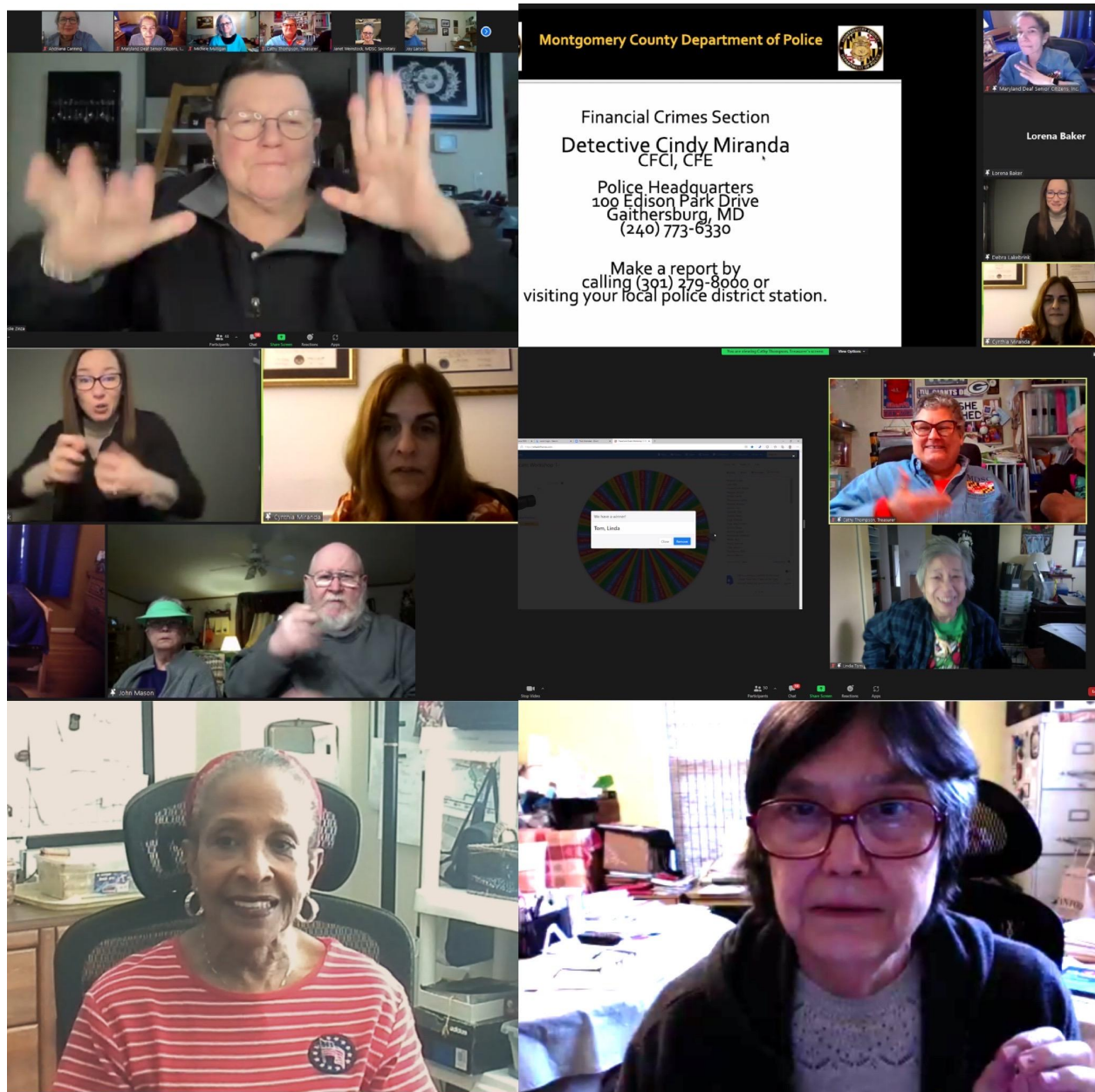
President Leslie opened with a Welcome Back to MDSC Zoom with seventy three (73) MDSCers who registered for the event. As soon as the COVID19 pandemic cases decline, we will do our best to transition to normalcy and gather indoors at the senior center or outside at a regional park. She thanked Chair Barbara Willigan and her team who made the Holiday Luncheon event last December 2021 a success! MDSC made a deposit for the next Holiday Luncheon at Martin's Crosswinds so Save the Date - Thursday, December 15, 2022.

