

The Prince George's Post



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Prince George's Students Secure \$2.7 Million in Scholarships in Two Days: The Power of Partnership

By DR. LAURA L. DORSEY
Founder and President of LLD Scholars

In the span of 48 hours, the future of hundreds of Prince George's County students was fundamentally changed. Across two high-impact events on October 16 and 17, the LLD Scholars Scholarship & Career Fairs delivered immediate, life-changing results: over \$2.7 million in confirmed scholarships and 238 on-site college admissions for local students.

This success is not the result of a single organization, but of a united front. Our monumental outreach was made possible by the dedication of our incredible partners: the Sisters 4 Sisters Network (S4SN), the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), the Krimson Achievement Foundation, Prince George's County School District Community Schools, and the gracious hosts, Fairmont Heights High School & First Baptist Church of Highland Park.

Overwhelming Engagement: \$12.9 Million in Potential Value
The LLD Scholars Dual Pathway model—which guarantees both academic and career opportunities—drew massive crowds and delivered quantifiable wins.

Across both days, we engaged approximately 1,536 students. The applications taken from institutions like the University of the District of Columbia (UDC), Alabama State University (ASU), and the University of Maryland College Park (UMCP) represent a staggering over \$12.9 Million in potential tuition funding that now awaits Prince George's County scholars.



Student receiving multiple scholarships at First Baptist Church Highland Park: L-R: Dr. Candice Camille, The Wellogisit; Dr. Josephine Mourning, President SCLC PG CCounty; Student, Dr. Laura Dorsey, LLD Scholars



Students at Fairmont Heights High School



Krimson Achievement Foundation

ALL PHOTOS COURTESY LLD SCHOLARS

See SCHOLARSHIPS Page A2

CenterStage Arts Alliance Presents: THE COLOR PURPLE

By PRESS OFFICER
CenterStage Arts Alliance

SUITLAND, Md. (Oct. 29, 2025)—CenterStage Arts Alliance proudly presents “The Color Purple”, a reimagined and deeply personal take on this beloved story, coming to the Creative Suitland Arts Center on November 8 and 9. This in-person performance promises to enchant audiences with a fresh perspective on characters whose stories are often overlooked, paired with powerful music and an extraordinary cast.

While “The Color Purple” follows Celie’s journey of resilience and self-discovery, this production highlights the untold strength, struggles, and triumphs of each character: from Nettie’s unwavering hope across continents, Shug Avery’s fierce independence and unapologetic love, to Sofia’s courage in the face of injustice. And even the depths of Mister. Together, their interconnected stories create a richer, more nuanced tapestry of human experience. With a soul-stirring score of gospel, blues, and jazz, this Tony Award-winning musical celebrates not only triumph over adversity but also the depth and resilience of every character who fights, loves, and grows against all odds.

Experience The Color Purple like never before—a celebration of overlooked voices and the unbreakable spirit of community



PHOTO COURTESY CENTERSTAGE ARTS ALLIANCE

The part of Celie is portrayed by Adara Lowery.

and sisterhood. For tickets and information, visit Eventbrite.

At CenterStage Arts Alliance we believe in the transformative power of the arts. Our mission is simple yet profound: to positively impact our community and change lives through creative expression, cultural engagement, and artistic opportunity. Founded on

EVENT DETAILS:

“The Color Purple”
Director: Sherion Cosby
Choreographer: Shawn Cosby
Music Director: Juliet Lowery

Dates: Friday, November 8 and Saturday, November 9, 2025
Showings: 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.
Location: Creative Suitland Arts Center
4719 Silver Hill Road
Suitland, MD 20746

Tickets: \$60 in advance, \$70 at the door (Non-refundable)

For tickets and information, visit Eventbrite.

<https://www.centerstageartsalliance.org>

the belief that everyone deserves access to the arts, we are a nonprofit organization committed to using creativity as a catalyst for personal growth, social connection, and community change. Whether it's through visual arts, music, dance, theater, or spoken word, we create spaces where people of all ages and backgrounds can explore, heal, and thrive.

Federal Officials Reverse Hyattsville Immigration Court's Move to Eject Reporters

Three days after CNS reporters were removed from an immigration courthouse, they're welcomed back by federal officials—along with any member of the public interested in attending

By RUBY SIEFKEN and LILLIAN GLAROS
Capital News Service

COLLEGE PARK, Md. (Oct. 31, 2025)—Federal officials have reversed a decision of the Hyattsville Immigration Court and welcomed reporters back inside—without permission from a public information officer to be there.

On Friday morning, a Department of Justice office sent an email stating that immigration court hearings are “generally open to the public, including the news media.”

Contrary to what local court officials said earlier this week, the

email says that members of the media are not required to get permission from the Executive Office of Immigration Review before observing a hearing.

Furthermore, in open court hearings where space is limited, media should have priority seating, the email said.

It was not immediately clear whether that clarification had gone out to all of the local courts around the country, but advocates for press freedom said they hope so.

See REVERSE Page A5



Biblioteca de Prince George

BIBLIO CONSULTA

301-358-6862

Servicios de referencia de la Biblioteca en español.
Reference help from the Library provided in Spanish.

Library Launches Dedicated Spanish-Language Reference Line for Spanish-Speaking Community

By PRESS OFFICER
PGCMLS

LARGO, Md. (Oct. 29, 2025)—The Prince George's County Memorial Library System (PGCMLS) is pleased to announce the launch of Biblio Consulta, its dedicated Spanish-language reference line.

Biblio Consulta is a free one-on-one reference telephone service that provides a diverse range of information help in Spanish, including questions about applying for a U.S. passport. This reference service is provided by PGCMLS library staff fluent in Spanish, when the Library is open.

Biblio Consulta can be reached at 301-358-6862.

Community members are invited to visit the Library's Spanish-language website, Su biblioteca, at pgcmls.info/su-biblioteca.

La Biblioteca de Prince George (PGCMLS) se complace en anunciar el lanzamiento de Biblio Consulta, un servicio de referencia en español.

Biblio Consulta es un servicio de referencia telefónica gratuita en el cual puede hablar directamente con un bibliotecario en español, encontrará una amplia variedad de información sobre

los servicios en la biblioteca incluidas preguntas sobre cómo solicitar un pasaporte estadounidense. El servicio es proporcionado por personal de las bibliotecas de PGCMLS que habla español con fluidez, en los horarios de atención al público. Línea de apoyo en español: 301-358-6862.

Los miembros de la comunidad están invitados a visitar el sitio web en español de la Biblioteca, “Su Biblioteca,” en la página pgcmls.info/su-biblioteca.

The Prince George's County Memorial Library System (PGCMLS) is a beacon within its diverse and dynamic community. The Library serves Prince George's County, Maryland's 966,000+ residents through 19 public branches, a law library in the County Correctional Center, various pop-up services and events, and 24/7 access to free online resources. As a trusted and responsive community leader, PGCMLS democratizes knowledge and opportunity by providing safe, accessible spaces where customers of all backgrounds can freely engage with the resources needed to build knowledge, literacy, skills, and creativity at every phase of life. Learn more at pgcmls.info/about-us.

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TOWNS *and* NEIGHBORS

Brandywine-Aquasco by Audrey Johnson 301-922-5384

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations to Brandon and Ashley Holmes, Barron and Kendra Neal who are Clinton United Methodist Church members celebrating Wedding Anniversaries in November.

THE BOLD BUZZ

Where are they now? Calling all former Bowie State University Student-Athletes. Are you a former Bulldog student-athlete? If so, the Department of Athletics wants to reconnect with you. Please complete the form online to stay in touch and to receive updated information from the Department of Athletics. Once a Bulldog, always a Bulldog. STAY CONNECTED: Website: bsubulldogs.com, Facebook:@BSUBulldogs, Twitter:@BSU-Sports-Info. BSU-Sports-Info, Instagram:BowieStateBulldogs.

