



# STAFFORD ROTARY HIGHLIGHTER

## Water, Sanitation & Hygiene Month

### CLUB SCHEDULE

#### **Mar 11 -**

UMW Dr. Marion Sanford -  
Celebrating the life of James  
Farmer

#### **MAR 14 -**

RLI, Fairfax, VA - Northern  
Virginia Community College

*\*\* Still scheduled as of  
newsletter publishing \*\**

#### **MAR 18 -**

Stafford Rotarian Mark  
Cartledge - Stafford Junction

#### **\*\*TUESDAY MAR 23 \*\***

Note the different day!

#### **Club Social with Visiting Australian Police Officers**

Club Social - Kickback Jack's  
10145 Southpoint Pkwy  
Fredrickburg, VA 22407

#### **MAR 22 - World Water Day**



### Stafford Rotary Welcomes Dr. Marion Sanford!

*Dr. Marion Sanford - Director of Multicultural Affairs/James Farmer  
Multicultural Center at UMW*

Dr. Marion Sanford is the Director of Multicultural Affairs/James Farmer Multicultural Center at the University of Mary Washington. She earned her B.S. degree in Psychology at Jackson State University in Jackson, Mississippi, and her M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Professional Studies/Higher Education from Iowa State University in Ames, Iowa. She has worked in the field of Student Affairs for almost 30 years.



Marion is committed to the goal of creating educational environments that broaden the understanding and appreciation of multiculturalism, diversity, and social justice.

She works to cultivate and facilitate multicultural dialogue and working relationships among students, student organizations, offices and departments; promote a sense of community on campus; and help build coalitions and alliances among University citizens. She considers her greatest accomplishments empowering students to be positive, effective agents of social change. In 2016, she was nominated for the ACPA Pillar of Inclusion Award.

Marion is a firm believer in giving back to her community, whether it is in her role as director of the James Farmer Multicultural Center as she strives to build relationships to establish a broader community network, within and external to the university; encouraging students and colleagues to engage in community service and civic engagement activities to advance the support and progress of various issues and causes; or personally assisting in whatever capacity necessary to advocate for and promote diversity and service.

In her spare time, she is an avid reader and loves playing or watching tennis.

## Who is James Farmer?

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James Leonard Farmer Jr. was an American civil rights activist and leader in the Civil Rights Movement "who pushed for nonviolent protest to dismantle segregation, and served alongside Martin Luther King Jr." He was the initiator and organizer of the first Freedom Ride in 1961, which eventually led to the desegregation of interstate transportation in the United States. By the 1960s, Farmer was known as "one of the Big Four civil rights leaders in the 1960s, together with King, NAACP chief Roy Wilkins and Urban League head Whitney Young."



Farmer, a former resident of Spotsylvania County, was born in Marshall, Texas on January 12, 1920. He had an unquenchable passion to eliminate de jure racial segregation. Mr. Farmer earned a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree from Wiley College in 1938 and received the Bachelor of Divinity (B.D.) degree from Howard University School of Religion in 1941. He received numerous honorary degrees including a Doctorate of Human Letters from Mary Washington College.

In 1984, Farmer began teaching at Mary Washington College (now The University of Mary Washington) in Fredericksburg, Virginia. A bust of Farmer was installed on the campus and in 1987 MWC created the James Farmer Scholars program, to encourage minority students to enroll in college. The University of Mary Washington recently kicked off a yearlong celebration of the life of this late civil rights pioneer who taught history at UMW from 1985 until his retirement from teaching in 1998. The celebration, called "Farmer Legacy 2020," will honor Farmer on the centennial of his birth by examining the historical context of his life and the ways in which U.S. society currently acts on principles important to him, including civic engagement, access and inclusion.

Farmer passed away on July 9, 1999 at the Mary Washington Hospital from diabetes complications.

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## Rotary and COVID-19

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Rotary International is currently monitoring the Corona Virus situation and is in contact with district leadership to make decisions that are best suited for each district's geographical area. It may become necessary for clubs to practice social distancing, meaning, suspend club meetings and other planned gatherings. These decisions will need to be made at the club level. A decision is forthcoming about this weekend's RLI training in Fairfax and the district is working on rescheduling the district conference scheduled for the first weekend of April in Leesburg. As of now, the RI conference in Hawaii is still scheduled. Any changes will be communicated via e-mail.

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## Walter Hughes Jr.

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Last week we welcomed Walter Hughes to our weekly meeting and he was presented with an honorary membership to the Stafford Rotary Club. Walter's team passionately provides clean water and sanitation to over 615,000 people in Africa. He is working to build nine schools in Ghana. He has partnered with two hundred fifty-six Rotary Clubs in fifty-three Rotary districts in fifteen countries. Walter earned Rotary's Vocational Service Leadership Award & Rotary Foundation's Citation for Meritorious Service. He was recognized as a White House Champion of Change in 2013. Thanks to Walter for spending part of your day with us!

