

# The Prince George's Post



A COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER FOR PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY *SINCE 1932*

Vol. 94, No. 35    August 27 — September 2, 2026    Prince George's County, Maryland    Newspaper of Record    Phone: 301-627-0900    25 cents

## Khyree Jackson Foundation Marks Khyree's 27th Birthday With Second Annual Khy Day

*More than 200 students and community members gathered at Dr. Henry A. Wise High School as Khyree's legacy continues through scholarships and driver safety advocacy*

By PRESS OFFICER  
**Khyree Jackson Foundation**

UPPER MARLBORO, Md. (Aug. 17, 2026)—On what would have been Khyree Jackson's 27th birthday, more than 200 people gathered at Dr. Henry A. Wise High School for the second annual Khy Day, a celebration of his life and a reflection of the growing impact of the legacy he left behind.

For Khyree's parents, Ebony and Raymond Jackson, Khy Day is about ensuring that the qualities that defined their son, his determination, resilience, generosity and belief in making the most of every opportunity continue to create opportunities for others.

That commitment came to life throughout the evening through investments in young people and the Wise community. The Khyree Jackson Foundation provided new cleats to the Wise JV football team, awarded scholarships alongside the Isaiah Lee Hazel Foundation and made a donation to Wise High School. Young people also received free back-to-school haircuts and school supplies as families from across the community came together to celebrate Khyree.

The Foundation also continued its growing commitment to driver safety through its "Drive Safe. Drive for Khy." initiative. In partnership with MADD Sports and with participation from the Maryland State Police, Khy Day gave young people and families opportunities to engage in conversations and activities around responsible driving and the impact those choices can have on an entire community.

Returning to Wise was especially significant for the Jackson family. Long before Khyree reached the NFL, Wise was where he developed as a student-athlete and began a journey that would take him from Prince George's County to the highest level of football. Now, the Foundation is investing back into the same community and young people who see pieces of their own journeys in his.

Throughout Khy Day, attendees were also invited to contribute to Khyree's legacy through interactive experiences including Khy's Corner and Legacy Book, the Legacy Photo Booth and the



PHOTO COURTESY KHYREE JACKSON FOUNDATION

More than 200 people gathered at Dr. Henry A. Wise High School for the second annual Khy Day, a celebration of the life of Khyree Jackson, and a reflection of the growing impact of the legacy he left behind.

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## Prince George's County Economic Development Corporation Applauds Court Decision Restoring Path for FBI Headquarters in Greenbelt

*Decision Reinforces Greenbelt as the Selected Site for Transformational Federal Investment*

By RHETT BUTLER  
**Prince George's County Economic Development Corporation**

LARGO, Md. (Aug. 19, 2026)—The Prince George's County Economic Development Corporation (PGCEDC) welcomes Monday's ruling by U.S. District Judge Theodore Chuang of the U.S. District Court for the District of Maryland, which blocks the attempted relocation of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) headquarters from the lawfully selected Greenbelt site to the Ronald Reagan Building in Washington, D.C.

Judge Chuang's order vacated the FBI and General Services Administration's (GSA) decision to move the project to the Reagan Building and enjoined the agencies from taking further action or spending funds to advance that relocation, restoring the path forward for one of the most significant federal economic development projects in Prince George's County's history and rein-

forcing the integrity of the site selection process that designated Greenbelt as the future home of the FBI headquarters.

County officials have estimated the project's economic impact at more than 7,500 jobs and approximately \$4 billion in GDP for the County and State. The new FBI headquarters is expected to serve as a catalyst for continued economic growth in and around Greenbelt, supporting new commercial investment, transit-oriented development, business expansion, and opportunities for local contractors, suppliers, and small businesses.

Monday's ruling follows a lawsuit filed by Maryland Attorney General Anthony G. Brown and Prince George's County, challenging the federal government's attempt to relocate the project despite Congress having previously approved funding and Greenbelt having been selected through the established federal evaluation process.

The Court vacated the agencies' decision to relocate the headquarters to the Reagan

Building and blocked the expenditure of approximately \$555 million appropriated for that effort.

"PGCEDC remains committed to working alongside federal, state, county, and private-sector partners to maximize the long-term economic benefits of the FBI headquarters project and to ensure that Prince George's County businesses and residents are positioned to benefit from the opportunities it creates," stated Ingrid Watson, President & CEO.