KRIS KRINGLE CHRISTMAS MARKET

Join us for the 2025 Kris Kringle Christmas Market on Friday, December 12th (4–8 p.m.), Saturday, December 13th (9 a.m.–8 p.m.), Fireworks Saturday at 6 p.m. Sunday, December 14th (10 a.m.–3 p.m.) The Charles County Fairgrounds will once again be transformed into Winter Wonderland, complete with festive light displays, a spectacular fireworks show, live music. Southern Maryland’s favorite food trucks, one-of-a-kind handmade crafts, photos with Santa, children’s activities, and so much more.

Admission is \$5 (Children 10 and under FREE). This is a non-profit event, with all proceeds benefitting the Southern Maryland Food Bank, the Charles County Volunteer Firemen’s Association, the Charles County Association of Emergency Medical Services, Inc. and the Charles County Fair. Charles County Fairgrounds, 8440 Fairgrounds Road, La Plata, MD, 20646. For further information contact 301-932-1234.

CELEBRATING 158TH CHURCH ANNIVERSARY

Nottingham Myers United Methodist Church will be celebrating their 158th Church Anniversary November 16, 2025, at 10 a.m. “Standing on Faith Covered by Grace” (2 Corinthians 12:9 (NRSVUE). Rev. Shemaiah Strickland, Pastor. Telephone: 301-888-2171.

LOVE, PEACE, AND UNITY HOLIDAY CONCERT

Join us for an exhilarating concert celebrating love, peace, and unity filled with positivity and connection. Cultural Academy for Excellence: Love, Peace and Unity Holiday Concert will be on Saturday, December 13, 2025, from 2–4 p.m. EST. By CAFEYouthOrg.

Cost \$12–\$25 Location: Elizabeth Seton High School, 5715 Emerson Street, Bladensburg, Maryland.

HOLIDAY MARKETPLACE

Get ready to immerse yourself in the festive spirit at Harmony Hall’s annual Holiday Marketplace on Saturday, December 6, 2025 from 10 a.m.–4 p.m. Enjoy the enchanting sounds of live music while sipping on warm refreshments. Explore a variety of vendor tables offering unique, hand-crafted items and perfect stocking stuffers for everyone on your list. This free event is open to all ages, so bring your family and friends for a delightful holiday experience. Do not miss this magical opportunity to celebrate the season

with us at Harmony Hall Arts Center, 10701 Livingston Road, Fort Washington, Maryland. Telephone 301-203-6070. Event Category: Special Event Special Events Holidays Celebrations Arts Senior Youth Free. Event Programs & Series of Arts Special Events (Harmony Hall) Workshops & Events (Harmony Hall).

FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS AT WATKINS

The Watkins Park Lights is held at Watkins Regional Park in Upper Marlboro at 301 Watkins Park Dr, Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20774-1950. Another year rolls on, and yet another Christmas is upon everyone. The merriest and happiest time of the year is loaded with great food, family traditions, and a whole lot of adult drinks to make the party a lot jollier. While sitting by the fire is certainly cozy, adventure junkies like you should not miss visiting the Watkins Park Festival of Lights.

If you are looking for something festive and fun for the entire family to enjoy this upcoming yuletide season, you have come to the perfect place. From illuminated trails loaded with fairytale characters to shining Christmas lights brightening up some of Watkins Park’s every winter, Watkins Regional Park in Upper Marlboro invites visitors to see the stunning drive-through holiday show with more than two million blinking Christmas lights.

This is a family event for all ages. You can drive through this event every night from November 28 through January 1, 5 p.m. until 9:30 p.m. Please donate canned goods or non-perishable food to a Prince George’s County family in need. Get tickets https://www.pgparcs.com/event_list/festival-of-lights-3

And Bikes and Lights is back! Attendees can get a chance to explore the lights while riding their bicycles. This particular event will take place on Sunday, November 23, 2025. For more details, you can visit the festival’s website. https://www.pgparcs.com/event_list/festival-of-lights-bikes-and-lights

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND (UMES)

Alumni Updates: Anthony Brew (Class of 2005, Criminal Justice) has been selected to lead the Montgomery County’s (MD) Human Resources Department as its new Chief Human Resource Officer. Brew joins Montgomery County with more than two decades of experience in leading employee engagement and talent management at large organizations, including in Philadelphia and Montgomery County. Brew holds a bachelor’s degree in criminology from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore and an Executive MBA from the Fox School of Business at Temple University.

Crystal Berger (Class of 2000, English), the founder and CEO of Baltimore-based EBO Corp, secured a \$200,000 investment from TEDCO to help take automation, inclusivity, and AI innovation to the next level. Berger’s company is one of the only Black women-owned AI start-ups in the U.S.

Alexander Ryan Wycoff (Class of 2023, Aviation Science) became a pilot with Delta Air Lines in March at age 23. Information from University of Maryland Eastern Shore (THE KEY). A newsletter for students, faculty, staff, alumni, and friends May 25, 2025.



PHOTO COURTESY LLD SCHOLARS

LLD Scholars hosts students Fairmont Heights High School October 16, 2025 at LLD Scholars Scholarship & Career Fair

Scholarships from A1

Day 1: Fairmont Heights Delivers Mass Impact

The first fair, held at Fairmont Heights High School, focused on high-volume engagement and set the tone for the entire week:

- 1,302 students attended, hungry for opportunity.
- \$1.88 Million in scholarships were awarded on the spot, including significant commitments from Randolph College and Defiance College.
- 177 students received immediate college acceptance letters.

Crucially, this event established pipelines for high-wage career fields. Students submitted applications for competitive internships with global firms like Turner Construction and secured interest in the Kinetics Lab and Design Lab at National Harbor, proving the future of PG County is bright in STEM and skilled trades. We thank partners like S4SN and the Prince George’s County Community Schools for ensuring such wide student reach.

Day 2: Deepening Community Reach at FBC Highland Park

The success continued at the second fair, hosted at First Baptist Church of Highland Park, where our focus was on delivering comprehensive support in partnership with the SCLC, S4SN and Krimson Achievement:

- 234 students attended this targeted event, securing an immediate \$849,000 in scholarships.
- 61 students received on-site admissions from colleges like Defiance, Randolph, and Trinity Washington University.
- The fair highlighted essential workforce skills, with Toastmasters offering guidance on professional presentation, and major construction firms like Corenic Construction offering program insights.

We also salute key supporters like Candice Camille, The Wellogist; Marian Thomas Photography; and Mary Murrill, Rescue Me Virtually for their presence, providing professional resources critical to a student’s total success.

The Call to Action: Follow-Up is Key

The final number—\$2,729,000 in confirmed scholarships—is a testament to what is possible when a community rallies around its youth.

We urge the entire community—from the faith-based organizations to local government and business—to recognize this achievement and commit to investing in this proven model. LLD Scholars is ready to scale this success, but it requires sustained support to ensure every accepted student graduates and every applicant finds their pathway. The youth of Prince George’s County deserve nothing less.

Dr. Laura L. Dorsey is the Founder and President of LLD Scholars, a non-profit dedicated to bridging the college and career readiness gap for underserved communities.

In & Around Morningside-Skyline by Mary McHale 301-735-3451

Arena Stage celebrates 75th anniversary

This fall marks the start of the 75th anniversary season at the Arena Stage in Southwest DC. Across that three-quarters of a century, the Arena has become one of the most important regional theaters not just in Washington, but in the country.

Many actors got their starts at the Arena, including James Earl Jones, Jane Alexander, Ned Beatty, Frances Sternhagen, George Grizzard, Philip Bosco, Roy Scheider, and Dianne Wiest. Along the way, the Arena has won numerous awards, including over 600 Helen Hayes Awards celebrating the best of Washington theater, as well as Tony Awards for Outstanding Region Theater in 1976, and as a producer for 2017 Best Musical-winner “Dear Evan Hansen”, which played at the Arena prior to opening on Broadway.

The Arena also changed my life.

In 1962, Mabel Harper, who lived on Clayton Lane, convinced me to join her for a play at the Arena Stage. I had seen plays before, but Mabel and I became regular theater-goers, especially at the Arena. Mabel died in 2001, but November 7th would have been her 99th birthday.