The Maryland Deaf Senior Citizens, Inc. (MDSC) invited Detective Cindy Miranda of the Financial Crimes Section of the Montgomery County Department of Police to share pertinent information about frauds and scams that target the Senior Citizens. We viewed the presentation with support of two interpreters, Lorena Baker and Debra Lakebrink. As promised, here is Cynthia Miranda's email address: cynthia.miranda@montgomerycountymd.gov. Check email attachments of the PPTs and four (4) pamphlets (Sign Up for Scam Alerts, Identity Theft, Job Scams, and IRS Imposter Scams) that Detective Cindy scanned for us. Kudos to Vice President Thelma for all she did to make things happen!

Many thanks to Ann C. Black for her self-advocacy work with Kevin Steffy, program manager of Maryland Accessible Telecommunications (MAT), two of our DeafBlind members had accessibility to the zoom presentation with support of the Communication Facilitators (CF) program. Here is what she has to say: *"WOW! What a delight to be on zoom with CF and I learned a lot about how to prevent fraud and scam from happening to me. It is my first time to join a zoom event. It really made me happy. Many thanks to Kevin for making this happen."*

Secretary Janet informed the members that the MDSC Logo Team, Yael Agriss, Janet Weinstock and Mike Weinstock have been working with Eric Hamlow, Deaf Owner of the Blue Spot Designs to draft new logos to reflect who we are during the changing times. Be on the lookout for the email-coming soon-with the drafts of the new logo(s) where your input is sought and appreciated. Once approved, the logo(s) will be used for multiple purposes: apparel, banner, email, letterhead, facebook and website.

Treasurer Cathy led the Cash Prize activities with assistance from our favorite Wheel of Names that randomly picks our winners. Second Chance winners are Bertha Lewis who got \$15.00, Linda C. Tom who received \$20.00 and \$25.00 goes to the big winner Pauline Spanbauer. YAY! Unfortunately, the person who was selected to win \$25.00 for this month's Bank Day was a no show so it will double to \$50 next month.



PC Andriana Canning, 2022

Top left: President Leslie welcomes the MDSCers to the zoom gathering. Top right: Vice President Thelma introduces Detective Cindy Miranda, the presenter of Scams & Frauds Targeting the Seniors with powerpoint slides and two ASL/English interpreters. Middle left: John Mason asks Detective Cindy a question with his wife Carolyn watching. Middle right: Treasurer Cathy uses the Wheel of Names to randomly pick the Second Chance Winners and Linda C. Tom wins 2nd place with \$20.00. Bottom left: The 3rd place winner is Bertha Lewis who gets \$15.00. Bottom right: Pauline Spanbauer wins \$25.00 as the 1st place winner of the 2nd chance drawing.

A message from VP Thelma: See below for the google slides and four other pamphlets that Detective Cindy scanned. Bear in mind, the attached PPT slides were put together for Montgomery County Residents only. See below for the list of Fraud or Financial Crimes websites in your county.

Anne Arundel County

<https://www.aacounty.org/departments/police-department/forms-publications/crime-report/>

Baltimore County

<https://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/departments/police/yoursafety/economiccrimes/>

Calvert County

<https://www.calvertcountymd.gov/2736/Financial-Crime>

Frederick County

<https://www.cityoffrederickmd.gov/99/Frederick-Police-Department>

Harford County

<https://www.harfordcountymd.gov/3255/Fraud-Resources>

Howard County

<https://howardcountysao.org/crimes-against-vulnerable-adults/>

Prince George's County

<https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/1040/Fraud-Waste-Abuse-Illegal-Acts>

See you at the next MDSC event on Thursday, February 17, 2022!