For more information about business development opportunities in Prince George's County, visit [www.pgcedc.com](http://www.pgcedc.com).

*The mission of the Prince George's County Economic Development Corporation is to cultivate and promote a strong local economy that supports the growth and prosperity of entrepreneurs and businesses. It is dedicated to strengthening communities through business development and job creation.*

## Laurel Historical Society Presents "Laurel Remembers 9/11" Exhibit and Program in September 2026

By SYDNEY YOUNGE  
**Laurel Historical Society**

The Laurel Historical Society (LHS) is honored to partner with the City of Laurel to commemorate the 25th Anniversary of September 11, through a series of special programs honoring the lives lost and remembering the events of that fateful day. In addition to these programs, LHS will mount a temporary exhibit, "Laurel Remembers 9/11" at the Laurel Museum (817 Main St, Laurel, MD 20707) from **September 4 to September 27, 2026**.

On **September 10** at 6 p.m., LHS is hosting a free program in the Laurel Municipal Center Council Chambers (8103 Sandy

Spring Rd, Laurel, MD 20707) featuring guest presenters Wayne Dzwonchyk and Lorraine Brooks, who both have deeply personal connections to 9/11. The program will also offer the opportunity for residents who join to share their own reflections and stories about the event to be captured by LHS and archived for future generations. For more information, or to register for the Laurel Remembers 9/11 panel presentation, please visit: <https://tinyurl.com/Laurel-Remembers>

Then, on **September 11** at 6 p.m., join the City of Laurel, also located in the Laurel Municipal

See EXHIBIT Page A3

## New Grant Will Help More Prince George's County Seniors Live Independently at Home

By PRESS OFFICER  
**The Arc Prince George's County**

LARGO, Md. (Aug. 10, 2026)—The Arc Prince George's County has been selected as a recipient of a 2026 Thome Aging Well Grant, awarded by Enterprise Community Partners with funding from the Edward N. and Della L. Thome Memorial Foundation, Bank of America, Trustee. The grant will support The Arc's aging-in-place services for older adults in Prince George's County, helping ensure they can continue living safely, independently, and with dignity in the homes and communities they know best.

The Arc Prince George's County is one of 24 organizations across Maryland and Michigan receiving a share of \$3.8 million to strengthen services for older adults with lower incomes. The funding will allow trusted community organizations to respond quickly to local needs while helping older adults remain healthy, connected, and independent.

"As more adults choose to age in place, it is essential that they have access to the resources and support they need to remain safe, healthy, and connected to their communities," said Thalia Simpson Clement, Chief Programs Officer at The Arc Prince George's County.

"This investment allows us to strengthen services that promote independence while honoring the dignity, choice, and quality of life every older adult deserves. We are grateful to Enterprise Community Partners and the Thome Foundation for recognizing the importance of community-based solutions that help people age where they feel most at home."

The Arc Prince George's County has a long history of supporting individuals and families across every stage of life. Through person-centered services, advocacy, and community partnerships, the organization helps older adults maintain independence while connecting them with resources that improve health, safety, and overall well-being.

Launched in 2022 by Enterprise Community Partners, the Thome Aging Well program uses a trust-based philanthropic approach that empowers local organizations to respond directly to the needs they see in their communities.

"These organizations will have the flexibility to meet older adults where they are and respond to the needs they see emerging in their communities," said Stephany De Scisciolo, Enterprise Vice President of Impact, Evaluation and Population Health. "This is how we ensure that these grants will have the greatest impact—by placing them in

the hands of trusted, community-based partners working every day to ensure older adults can remain in their homes and continue to live safely and comfortably in the neighborhoods they know."

Since its launch, the Thome Aging Well program has awarded more than \$23 million to 66 community-based, government, and tribal organizations, reaching more than 14,000 older adults through aging-in-place home modifications, workforce supports, preventive health screenings, food access and delivery programs, and other services that promote healthy aging.