Over the years, my theater companions have changed. As they got older, I introduced each of my children—one at a time, so I could make sure they behaved—to theater, and then did the same with my grandchildren. I also saw many shows with fellow Skyline Drive resident Dot Curcio.

I went anywhere I could find an interesting show, and in the Washington area, there is always interesting theater happening somewhere. But I always returned to the Arena.

Eventually, I started ushering there, which was much cheaper than buying tickets, and which also got me access to the wonderful pre-show lectures for ushers. After many years of ushering, I retired and became a season-ticket subscriber, which I continued until COVID hit in 2020. I always got two tickets, knowing I’d be able to find some relative, friend, or neighbor to come along with me. And I always did.

For many years, the Arena had a formal repertory company.

Show after show, you’d see the same actors, here playing the romantic lead, there playing the villain, with a comic sidekick role coming later in the season. I loved the talent and versatility of Robert Prosky, Richard Bauer and wife Halo Wines, Tana Hicken, Stanley Anderson, and so many others.

In fall of 1973, I got to enjoy productions of “Our Town” and “Inherit the Wind”, plays the Arena had performed in Moscow and Leningrad that summer. The State Department had encouraged the Arena to go as a cultural-outreach initiative, and the trip made the Arena the first regional theater to perform American plays in the Soviet Union.

In the 1980s, “Joe Turner’s Come and Gone” at the Arena introduced me to the work of August Wilson. It was unlike anything I had ever seen before, and I just wanted to see more. Since then, I’ve attended Wilson plays any chance I get, many of them at the Arena, including “Jitney” in 2019, which remains one of the finest productions I’ve ever seen.

One of my favorite experiences at the Arena happened off-stage at “Coming of the Hurricane”, which included Linda Powell in the cast. I saw it the same night as her parents, Colin and Alma Powell. I wanted to respect their privacy, but after the play, I just had to turn around and tell them, “Your daughter was great,” because she was. General Powell smiled and said, “We thought so.”

I’ve read great reviews for the current Arena shows, a revival of “Damn Yankees” and a new dramatic-comedy, “Fremont Ave.”, both of which close this month. I’d love to go, but it’s hard for me to get to the theater these days. I plan to make an exception, however, when they revisit “Inherit the Wind” next February, since it’s one of my favorites. I can’t wait.

If you’re interested in seeing something (and you should be!), you can get more information at their website, www.arenastage.org.

Darnall’s Chance

Darnall’s Chance House Museum’s annual Gingerbread House Contest & Show celebrates the rich history and vibrant culture of

Prince George’s County, Maryland. Entries must creatively reflect local landmarks, architecture, stories, and traditions that showcase the unique heritage of Prince George’s County. Participants are encouraged to draw inspiration from the county’s historic sites, cultural icons, historical events, and community narratives to bring their gingerbread creations to life.

Contest Categories 2025 Adult Division: Individual adult, age 17 years & up

Child Division: Individual child, age 8–16 years

Family Division: Group of 3–7 individuals of any age

Prizes Awarded for Each Category 2025

1st Place—\$100 Gift Card

2nd Place—\$75 Gift Card

3rd Place—\$50 Gift Card

Viewer’s Choice Awards 2025 All entries are eligible for the Viewers’ Choice Awards, where public votes determine one winner in each of the three categories. Each winning entry will receive \$300.

For questions or more information about this contest contact the museum at 301-952-8010 or darnallschance@pgparcs.com.

The gingerbread houses will be on display from November 28 through December 14. You can visit every Friday, Saturday, and Sunday in those dates, from noon to 5 p.m. Entry costs \$2/person; ages 4 and under are free.

Milestones

Happy Birthday to Carolyn Follin, Nov. 1; Morningside Councilman Jim Ealey, Nov. 1; Pearl McNamara, Nov. 2; Carl McKIveen, Nov. 2; Luke Seidman, Nov. 3; Flossie Keck, Nov. 3; V.F.W. Post 9619, Nov. 4 (1947); Al and Debbie Callison, Nov. 4; Brandon Wood, Nov. 5; Bob Elborne, Nov. 5; Steve Call, Nov. 6; Linda Beatty, Nov. 6; Dennis Waby, Nov. 6; Davey Capps, Jr., Nov. 9; Linda Fortner Jumalon, Nov. 10; Cindy Lewis, Nov. 12.

Happy Anniversary to Michael and Maria (Blankenship) Jinks, Nov. 1; Becky and Dave Capps, Nov. 9; Roseann and Franny Rohan, Nov. 9.

McDaniel College Students Awarded Educator Legacy Scholarships

WESTMINSTER, Md. (Nov. 3, 2025)—McDaniel College has awarded select freshmen and transfer students with Educator Legacy Scholarships valued at up to \$132,000, or \$33,000 annually over four years, for each student.

Local students who received the Educator Legacy Scholarship from McDaniel College include:

Joseph Arthur of Laurel. Arthur is a graduate of Dematha Catholic High School.

Gabriel Chapman of Bowie.

Chapman is a graduate of DeMatha Catholic High School.

Gabriella Gresham of Bowie. Gresham transferred from Montgomery College: Takoma Park Campus.

BJ Laster of Upper Marlboro.

Laster is a graduate of Frederick Douglass High School.

Students with a parent or guardian with at least four years of current employment at a pre-K-12 school or community college can apply for this guaranteed

scholarship to attend McDaniel College. Any service qualifies, such as teachers, administrators, counselors, or support staff, as long as the employment is directly through the school or college.

The Educator Legacy Scholarship is among the largest scholarships offered at McDaniel and

honors McDaniel’s tradition of producing top educators. The college has successfully trained teachers and administrators for over 100 years. There is no limit to the number of Educator Legacy Scholarships awarded annually by McDaniel.

—*McDaniel College*

COMMUNITY

BHS NJROTC Navy Birthday Commemoration

By ASSISTANT PAO C/SR RYAN ZHANG
Bowie High School NJROTC

In a formal tribute to maritime history, the Bowie High School NJROTC Battalion commemorated the U.S. Navy’s birthday on October 13, 2025, in a ceremony steeped in tradition. The event celebrated the Navy’s 250th anniversary and was attended by cadets, honored guests, and battalion staff, including Gunnery Sergeant George Hinton and guest speaker Captain Clemia Anderson.

The proceedings, emceed by C/PO3 Kamille Foster, began with the singing of the national anthem by C/SR Kira Mack. The program included recognizing outstanding cadets, who received certificates of achievement from Gunnery Sergeant Hinton. A focal point of the ceremony was the cake-cutting tradition, symbolizing the passing of knowledge and honor from senior leadership to the next generation. Battalion Com-

mander C/CDMR Sabrina Adofo, accompanied by C/PO2 Ava Marcelin and C/PO3 Omowunmi Ogunbanwo, led the ceremonial cut. In a poignant moment, Captain Clemia Anderson, the Battalion’s Senior Naval Science Instructor, presented the first slice of cake to the youngest cadet, C/SR Kayla Gomez.

The ceremony concluded successfully, leaving cadets with a deep appreciation for the proud history and enduring legacy of the U.S. Navy. The event highlighted the NJROTC program’s role in fostering discipline, patriotism, and respect for military service among its cadets.



PHOTO COURTESY BOWIE HIGH SCHOOL NJROTC

BHS NJROTC Bowie High School NJROTC Cadets Hone Leadership Skills at Basic Leadership Training

By PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER C/PO2 BLASDO TCHAA
Bowie High School NJROTC

BOWIE, Md. (Oct. 31, 2025)—Cadets from the Bowie High School NJROTC Battalion participated in a multi-unit Basic Leadership Training (BLT) event on Saturday, October 11, 2025 held at Northwestern High School. The annual training, which has historically attracted a large majority of NJROTC units, has seen a notable increase in participation from AFJROTC units over the past two years, fostering a diverse and collaborative learning environment. Throughout the day, cadets were immersed in a rigorous curriculum designed to enhance their leadership abilities and tactical proficiency. Training included instruction and practice in various forms of drill, such as rifle, guidon, sword, and color guard. The physical training (PT) portion of the event challenged the cadets’ en-

durance, teamwork, and discipline, pushing them to work cohesively under pressure.

