

Media Advisory

Comptroller Franchot to Make Three Silver Spring Stops Monday Afternoon

Visits include caramel company dating to Civil War, historic theatre and nonprofit helping to fight hunger, homelessness, unemployment

WHO: Comptroller Peter Franchot

WHAT: Comptroller Franchot will make three stops in Silver Spring on Monday afternoon, highlighting the area's business, cultural and nonprofit sectors.

First, he'll visit Velatis to present a proclamation to owner Amy Servais, whose family has run the business for more than 25 years. Velatis is best known for producing small-batch artisan caramels, in addition to truffles, toffees, chocolates and other gourmet candy. The business was founded in the 1850s in Richmond, Va., by Salvator Velati, before relocating to Washington, D.C., until 1972 when the construction of the Metrorail system forced its closure. After Velatis was purchased by several department stores that would go bankrupt, the Servais family bought the trademark and recipes in 1996, eventually opening the Silver Spring candy shop in 2009.

Next, the Comptroller will tour the AFI Silver Theatre and Cultural Center, a centerpiece of Downtown Silver Spring's revitalization that originally was built in 1938 and restored in 2003. Run by the American Film Institute, the venue hosts public and private events, and boasts the second-largest commercial movie theater screen in the D.C. area.

Mr. Franchot will then head to Shepherd's Table, where he will hear from the nonprofit's leadership about the challenges they have faced during the pandemic and what its greatest needs are now, before

assisting with dinner service. Since 1983, Shepherd's Table has served thousands of clients facing homelessness, food insecurity, unemployment, mental illness, substance abuse, physical disabilities and more.

WHEN: **Monday, March 28, 2022**

WHERE:	4 p.m.	4:30 p.m.	5:30 p.m.
	Velatis	AFI Silver Theatre	Shepherd's Table
	8408 Georgia Ave., Ste. B	8633 Colesville Rd.	8106 Georgia Ave.
	Silver Spring, MD 20910	Silver Spring, MD 20910	Silver Spring, MD 20910

CONTACT: Alan Brody: abrody@marylandtaxes.gov

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