*For 75 years, The Arc Prince George's County has empowered people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families to achieve success by providing advocacy, support, and high-quality, person-centered services. Serving thousands of individuals throughout Prince George's County each year, The Arc strengthens families, builds a more inclusive workforce, and creates opportunities for people of all abilities to live, work, and thrive in their communities.*

Enterprise Community Partners is a national nonprofit that exists to make a good home possible for the millions of families without one. The organization supports community development organizations, invests capital for impact, advances housing policy, and develops and manages communities across the country. Since 1982, Enterprise has invested \$92 billion and helped create 1.1 million homes across all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Learn more at [enterprisecommunity.org](http://enterprisecommunity.org).

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# TOWNS *and* NEIGHBORS

## Brandywine-Aquasco by Audrey Johnson 301-922-5384

### BOWIE STATE BULLDOGS

Bowie State University’s athletic schedule includes various sports events for the 2026 season, featuring key matchups primarily in football and basketball. The Bulldogs compete in multiple sports, showcasing their talent across different competitions. Bowie State offers a diverse athletic program with multiple sports. Sports Offered: Bowie State competes in six men’s sports and eight women’s sports, including football, basketball, and track and field. Football Schedule: The 2026 football schedule features significant HBCU matchups. Basketball Events: The men’s and women’s basketball teams have a full schedule lined up for the season. CIAA Participation: Bowie State is part of the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association (CIAA), enhancing its competitive landscape.

### CRAB FEAST

All you can eat CRAB FEAST, sponsored by Peter A. Gross Sr. Scholarship will be held October 11, 2026, from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. A community fundraiser. Adults \$75.00, Children 12 and under \$35.00. Advance purchased tickets only. No tickets will be sold at door. Menu: Fried Chicken, Hot Dogs, Corn on the Cob, String Beans, Tea, Lemonade. The Crab Feast will be held at St. Philip’s Church Hall 13801 Baden Westwood Road, Brandywine, Maryland. Ticket Contacts: Shirley Cleaves 302-690-4260, Vivian Rich 804-301-9530, Michele Chase 240-882-3369. Cash or Cash app: SPAGScholarship.

### POTOMAC RIVER SIGHTSEEING CRUISE

Discover Washington, DC from the water on a 45-minute sightseeing cruise along the Potomac River. Admire iconic landmarks like the Kennedy Center, Lincoln Memorial, and Washington Monument. Reserve now and pay later. Keep your travel plans flexible. Book your spot and pay nothing today. Duration 45 minutes. Check availability to see starting times. From \$27 per person. Free cancellation. Live tour guide (English). Depart from and return to Georgetown Washington Harbour.

### SOUTHERN AREA AQUATICS AND RECREATION COMPLEX

The Southern Area Aquatics and Recreation Complex (SAARC) is the first multi-generational recreational center located at 13601 Missouri Avenue, Brandywine, Maryland, 20613. Phone: (301) 782-1442. Email: saarc@pgparks.com hours Monday–Friday 10 a.m.–2 p.m.

### NO CHILD SHOULD GO WITHOUT PROTECTION

No child should go without protection. If your child is eligible, we’ve got you covered. They may qualify for free vaccines through the vaccines for children (VFC) Program if: Has Medicaid, Is Uninsured, Is American Indian or Alaska Native, Is Underinsured (has Health Insurance that doesn’t cover vaccines). Are your child’s vaccinations up to date? Beat the rush. Make sure your child is covered for the year ahead. Stay on schedule,

stay protected. Vaccines protect your child from serious illness and help keep our schools and community healthy. Required for school and childcare enrollment. Safe, tested and recommended by medical experts. Protect your family and those around you. Prevent measles, mumps, whooping cough and more.

Recommended Childhood Vaccines: DTaP, MMR Tdap Booster, HPV (teens), Polio Varicella (Chickenpox), Hepatitis A & B, Meningococcal Flu (annually). Not sure what your child needs? We can help review their records. Charles County Department of Health 301-609-6900 Ext. 6018 charlescountyhealth.org 4545 Crain Highway, White Plains, Maryland.

### SEPTEMBER WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations to Franklyn and Joyce Isaac, Jose and Daphne Rojas, Norville and Deserae Hughes, Ted and Rebecca Mosley, Owen and Audrey Johnson who are Clinton United Methodist Church members. May you have many more celebrations to enjoy as a couple. Also, congratulations to Shelton and Melaina (Pastor) Trice on your Wedding Anniversary.

### SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday to Ayden, Osayi Omoregbe, Chidinma Mbakwe, Mariama Davies, Ronald Jones, Pam Stahl, Donna Cain, Norman Noel, Alexis Proctor, Elijah P. Knight, Kirk Samuel, Beonie Pearson, Idena Ythomas, Karen Taylor, Curt Falby, Annie Cokes, James Dorsett, IV, Kizzy Savoy, Umaru Davies, Rebecca Mosley, Vincent Cooke who are Clinton United Church members celebrating birthdays in September.

### PRE-HOMECOMING GOSPEL PROGRAM

St. Philip’s Church will be celebrating Pre-Homecoming Gospel Program (Celebrating 150 years) August 30, 2026, at 3 p.m. St. Philip’s Church Hall, 13801 Baden Westwood Road, Brandywine, Maryland. Join us for an uplifting evening of spiritual music and harmony. Free Will Offering. Marvelous Women of Zion, Sr. Philip’s Fellowship Choir, The New Burning Light, Southern Maryland Harmonizers, FBCFH Men’s Choir. Experience the joy of music and community. For more information 301-888-1536.

### COMMUNITY SUPPORT SYSTEMS, INC.

Neighbor Helping Neighbor. Community Support Systems, Inc., is facing a critical funding shortage that threatens our ability to provide food assistance to families in need. Your donation today will help keep pantry shelves stocked and ensure that our neighbors do not go hungry. Every dollar you contribute makes an immediate difference. All donations received go directly to support programs of CSS. Contact Information: 301-372-1492. Office Address is 14070 Brandywine Road, Brandywine, Maryland 20613. Mailing address is PO Box 206, Brandywine, Maryland 20613.

## In and Around Morningside-Skyline

With Mary McHale, will return soon!

## RUMINATIONS: Our Stories IN PAPER

Founder Helen C. Frederick Curates Exhibition Opening August 29

By KATE TAYLOR DAVIS  
Pyramid Atlantic Art Center

HYATTSVILLE, Md. (Aug. 21, 2026)—With one exhibition, Helen C. Frederick commemorates two 10-year milestones. The first: Pyramid Atlantic’s 10th year in Hyattsville, the organization she founded in 1981. The second: the 10th anniversary of Reading Road Studio—a papermaking studio also founded by Frederick.

Featuring paper-cast life-size gold leaf doors, a translucent endangered species installation, printed Chinese papers, exquisite custom paper drawings, large scale pulp paintings, innovative artist books, and more, Ruminations: Our Stories IN PAPER celebrates the possibilities of papermaking.

RUMINATIONS: Our Stories IN PAPER is on view August 29–October 4, 2026 in Pyramid’s Helen C. Frederick Gallery. Gallery hours are Wed & Thu, 10–8 pm and Fri–Sun, 10–6 pm. Pyramid is located at 4318 Gallatin Street, Hyattsville, Maryland 20781. For more information, visit pyramidatlantic.org or call 301-608-9101.

Associated Events (FREE | RSVPs requested at pyramidatlantic.org or 301-608-9101):

- **Artist Reception Saturday, September 12, 6–8 p.m.**
- **Panel Discussion: Wednesday, September 16, 6–8 p.m.**
- **Curator’s Tour: Sunday, September 27, 3–5 p.m.**
- **Closing Reception: Sunday, October 4, 4–6 p.m.**

“What excites me most is that RUMINATIONS: Our Stories IN PAPER treats paper not as a passive surface, but as an active collaborator. The exhibition brings together a community of artists whom I admire and have worked with many times over a decade. It celebrates dynamic innovations at Reading Road Studio, where artists deeply explore material research—from fiber behavior and water flow to pigment absorption and casting, and to large scale installation works—they invent new concepts of materiality while remaining connected to past traditions,” remarks Frederick.

ARTISTS: William B. Adair, Maria Barbosa, Oletha DeVane/Chris Kojzar, Elsabe Johnson Dixon, Cheryl Edwards, Susan Firestone, Helen Frederick, Emily Fussner, Ellen Hill, Lisa Hill, Mia Holtan, Rick Hungerford, Aziza Gibson Hunter, Fleming Jeffries, David Joo, Jen Lillis, June Linowitz, Randi Reiss- McCormack, Andrea McCluskey, Chris Mona, Tom Nakashima, Tongji Philip Qian, Alice Quatrochi, Preston Sampson, Joyce J. Scott, Lisa Sheirer, Elzbieta Sikorska, Buzz Spector, Lynn Sures, Yuriko Yamaguchi.