The day’s instruction was guided by a distinguished panel of instructors from multiple schools and military branches. Leading the training was Sergeant Major Wilson, the Senior Naval Science Instructor from Northwestern High School. He was joined by Captain Clemia Anderson, the Senior Naval Science Instructor for Bowie High School; First Sergeant Chea, the Naval Science Instructor for Suitland High School; Gunnery Sergeant Hinton, also from Bowie High School; and several Marines who provided additional support.

The training provided a crucial opportunity for cadets to strengthen their leadership competencies,

Marietta Lecture: Reverend Josiah Henson and the Underground Railroad

By STACEY HAWKINS
Marietta House Museum

Please join us on **Saturday, November 15**, from 1–2:30 p.m. for a presentation with Diana Klein, Education Program Manager for Josiah Henson Museum and Park as she discusses the life of Reverend Josiah Henson. Reverend Henson was enslaved in Montgomery County for about 25 years before he self-emancipated with his family to Canada and became a conductor on the Underground Railroad, eventually freeing 118 people. He wrote his life story, which inspired Harriet Beecher Stowe’s novel “Uncle Tom’s Cabin”, a bestselling book in the 19th century.

In his lifetime, Henson was a well-known abolitionist who met with Queen Victoria, President Hayes, Frederick Douglass and other movers-and-shakers of the era. So why has his story slipped into obscurity? In this presentation, Diana Klein will delve into Henson, his life,

and the social forces that shape how we view history today.

Following Ms. Klein’s presentation, Dr. Julie Rose, Director of Marietta House Museum, will present a short talk about researching the history of the Marietta enslaved families, and the self-emancipation of the Duckett and Brown families. These talks are in partnership with the African American Historical and Genealogical Society of Prince George’s County.

\$5/person. However, it is free for members of AAHGS. A hybrid program. Ages 12 & up. Children must be accompanied by an adult. On-line attendees must register to receive a TEAMS link. Walk-ins are welcome. Registration ticket code: MHM-SPEC-GA-20251115

For more information, please call 301-464-5291 or email mariettahouse@pgparks.com

Marietta House Museum is located at 5626 Bell Station Road, Glenn Dale, MD and is a property of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission.



PHOTO COURTESY BOWIE HIGH SCHOOL NJROTC

Cadets from the Bowie High School NJROTC Battalion participated in a multi-unit Basic Leadership Training (BLT) event on Saturday, October 11, 2025 held at Northwestern High School.

build self-assurance, and develop a deeper understanding of the importance of unity within a team.

The day culminated in a formal completion ceremony, during which the cadets’ display of discipline and dedication was officially recognized. The ceremony was presided over by Executive

Officer Sabrina Adofo and Commanding Officer of Troops Stephanie Escobar. Each cadet who successfully completed the training received a certificate of completion, a leadership ribbon, and a black aiguillette to commemorate their achievement and hard work.

Confusion Over “Slow Down, Move Over” Laws Puts Roadside Responders at Risk

New AAA Foundation Study Finds Most Drivers Are Unaware of or Misunderstand the Laws, Leading to Dangerous Gaps in Compliance

By PRESS OFFICER
AAA

WASHINGTON (Oct. 28, 2025)—Last year, 46 emergency responders never made it home, according to the Emergency Responder Safety Institute. They were police officers, firefighters, EMTs, and tow truck operators—struck while assisting others on the roadside. “Slow Down, Move Over” (SDMO) laws were created to prevent these tragedies, but a new study from the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety (AAAFTS) finds that confusion about the laws and inconsistent enforcement are leaving responders at continued risk.

“For more than 20 years, AAA has championed ‘Slow Down, Move Over’ laws in every state, yet we are still losing far too many roadside heroes in the line of duty,” said Gene Boehm, President and CEO of AAA National. “It’s clear that awareness alone isn’t enough. Drivers need to understand what these laws require and why they matter.”

“Slow Down, Move Over laws exist to protect roadside heroes, first responders, and the stranded motorists who they serve. However, as these statistics demonstrate, drivers do not always follow the law, all too often resulting in preventable tragedies,” said Dr. David Yang, President and Executive Director of the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety.

While every state and the District of Columbia has a “Slow Down, Move Over” law, many drivers do not fully understand what those laws require. In a forthcoming AAAFTS national survey, two-thirds of drivers said they have heard of SDMO laws, but many



PHOTO COURTESY AAA

“Every responder working on the roadside deserves to make it home safely,” said AAA Director of Traffic Safety Advocacy and Research Jake Nelson.

couldn’t say whether their state has one or what the law entails. Drivers are far less likely to move over or slow down for tow trucks or stranded vehicles than for police, revealing a widespread misconception about who the laws protect.

When researchers reviewed real-world footage of drivers passing roadside incidents, they found only 64% of vehicles either slowed down or moved over. The remaining 36% did neither. Changing lanes was far more common than reducing speed, suggesting that many drivers are missing half the law’s intent.

The research reveals several troubling trends:

- **Tow truck operators face the greatest risk.** Only 58% of drivers witnessed in surveillance footage slowed down or moved over when a tow truck was stopped at the roadside, compared to 66% who slowed down

or moved over for police vehicles.

- **Intentions do not match actions.** Most drivers say they comply with SDMO laws, but roadside video shows otherwise—especially when it comes to reducing speed.

- **Inconsistent enforcement reduces deterrence.** Drivers perceive little risk of being ticketed, and penalties vary widely—from \$30 in Florida to \$2,500 in Virginia.

“Every responder working on the roadside deserves to make it home safely,” said AAA Director of Traffic Safety Advocacy and Research Jake Nelson. “We need clear, consistent laws, visible enforcement, and education that resonates with drivers. When everyone understands what ‘slow down, move over’ really means, we can make our roads safer for those who protect us every day.”

AAA is encouraging policymakers,

enforcement agencies, and safety partners to strengthen and align their approaches to “Slow Down, Move Over” laws—making them clearer, more consistent, and easier for drivers to follow.

Recommendations include:

- **Clarify and align SDMO laws** across states, including a consistent definition of what it means to “slow down.”
- **Raise public awareness** through emotionally compelling, visually clear campaigns that humanize the impact of noncompliance and showcase all vehicles covered by the laws.
- **Increase enforcement visibility** with coordinated, high-visibility efforts and education-first use of emerging technologies like dashcams and automated enforcement systems.

Laws in both Maryland and Virginia require drivers to slow down and when possible, move over a lane, away from first responders, law enforcement officers and tow truck drivers with their emergency lights activated and for disabled vehicles on the roadside displaying hazard lights, flares, or an emergency sign.

Those who do not abide by the law in Maryland are subject to a fine between \$110 and \$750. In Virginia, those who do not move over could be charged with a traffic infraction, which carries a fine of up to \$250. Drivers who fail to move over or proceed with caution when passing emergency vehicles, with their emergency lights activated, could be charged with reckless driving which carries a punishment of up to a year in jail and a fine of up to \$2,500.

“Drivers need to understand and follow the law,” said Ragina Ali, Manager for Public and Government Affairs for AAA in Maryland and the Washington Metro area. “Our roadside professionals rely on drivers on the road to give them the space needed to get their job done safely.”