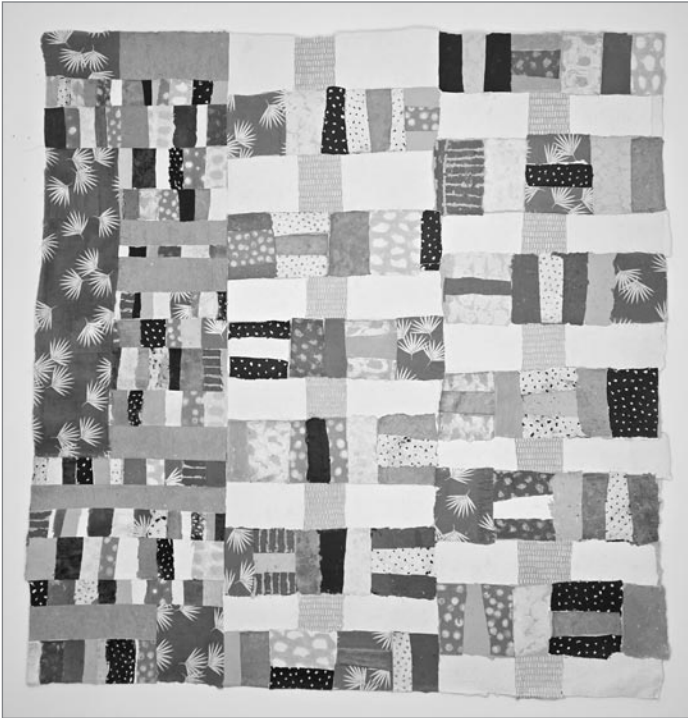


PHOTO COURTESY PYRAMID ATLANTIC

**Ellen Hill’s “Kentucky Wonder”; pulp painting, fabric, and watercolor on handmade paper; 43.5" x 42"; 2026**

*In 2016 Helen C. Frederick opened Reading Road Studio in Silver Spring, MD to offer an intimate collaborative experience for artists interested in works in and on paper, artist books, print media, installation works, and critical conversations about visual and cultural literacy. The studio features hand papermaking as an art form and collaborative sessions for artists who want to explore the possibilities of using papermaking as a translucent material, with mixed media print media, and painterly or dimensional experience for their work.*

*Founded in 1981, Pyramid Atlantic is a nonprofit contemporary art center. Our mission is to sustain and elevate a welcoming arts hub in Hyattsville, MD that champions contemporary printmaking, papermaking, and book arts. We equip, educate, and exhibit while prioritizing artistic integrity, creative growth, and inclusivity. Our vision is to anchor an arts community that recognizes and uplifts the importance of artists, the intrinsic values of working with your hands, and the economy of artist-made work.*

## Around the County

### M-NCPPC, Department of Parks and Recreation Announces September Events and Programs

RIVERDALE, Md. (Aug. 20, 2026)—M-NCPPC, Department of Parks and Recreation, Prince George’s County kicks off the fall season with a month filled with exciting family-friendly events that are free and low-cost. From live music and art exhibitions to historical experiences, there is something for everyone to enjoy.

#### Upcoming events include:

***History Community Days Series | Free***

Saturday, August 29, September 12, 19, and 26, 11 a.m.–2 p.m. Various Historic Sites & Museums

The community is invited to free Community Days at historic sites and museums throughout Prince George’s County. Explore local stories, meet community partners, and experience the people and places that make Prince George’s County history so unique. Free activities include guided and self-guided museum tours, scavenger hunts, hands-on workshops, cooking demos, arts and crafts, giveaways, and more.

***Celebrate Africa | Free***

Saturday, September 19, 1–6 p.m.

Fairwood Community Park

The DMV is home to the fourth largest African immigrant community in the United States. This year’s Celebrate Africa will showcase the rich cultures of the African continent and will feature performances from Amadou Kouyate, Osagyefo Dance Company, Mlanjeni Magical Theater, and Armand Ntep and Memphis Gold.