AAA furthers its mission to protect

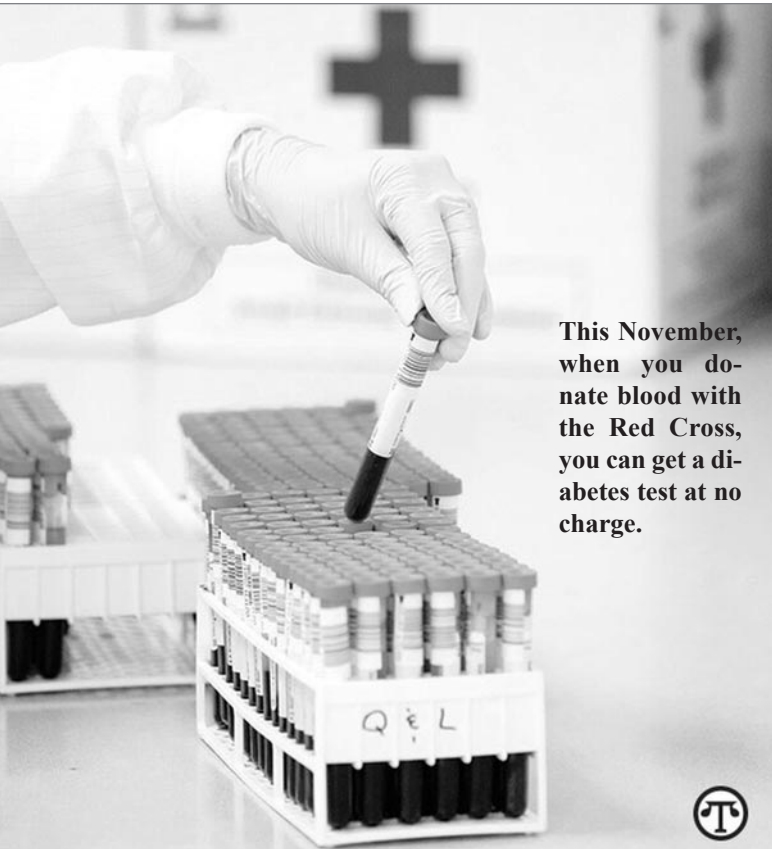
service technicians and tow providers by offering innovative solutions that improve safety at the roadside by partnering with companies like HAAS Alert, to provide advance notice to drivers about an incident at the roadside and remind them to slow down and move over.

Tragically, five service providers have been killed working at the roadside in October alone. “The loss of our roadside heroes serves as a stark reminder of the dangers they face every time they respond to a member’s call for assistance,” added Ali. “It also highlights the critical importance of AAA’s mission to protect those that protect us at the roadside and to save lives on our roadways.”

Established in 1947 by AAA, the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety is a non-profit, publicly funded 501(c)(3) charitable research and educational organization. The AAA Foundation’s mission is to prevent traffic deaths and injuries by researching their causes and by educating the public about strategies to prevent crashes and reduce injuries when they do occur. This research informs the development of educational materials for drivers, pedestrians, bicyclists, and other road users.

AAA provides automotive, travel, and insurance services to more than 65.2 million members nationwide, over 80,000 members in Washington, D.C. and more than 1 million members in Maryland. AAA advocates for the safety and mobility of its members and has been committed to outstanding road service for more than 100 years. AAA is a non-stock, not-for-profit membership corporation working on behalf of motorists, who can map a route, find local gas prices and electric vehicle charging stations, discover discounts, book a hotel, and track their roadside assistance service with the AAA Mobile app (AAA.com/mobile) for iPhone, iPad and Android. For more information on joining or renewing a Membership, visit www.AAA.com.

HEALTH *and* WELLNESS



HEALTH AWARENESS

Diabetes: A Silent Threat—and How the American Red Cross Is Taking Action

(NAPSI)—Diabetes affects millions of Americans and is a leading cause of serious complications, including kidney failure, lower-limb amputations, adult blindness, and an increased risk of heart disease and stroke. Yet many people remain unaware they’re at risk.

Genetics, lifestyle habits, and limited access to healthcare all contribute to this growing health crisis.

This November, in honor of Diabetes Awareness Month and its theme—“Taking Action to Prevent Diabetes-Related Health Problems”—the American Red Cross is offering free A1C screenings to all blood donors who haven’t received the test in the past 12 months. The initiative is already making a difference. Since March, the Red Cross has provided approximately 550,000 A1C screenings, notifying 145,000 individuals about concerning results. About 1 in 5 donors tested had results in the prediabetic or diabetic range—clear evidence that early awareness can save lives.

This is more than a health campaign—it’s a humanitarian effort. By offering free A1C testing, the Red Cross gives donors vital health insights and encourages proactive steps toward better health, especially in communities most affected by diabetes.

Why Everyone Should Pay Attention

Many people are at risk of developing type 2 diabetes and may be unaware of their condition. Factors such as genetics, lifestyle habits and limited access to healthcare contribute to this increased chance.

Diabetes remains a leading cause of kidney failure, lower-limb amputations, and adult blindness—and adults with diabetes face twice the risk of heart disease and stroke compared to those without it.

“The A1C test measures average blood sugar levels over the past three months, providing a clearer and more reliable picture than a standard glucose test,” explains Dr. Jorge Rios, medical director for the American Red Cross. Dr. Rios knows this firsthand—he discovered he had diabetes through an A1C test, which allowed him to act before serious complications developed.

“Eight years ago, during a medical convention, I came down with what I thought was the flu. I was so exhausted I couldn’t even leave my hotel room,” recalls Dr. Rios. “Weeks later, the fatigue continued. My doctor tested my A1C—it was almost 7. The normal range is 5.7% or less. That’s when I was diagnosed with diabetes.”

Dr. Rios immediately changed his diet, began exercising, and started medication. Today, his diabetes is well managed—and his message is clear:

“If you have a parent, sibling, or grandparent with diabetes, get tested. And perhaps once a year, ask your doctor to test you if you have symptoms like I did, which was feeling very tired. It’s an easy test and can save your life,” says Dr. Rios. “Know your numbers so you can make lifestyle changes,” he adds.

Dispelling Common Myths

Misinformation often prevents people from seeking help. Here are some common myths about diabetes—and the truths behind them:

- **Myth:** Herbs or home remedies can cure diabetes.
Truth: Diabetes needs medical care and ongoing management.
- **Myth:** Only older people get diabetes.
Truth: It can affect anyone, including kids and young adults.
- **Myth:** If you feel fine, you don’t need testing.
Truth: Diabetes can be silent for years; fatigue may be the only sign.
- **Myth:** Diabetes is a death sentence.
Truth: With treatment and healthy habits, people can live full lives.
- **Myth:** People with diabetes can’t donate blood.
Truth: If well-managed, they can donate safely.

Get Tested During November

To receive your free A1C result, make a successful blood, platelet, or plasma donation and ensure you haven’t received an A1C test through the Red Cross in the past 12 months. Results will appear within one to two weeks in the Red Cross Blood Donor App or at RedCrossBlood.org. If your A1C is elevated, follow up with your healthcare provider.

As a thank you, all who come to give Oct. 27–Nov. 16, 2025, will get \$20 in e-gift cards to a choice of merchant, plus automatic entry for a chance to win one of three \$5,000 prizes. See RedCrossBlood.org/Harvest.

Additionally, donors who give blood between Nov. 17 and Dec. 7 will receive a pair of exclusive Red Cross x PAC-MAN™ socks, while supplies last.

Partnerships and Friendship Highlights of Burnett Center Open House

By ELYZABETH MARCUSSEN
Hospice of the Chesapeake

PRINCE FREDERICK, Md. (Oct. 30, 2025)—There was a joyful spirit on a perfect fall evening as people from the Calvert County community came together to bless the newly restored Labyrinth at Calvert Homestead and celebrate the Burnett Center for Hope & Healing’s growth as a vital resource for those living with illness and loss.

Community members, local leaders and members of the health community attended the event that was held Oct. 16 at the center at 4559 Sixes Road in Prince Frederick, which is part of the Hospice of the Chesapeake family of services.

Guests first enjoyed hors d’oeuvres and the opportunity to learn about the integrative arts programs the organization offers. This includes veterans care, pet therapy, art therapy, and healing energies, including Compassionate Touch and reiki.

Hospice of the Chesapeake President and CEO Becky Miller stepped onto the portico to express gratitude to the Calvert County community and shared the organization’s vision for the future—including expanding partnerships with local healthcare providers and county agencies to ensure more residents have access to hospice, supportive and grief care services.

“Good news, bad news: We are living longer, but we are living longer with advanced illnesses and diminishing resources. This phenomenon is going to require communities to band together, get creative and pool resources to allow our older population to remain independent and healthy in the community,” Miller said. “This is something community-based organizations have always done. We are able to do so much because of our partnerships and friendships, old and new.”

One such partnership is with CalvertHealth. Kara Harrer, CalvertHealth Associate Vice President of Ancillary Services, shared how intertwined the medical center is with Hospice of the Chesapeake, from palliative and end-of-life care to having representation on the hospice organization’s board. “Beyond the bedside, our partnership extends into the community. Through initiatives like the Community Health Improvement Roundtable, we are engaging leaders and organizations to address key health needs, including end-of-life care,” Harrer said.

Then, all of the guests followed the path that leads to the labyrinth next door. Special guest Barbara Burnett, who generously donated the Burnett Center property in memory of her husband, Robert Burnett, shared her gratitude to Hospice of the Chesapeake and the Calvert County community for helping her to realize her hopes that both the labyrinth and the Burnett Center would provide a peaceful space for reflection, healing and community connection. With the help of a youth organization from North Carolina, Burnett created the labyrinth in 2001 to help her cope with the grief of losing her husband. “I can only hope that all that walk or just stand inside will find their



PHOTO CREDIT ELYZABETH MARCUSSEN

PRINCE FREDERICK (Oct. 16, 2025)—Volunteer Services Manager Heather Conner looks on as Barbara Burnett welcomes the community to the recently restored labyrinth on the Calvert Homestead, which is adjacent to the Burnett Center for Hope & Healing.

peace and answers as I did,” she said.

The labyrinth is open to the public during daylight hours. For how to access the labyrinth, visit <https://labyrinthlocator.org/labyrinth/the-calvert-homestead/177/>.

At Hospice of the Chesapeake, we support individuals and families facing progressive, serious illness to reimagine hope—living each day with intention and peace—while ensuring our nonprofit organization remains a vital resource for future generations. We develop care plans to minimize symptoms and focus on what matters most for patients and families in Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles and Prince George’s counties. Caring for life throughout the journey with illness and loss is the mission of Hospice of the Chesapeake. For more information, please visit www.hospicechesapeake.org.

The ALS Association to Honor ALS Community at Dine to Defeat ALS DC

By PRESS OFFICER
The ALS Association

WASHINGTON (Nov. 4, 2025)—The community will come together on **Saturday, November 15** at the ALS Association’s Dine to Defeat ALS DC Gala for an inspirational evening dedicated to raising awareness in the fight against ALS.

The Dine to Defeat ALS DC Gala will honor the ALS community and highlight research initiatives, advocacy programs and local care services for individuals and families affected by ALS. The event will be from 6–9 p.m. and feature an unforgettable evening of community spirit and purpose, entertainment, live and silent auctions, powerful stories and giving opportunities. Guests will enjoy a gourmet menu curated by Chef Aaron Silverman and the acclaimed Rose’s Restaurant Group. Known for their Michelin-starred restaurants, they deliver innovative cuisine and unmatched hospitality.

Funds raised will provide help and hope for those living with ALS by supporting patient care, advocacy, and cutting-edge research to find treatments and ultimately a cure for this debilitating, always fatal disease.

Every 90 minutes, someone is diagnosed with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), a progressive neurodegenerative disease affecting nerve cells in the brain and spinal cord. ALS robs people of the ability to walk, talk and eventually breathe. Through an extensive network, the ALS Association is on the ground in all 50 states providing support for people living with ALS and their loved ones by ensuring they have access to critical care programs and services.

This year’s event will honor Aaron Nola, ALS Advocate and Philadelphia Phillies Pitcher! Since making his MLB debut in 2015, Aaron Nola has dedicated countless hours to raising money and awareness for the ALS Association. His support is deeply personal—his uncle passed away in 2021 after a six-year battle with ALS. This year, Nola’s leadership was recognized as the Phillies’ nominee for the 2025 Roberto Clemente Award.

Dine to Defeat ALS DC brings together individuals to generate funds that further our mission to make ALS livable until we have a cure, and to serve, advocate for, and empower people affected by ALS to live their lives to the fullest. Join us for the Dine to Defeat ALS DC Gala to raise critical funds for ALS re-

EVENT INFORMATION

Dine to Defeat ALS DC Gala

When: Saturday, November 15, 2025, 6–9 p.m.

Where: The Capitol View at 400
The Hall of States Building
400–444 North Capitol St NW, Washington, DC 20001

search, care, and advocacy. Proceeds support free local services for over 1,000 people living with ALS in Washington, DC, Maryland, and Virginia.

Top sponsors for the event include Lerner Family Foundation, Aon and Rapa Therapeutics. Max Wolf of Wolf Auction Group will serve as the auctioneer. Individual tickets and sponsorships for the event are also available. Visit www.als.org/DineDC to purchase tickets and sponsorships.

The Prince George’s Post

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The Prince George’s Post

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BUSINESS AND FINANCE

Social Security Matters

Ask Rusty:

Should I Ask for Retroactive Benefits?

By RUSSELL GLOOR,
National Social Security Advisor at the
AMAC Foundation, the non-profit arm of the
Association of Mature American Citizens

Dear Rusty: I turn 70 next month, October 3, and am making an application for Social Security benefits to begin in January 2026. I want the maximum Delayed Retirement Credits (DRCs) and the highest permanent monthly benefit. I do not want to leave money on the table, so should I request six months of retroactive benefits or at least retroactive to October when I turn 70? If I do this, will I lose DRCs and adversely impact my ongoing monthly benefit after February 2026?
Signed: Turning 70

Dear Turning 70: I must ask—why claim your Social Security to start in January? You are entitled to your maximum SS monthly benefit in the month you reach 70 years of age, so waiting until January doesn’t gain you anything. You could apply in August, specifying you wish your benefits to start in October, and you would get the maximum age 70 benefit you are entitled to (e.g., the maximum Delayed Retirement Credits available to you, and the highest possible monthly benefit).

Since you are looking for your maximum DRC’s, to prevent SSA from giving you any retroactive benefits (which would permanently lower your monthly amount) you should enter in the “Remarks” section of your application that “I do not wish to receive retroactive benefits. I want my maximum monthly benefit effective with the month I turn 70 years of age.”

If, however, for some reason you still wish to claim effective with January 2026, you should indicate in the “Remarks” section of your SS application that you only wish three months of retroactive benefits, for the months of October, November and December 2025. This is to prevent you from losing the money you would miss by waiting beyond October to claim. If you ask for benefits retroactive to any month earlier than the month you turn 70, your monthly benefit will be permanently reduced.

This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the AMAC Foundation’s staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association (NSSA). NSSA and the AMAC Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. To submit a question, visit our website (amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory) or email us at ssadviser@amacfoundation.org.

The 2.4 million member Association of Mature American Citizens [AMAC] www.amac.us is a vibrant, vital senior advocacy organization that takes its marching orders from its members. AMAC Action is a non-profit, non-partisan organization representing the membership in our nation’s capital and in local Congressional Districts throughout the country. And the AMAC Foundation (www.AmacFoundation.org) is the Association’s non-profit organization, dedicated to supporting and educating America’s Seniors. Together, we act and speak on the Association members’ behalf, protecting their interests and offering a practical insight on how to best solve the problems they face today. Live long and make a difference by joining us today at www.amac.us/join-amac.

Reverse from A1

“Federal regulation is pretty clear on [media access] but it seems like the message might be getting lost in translation,” said Renee Griffin, a staff attorney at the Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press.

The decision comes less than a day after Capital News Service editors and publishers asked the Chief Immigration Judge to re-admit them to proceedings in the Hyattsville Immigration Court. On Tuesday, a judge removed two CNS reporters from an immigration courtroom. Court personnel, including the court administrator, told them they could not return to the courthouse without permission from the public information officer at the EOIR.

That PIO, Kathryn Mattingly, is on furlough due to the government shutdown. Nevertheless, Court Administrator Neil Andrade said the CNS reporters could not return to the courthouse without her explicit permission.