***Fiesta de la Familia | Free***

Sunday, September 20, 1–4 p.m.

Prince George’s Sports and Learning Complex

Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month with arts & crafts, live entertainment, kids’ activities, community resources, craft and food vendors, giveaways, and more. Transportation is available. Please register for the event to select your shuttle location.

***Unwine***

Saturday, September 26, 11 a.m.–5 p.m.

Patuxent River Park

Join us for an afternoon of wine and beer tasting at Patuxent River Park! The festival showcases local wineries, breweries, live entertainment, boutiques, food trucks, and more.

***Latinas in Aviation Global Festival | Free***

Saturday, September 26, 11 a.m.–2 p.m.

College Park Aviation Museum

Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month with a vibrant celebration honoring Latina pioneers in aviation and the rich cultures of our Latino community. Whether you’re coming for the music, the stories, or the chance to connect with your community, this free festival is one you won’t want to miss.

For more information about upcoming M-NCPPC, Department of Parks and Recreation events, visit pgparks.com.

### Bowie State University Student Research Demonstrates the Power of Data to Address Prince George’s County Community Challenges

*Student projects examining transportation, health insurance, and housing stability create opportunities for continued collaboration, open data storytelling, and future innovation*

LARGO, Md. (Aug. 21, 2026)—Prince George’s County recently had the opportunity to hear from Bowie State University students who presented three research projects using data to examine important issues affecting County residents. The presentations highlighted the value of connecting higher education, County data, technology, and real-world community challenges.

The students focused their research on three key areas:

- **Transportation:** Examining barriers to mobility and identifying recommendations to improve access for residents.
- **Health Insurance:** Analyzing gaps in health insurance coverage and identifying opportunities for stronger outreach and engagement.
- **Housing Stability:** Exploring housing instability, foreclosure, permitting needs, and other gaps that may impact residents and communities.

Beyond the research itself, the projects demonstrate the potential for student-led analysis to contribute to broader County initiatives. The findings and underlying data could be developed into data stories for Prince George’s County’s Open Data Portal, transforming academic research into accessible resources that help residents better understand issues affecting their communities while supporting data-informed decision-making.

The collaboration also presents an opportunity to expand the relationship between Bowie State University and Prince George’s County by exploring the integration of County-focused hackathons into the academic curriculum. Such an initiative could provide students with hands-on opportunities to work with real-world County data, artificial intelligence, and emerging technologies to develop innovative solutions to community challenges.

Integrating hackathons into the academic experience could also establish a consistent pipeline for student engagement and support Prince George’s County Chief Information Officer Venard Wright’s vision for ongoing hackathons and technology-driven innovation.

By bringing together students, educators, County professionals, technology, and data, the partnership has the potential to create meaningful learning experiences while generating ideas and solutions that can benefit Prince George’s County residents.

The student presentations represent an important example of what is possible when education, technology, data, and community impact intersect—turning classroom research into opportunities for real-world innovation.

# COMMUNITY



PHOTO COURTESY KHYREE JACKSON FOUNDATION

The Khyree Jackson Foundation also continued its growing commitment to driver safety through its “Drive Safe. Drive for Khy.” initiative in partnership with MADD Sports and with participation from the Maryland State Police.

## Birthday from A1

Drive for Khy pledge. The evening culminated with more than 200 voices joining together to sing happy birthday in Khyree’s honor.

Now in its second year, Khy Day is becoming more than an annual celebration. It is an opportunity to turn Khyree’s story into continued impact, supporting young people, encouraging safer choices and reminding the next generation to recognize and never waste their potential.

The Jackson family and Khyree Jackson Foundation extend their gratitude to Dr. Henry A. Wise High School, MADD Sports, the Maryland State Police, the Isaiah Lee Hazel Foundation, sponsors, volunteers and community partners who continue to help carry Khyree’s legacy forward.

To learn more about the Khyree Jackson Foundation or to support its mission, visit [KhyreeJacksonFoundation.org](http://KhyreeJacksonFoundation.org).