Rafael Lorente, dean of the Philip Merrill College of Journalism at the University of Maryland, wrote a letter to Chief Immigration Judge Teresa Riley on Thursday, citing the court’s own policy manual where it says that representatives of the news media may attend hearings that are open to the public. Merrill College runs CNS. The chief immigration judge runs the administrative courts for the DOJ and the EOIR.

He was appealing on behalf of the reporters and their editor, Christi Parsons, who have been covering the Hyattsville Immigration Court for the past two months. Reporters had previously identified themselves as press whenever judges asked, but none had ever tried to remove them before.

First thing on Friday, Lorente received an unsigned email from the EOIR.

“Although members of the media are not required to obtain EOIR’s permission before observing a hearing, members of the media are strongly encouraged to coordinate with the Office of Policy in advance of visiting, and to identify themselves to court staff at the front window upon arrival,” the email read. “Local court staff can help ensure access if space is limited.”

“Your reporters are welcome to return to the Hyattsville Immigration Court to observe hearings,” the email concluded.

Prince George’s Community Federal Credit Union Marketing Director Patrice Forbes Appointed to the Maryland Black Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors

By PRESS OFFICER
PGCFCU

PRINCE GEORGE’S COUNTY, Md. (Oct. 29, 2025)—Prince George’s Community Federal Credit Union proudly announces that its Director of Marketing, Patrice Forbes, has been appointed to the Board of Directors of the Maryland Black Chamber of Commerce (MBCC). She joins a distinguished group of business leaders working together to advance the Chamber’s mission to connect, educate, and advocate for Black-owned businesses across Maryland.

As Director of Marketing for Prince George’s Community Federal Credit Union (PGCFCU), Forbes has been instrumental in leading initiatives that empower local businesses, strengthen community partnerships, and promote economic growth. A lifelong Marylander and passionate advocate for entrepreneurship and creative innovation, Forbes also brings her experience as a Board Member of the Recording Academy’s Washington, D.C. Chapter and her active involvement in ventures that inspire and empower the next generation of professionals.

“We’re so proud of Patrice and her continued leadership in the community,” said Diane Coleman Brown, President and CEO of Prince George’s Community Federal Credit Union. “Her appointment



PHOTO COURTESY PGCFCU

Patrice Jones Forbes

reflects her passion for empowerment and aligns perfectly with our mission to help members and local businesses thrive.”

“We are thrilled to have Patrice join our Board of Directors,” added Kenneth White, President / CEO of the Maryland Black Chamber of Commerce. “Her commitment to community empowerment will help the Chamber continue expanding its reach and impact statewide.”

In her new role, Forbes will collaborate with fellow board members to advance MBCC’s growing portfolio of programs and initiatives, including the Chamber’s Leadership Academy, Non-profit Academy and upcoming AI Acad-

emy. She will also support MBCC’s expanding membership—now exceeding 760 members statewide—and help strengthen partnerships with organizations such as Prince George’s FSC First, Prince George’s EDC, Montgomery County Economic Development Corporation, The City of Frederick, Hagerstown Community College and Harbor Bank of Maryland to name a few.

“I am honored to join the MBCC Board and contribute to an organization that is making such a meaningful difference for Black entrepreneurs and small business owners across our state,” said Forbes. “This is about building opportunity, access, and legacy for the next generation of Maryland business leaders.”

Established in 1967, Prince George’s Community Federal Credit Union was created to offer financial services to Prince George’s County employees. Over the years, the organization has expanded its reach to serve more than 19,500 members across the county. With assets exceeding \$300 million, our community-based credit union welcomes individuals who live, work, volunteer, worship, attend school or operate businesses in Prince George’s County to open an account. For more information, visit www.PrinceGeorgesCFCU.org or call 301.627.2666.

Educational Systems Federal Credit Union Hosts Two Service Year Option Members Through Maryland’s Department of Service and Civic Innovation

By PRESS OFFICER
ESFCU

GREENBELT, Md. (Oct. 28 2025)—Educational Systems Federal Credit Union is partnering with the Maryland Department of Service and Civic Innovation (DSCI) to host two participants in the state’s Service Year Option, a program that creates meaningful career pathways for recent high school graduates. From September 2025 through June 2026, the participants—referred to by DSCI as Members—are serving as Financial Service Associates at the Credit Union’s Greenbelt headquarters.

The 10-month experience includes month-long rotations across departments to build a well-rounded understanding of credit union operations, followed by a Marketing capstone that integrates their

learning into a community-focused deliverable.

“Educational Systems FCU is proud to support Maryland’s Service Year Option by investing in early-career talent,” said Girardo Smith, President/CEO. “This partnership reflects our values—caring, collaborative, empowering and excellence—while helping young professionals build practical skills and confidence.”

Early feedback from participants underscores the program’s focus on member service. “On my first day, I toured the headquarters and a branch. A member walked in the branch and was welcomed with a warm greeting—by name,” said Gabriela Bonilla, a Financial Service Associate. “That moment reflected Educational Systems FCU’s core value of Caring and taught me the importance of member service, creating a welcoming

environment and representing the Credit Union’s core values through personalized service.”

Educational Systems FCU’s participation in the Service Year Option aligns with its commitment to workforce development, civic engagement and the cooperative principle of people helping people—preparing emerging professionals for careers that serve the community.

Educational Systems Federal Credit Union has proudly served the education community since 1955. With \$1.3 billion in assets and 13 branches, the Credit Union serves over 95,000 members of the education community including school employees, students, parents and individuals working for education-related organizations. For more information, visit www.esfcu.org.

Governor Moore Announces \$17 Million for Community Solar Projects to Cut Energy Costs for Marylanders

By PRESS OFFICER
Office of the Governor

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (Oct. 28, 2025)—Governor Wes Moore today announced \$17 million in grants that will allow more income-qualified Marylanders to tap into the cost-cutting and environmental benefits of the Community Solar Grant Program. The program promotes access to solar power for individuals who rent their homes or cannot install solar panels on their own properties.

“The reason we are so focused on the issue of energy affordability is because we hear from our constituents about it every day,” said Gov. Moore. “That’s why we’re taking this important step forward to make energy more sustainable and bring prices down in communities across the state. And as we continue in this work, we’re making sure to leave no one behind.”

The Maryland Energy Administration

is emphasizing projects sited on landfills or brownfields as the state works to turn former wastelands into clean energy production hubs. Approximately \$12 million of funding will be directed to such projects, all of which must be subscribed to low-income Marylanders. Additionally, half of the energy will be provided free of charge to low-income households that are designated by the Maryland Department of Human Services; the other half will be subscribed to low-income households at a 25% discount from their utility’s residential rate.

Projects that are not on landfills or brownfields require 15% of the site’s electricity to go to low-income subscribers and to deliver a minimum savings of 12%. For many customers, the actual savings far exceeds 20%.

“Community Solar is important for several different reasons. It allows households on fixed or moderate incomes to cut their electric bills. And Community

Solar requires limited up-front investment,” said Maryland Energy Administration Director Paul G. Pinsky. “Perhaps above all, Community Solar allows many Marylanders who can’t put solar on their roofs to receive the same cost savings as those who can.”

The minimum size of an individual grant for a project not located on a landfill or brownfield is \$50,000; the maximum is \$1 million. For projects on landfills or brownfields, the maximum individual grant size is \$6 million.

Projects that received funding through the earlier Community Solar Pilot Program are not eligible to apply for this round of funding. The agency will consider portfolios of smaller projects that are submitted under a single W-9.

The program is open for applications until 3 p.m. ET on Tuesday, December 23.

For more information visit energy.maryland.gov.

EarthTalk®
Q&A

Iron-Air Batteries:
A Revolution in Energy Storage?

By Audrey Li | October 25, 2025

Dear EarthTalk:
What’s new regarding more efficient batteries that can help usher in a new age of renewable energy?
—Paul Beckman, Marion, OH

Batteries are everywhere—in your phone, your car—even the artificial organs that many depend on for life. But behind this universal usage is extensive ecological damage—the battery-making process requires intensive mining for heavy metals, leaks toxins into soil and water, and depletes local water sources in communities. But new and innovative ways to increase the efficiency and sustainability of batteries.

One of the most novel innovations out this year is iron-air batteries, those that use a sustainable rust-based reaction to produce energy. As air passes through the cathode (the negatively-charged portion of the battery) and reacts with the liquid, a water-based electrolyte, ions subsequently latch onto the positively-charged iron anode, producing rust. The movement of ions through this rust produces electricity, a process that can be repeated by continually un-rusting the battery after each reaction. Form energy co-founder and Chief Scientist Yet-Ming Chiang notes the economic viability of iron-air batteries for large-scale usage: “Air is still free and iron is one of the most widely produced, lowest cost materials in the world.” In Minnesota, a 1.5 megawatt pilot project was shown to be able to

power 400 homes for 100 hours, a clear example of how iron-air batteries could be the next big innovation for large-scale battery usage.

Besides iron-air batteries, solid-state batteries are what George Crabtree, director of the Joint Center for Energy Storage Research, believes to be “very likely... the next big thing at the commercial level.” Solid-state batteries use electrolytes like argyrodite, garnet and perovskite that are more efficient than liquid-electrolytes in nearly all aspects: they’re lighter, take up less space and can hold more energy per unit of mass. These qualities make them effective for Electrical Vehicle (EV) usage and grid-scale energy storage. However, researchers like University of Houston professor Yan Yao, who recently developed a glass-like electrolyte, are still looking for materials that fulfill all four factors for viability in the market: low-cost, easy-to-build, having a high degree of mechanical stability, and chemical stability.

With lithium-based batteries being so ubiquitous, some scientists are looking to improve on the existing model rather than supplanting it entirely. Batteries made out of Lithium-Sulfur, for example, exhibit four times greater energy density than traditional lithium batteries due to their usage of light, active materials. Ultimately, innovations in batteries are a cornerstone to shaping a more sustainable future. According to associate professor of materials science at Columbia University Yuan Yuang, making renewable energy more reliable will help stabilize energy grids and support a more sustainable energy future.



PHOTO CREDIT: CREDIT: FORM ENERGY

Form Energy is one of the companies working on iron-air batteries that could revolutionize the technology of tomorrow.

CONTACTS: Three battery technologies that could power the future, <https://saft.com/en/media-resources/our-stories/three-battery-technologies-could-power-future>.

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LEGALS

TRUSTEE'S SALE
OF TIMESHARE INTEREST IN VALUABLE
IMPROVED REAL ESTATE

Improved by the premises known as
250 Mariner Passage, National Harbor, Maryland

In execution of a Claim of Lien, dated July 2, 2025, recorded 8/22/2025, in Liber 51207 at folio 126 among the Land Records of Prince George's County, Maryland, against: Reba Bivens Byars and Jerry W. Ridenhour and by virtue of the power and authority granted by Order of Court, dated 10/15/2025, entered in Civil Case No. C-16-CV-25-005748 in the Circuit Court for Prince George's County, Maryland, and at the request of the party secured in the terms and conditions thereof, the undersigned trustee will sell at public auction in front of the Main Street entrance to the Duval Wing of the Prince George's County courthouse complex, 14735 Main Street, Upper Marlboro, Maryland, on

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2025, AT 11:00 AM

the real property described as follows:

One 400,000/ 2,855,944,500 fractional fee simple undivided Standard Vacation Ownership Interest in the 216 Standard VOI Units numbered 201-217, 301-306, 308, 309-327, 401-406, 408-427, 501-506, 508-527, 601-606, 608-621, 623-627, 701-706, 708-721, 723-727, 801-806, 808-821, 823-827, 901-921, 923-927, 1003, 1004, 1006, 1008, 1010, 1012, 1014, 1016, 1018-1020, 1104, 1106, 1108, 1110, 1112, 1114, 1116, 1118, 1120 that are situate within the one Timeshare Unit (as defined in Section 1.46 of the Master Condominium Declaration) located in Building Q, Parcel No. Seventeen of National Harbor Community, 250 Mariner Passage, National Harbor, MD 20745 as tenants in common with the other undivided interest owners of the aforesaid Standard VOI Units in Capital Cove at National Harbor, a Condominium (the "Timeshare Project") as described in "Declaration of Condominium for Capital Cove at National Harbor, a Condominium" dated September 11, 2009 and recorded September 25, 2009 among the Land Records of Prince George's County, Maryland ("Land Records") in Liber 31006, folio 457 et seq., (the "Declaration") with one or more plats attached (the "Plats"), (the Declaration and the Plats, collectively, the "Timeshare Declaration").

This conveyance applies only to Residential Sub-Units containing Standard VOIs and excludes any interest in all of the Designated VOI Units and all of the Commercial Sub-Units. Standard VOI Units total 232, some of which are numbered above, and all 232 Standard VOI Units are all Residential Sub-Units that are not the 18 Designated VOI Units which are outlined on Exhibit G of the Timeshare Declaration. Such Standard VOI possesses a /an Annual Ownership Interest and has been allocated 400,000 Points at the time of purchase for use by the Grantees in Each year(s). Moreover, such Standard VOI has a Floating Use Right.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) cash or certified funds will be required of the purchaser at the time and place of sale, the balance of the purchase price being due and payable within fifteen (15) days after final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court for Prince George's County, Maryland, time being of the essence, with interest thereon at the rate of 10 percent per annum from the date of sale to the date of delivery of payment to the trustee. Provided, however, that if the holder of the interest secured by the foreclosed lien is the successful bidder at the sale, no cash deposit shall be required, and part of or the entire indebtedness, including interest and costs, secured by the lien may be set off against the purchase price.

Any defaulting purchaser shall forfeit the deposit and shall stand the risk and cost of resale. In the event of a resale, the defaulting purchaser shall not receive any benefit, profit or proceeds therefrom.

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4. See Representative for full warranty details. *Promotional offer includes 15% off plus an additional 10% off for qualified veterans and/or seniors. No cash paid unless noted for 1 year. Subject to credit approval. Call for details. AK AK040803, AZ AZ031403, CA CA050803, CT CT060703, DE DE060803, FL FL060803, GA GA050803, HI HI060803, IL IL060803, IN IN060803, MD MD060803, MI MI060803, MN MN060803, MO MO060803, NE NE060803, NH NH060803, NJ NJ060803, NY NY060803, OH OH060803, OK OK060803, OR OR060803, PA PA060803, RI RI060803, SC SC060803, SD SD060803, TN TN060803, TX TX060803, UT UT060803, VA VA060803, VT VT060803, WA WA060803, WI WI060803, WY WY060803

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The subject property is being sold in "as is" condition without warranty of any kind. The property is being sold subject to all conditions, covenants, restrictions, and agreements of record, as well as the rights of redemption of federal lienholders or encumbrances, if any. Purchaser shall be responsible for any and all legally enforceable unpaid association dues or assessments, if any. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining possession of the property and shall assume the risk of loss.

In the event the trustee is unable to convey to the purchaser good title, purchaser's sole and exclusive remedy, at law or in equity, shall be in the refund of the deposit paid at the time of sale, without interest.

Conveyancing, recording and transfer taxes, state stamps, notary fees, examination of title, and all other costs of conveyance and settlement are to be at the expense of the purchaser. State and local property taxes, special or regular assessments, and public utility charges against the property, if any, shall be adjusted to the date of sale and thereafter shall be assumed by the purchaser.

The undersigned trustee unconditionally reserves the right to: (i) to waive the deposit requirement; (ii) to approve or disapprove the creditworthiness of any bidder; (iii) to withdraw the property from sale at any time prior to termination of the bidding; (iv) to extend the time for bidding; (v) to reject any and all bids; (vi) to postpone or set over the date or time of sale; and (vii) to extend the period of time for settlement thereunder.

Additional terms and conditions of sale may be announced at the time of sale.

Daniel C. Zickefoose, Trustee