*The Khyree Jackson Foundation invests in young people through scholarships, football camps, and community programming rooted in Khyree Jackson’s values, while advancing driver safety awareness through its “Drive For Khy” initiative. Founded in 2025 by Khyree’s parents, Ebony and Raymond Jackson, the Foundation is guided by Khyree’s motto that talent must be nurtured and never wasted, and works to create lasting opportunity and a culture of safety for young people in Maryland and beyond. To learn more about the Khyree Jackson Foundation, please visit [KhyreeJacksonFoundation.org](http://KhyreeJacksonFoundation.org).*



PHOTO COURTESY KHYREE JACKSON FOUNDATION

The Khyree Jackson Foundation made a donation to Wise High School where Khyree developed as a student-athlete.

## Exhibit from A1

Center Chambers at 8103 Sandy Spring Road, for a special commemorative program honoring and remembering those we lost on that tragic day.

Throughout the month of September, visit LHS’s exhibit that examines Laurel’s connections to the tragic events of 9/11, focused on Flight 77, which crashed into the Pentagon. Several Laurel residents were directly impacted by this event, including Max Beilke, who passed along with 71 other Pentagon employees, and Wayne Dzwonchyk, who was at the Pentagon during the event. For many Laurel residents, the third connection is the most unnerving. Beginning August 16, 2001, hijackers of Flight 77 gathered in Laurel, staying in its hotels and frequenting local businesses while they prepared for 9/11. Featured in the exhibit are copies of the Laurel Leader from the event period and a book of remembrance signed by residents in the days after 9/11 and again on the 10th anniversary. Visitors are invited to add their own recollections to the remembrance book during the exhibit.

*The Laurel Historical Society is a 501(c)(3) non-profit founded in 1975 with the mission to deepen the understanding of the past and cultural heritage of Laurel, Maryland to connect and inspire, for today and the future. To learn more please visit [laurelhistoricalsociety.org](http://laurelhistoricalsociety.org)*

## BHS NJROTC

# Soaring High: Bowie High School NJROTC Cadets Earn FAA Drone Pilot Credentials

By GYSGT GEORGE HINTON  
Bowie High School

BOWIE, Md. (Aug. 20, 2026)—This summer, four cadets from Bowie High School’s NJROTC unit took a major step toward the future of technology and aviation by completing an intensive five-day Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Remote Drone Pilot certification training program held at Friendly High School.

The cadets joined fellow student-aviators from Friendly High School for an intensive week of flight theory, airspace regulations, and drone operations. The rigorous week-long course culminated in cadets taking the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Part 107 Remote Pilot Exam. Passing this exam grants cadets an official commercial drone pilot credential, certifying them for professional remote aircraft operations and earning them Career Industry Readiness (CRI) status.

The drone initiative serves as a cornerstone of Bowie High School’s NJROTC Program in expanding STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) pathways. By obtaining industry-standard credentials before graduating, these cadets position themselves at the cutting edge of modern technology and



PHOTO COURTESY BOWIE HIGH SCHOOL NJROTC

From left to right: Cadet Madison Dennis & Cadet Millionah Poles

career preparedness. Looking ahead, the Bowie High School NJROTC department plans to continue expanding momentum for its STEM programs. Future plans include Advanced Flight Simulators: Integrating state-of-the-art simulation hardware for hands-on, year-round flight training; Expanding Drone Certification: Training and certifying additional cadet pilots to build a robust, competitive drone team, and Cyber Certification.

Workforce Integration: Equipping students with high-demand technical skills applicable to commercial aviation, emergency response, mapping, and engineering fields. Congratulations to Cadets Millionah Poles, and Madison Dennis on passing the FAA-107 Drone Certification Exam and for their dedication and hard work this summer, paving the way for the next generation of Bowie High School aviators!

## Author Victor Simmons Returns to the DMV for Congressional Black Caucus Foundation’s 55th Annual Legislative Conference

*Simmons to participate in Author Literary Circle and share family legacy, leadership and the remarkable story of America’s first African American Air Force One steward*

By CHARITY MOSES  
Victor Simmons

ORLANDO, Fla. (Aug. 18, 2026)—Author, speaker and leadership strategist Victor Simmons will return to the DMV this September to participate in the Author Literary Circle during the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation’s 55th Annual Legislative Conference (ALC), taking place **September 16–20, 2026**, at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center in Washington, D.C.

This year’s conference, themed “Rooted, Ready & Rising,” also marks the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation’s 50th anniversary. The annual gathering brings together elected officials, policymakers, thought leaders, advocates, entrepreneurs and changemakers from across the country.

For Simmons, participating in ALC 55 is both a professional milestone and a homecoming.

Now based in Orlando, Florida, Simmons grew up in Prince George’s County and returns to the region carrying a family story deeply connected to American history.

His father, Lee F. Simmons, rose from rural Alabama to become America’s first African American steward aboard Air Force One, serving Presidents Kennedy, Johnson, Nixon and Ford. His remarkable journey is chronicled in Simmons’ book, “The Lee F. Simmons Story: America’s First African-American Air Force One Steward”.

Simmons has also brought his family’s story to younger generations through “Life Lessons from Air Force One: Growing Up Simmons”, a children’s book exploring family, character, service, perseverance and possibility.

### EVENT INFORMATION

Congressional Black Caucus Foundation  
55th Annual Legislative Conference  
**September 16–20, 2026**  
Walter E. Washington Convention Center  
Washington, D.C.

“Returning to the DMV to share my father’s story is incredibly meaningful,” Simmons said. “This is where I spent my childhood, and the Washington area was central to my father’s life and service. But more importantly, I want his story to encourage other families to recognize that their own histories matter and deserve to be documented and passed on.”

Simmons is also the author of “The Presence-Driven Leader”, which challenges conventional ideas about leadership and reinforces that leadership is demonstrated through presence, trust, accountability and how individuals show up for others, not simply through position or authority.

That message also serves as the foundation of Simmons’ TEDx talk focused on why titles can create distance and why leadership is ultimately about presence, not position.

Simmons’ participation in the Author Literary Circle follows a summer of author appearances, leadership presentations, media interviews and community events across the country celebrating his books and his family’s legacy.

Through his appearance at ALC 55, Simmons hopes to advance a larger message about the importance of preserving family stories and ensuring that overlooked chapters of American history are carried forward.



COURTESY IMAGE

“Every family has a story worth preserving,” Simmons said. “Our responsibility is to make sure the next generation gets the opportunity to hear it.”

Victor Simmons will participate in the conference’s Author Literary Circle. Additional appearance details will be announced as they become available.

*Victor Simmons is an author, speaker, leadership strategist and former hospitality executive. Through Victorious Endeavors Consulting, he works with organizations and leaders to strengthen leadership effectiveness, workplace culture, accountability and team performance. He is the author of The Presence-Driven Leader; The Lee F. Simmons Story: America’s First African-American Air Force One Steward; and Life Lessons from Air Force One: Growing Up Simmons.*

## AfroFlavour Food Festival Brings Africa Together in Maryland Through Food, Culture and Commerce

By PRESS OFFICER  
Association of Nigerians in Frederick (ANF)

FREDERICK, Md. (Aug. 14, 2026)—Africa’s extraordinary diversity takes center stage this September as the AfroFlavour Food Festival returns to Frederick, Maryland.

The festival, held on **September 5, 2026**, from Noon to 6 p.m. will feature African restaurants, chefs, entrepreneurs, artists, musicians, cultural organizations, and diaspora communities representing countries from across the continent. The event takes place at Carroll

Creek Linear Park, Frederick, Maryland.

The festival is organized by AfroFlavour in conjunction with the Association of Nigerians in Frederick (ANF), bringing together an internationally focused platform for African cuisine with one of the region’s leading Nigerian community organizations.

More than a cultural celebration, the festival serves as a platform for African businesses to showcase their products, expand into new markets and strengthen connections throughout the diaspora.

The festival reflects AfroFlavour’s broader vision of promoting African Gastrodiploamacy—using cuisine as a tool to strengthen

trade, tourism, cultural exchange and international partnerships.

Communities from Nigeria, Ghana, Ethiopia, Kenya, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Cameroon and many other African nations are expected to participate, highlighting both the diversity and unity of the continent.

Organizers are also inviting African embassies, tourism boards, state governments, chambers of commerce and diaspora organizations to participate in future AfroFlavour initiatives across North America, Europe and Africa. For more information: [enquiries@afroflavour.org](mailto:enquiries@afroflavour.org)

*The Association of Nigerians in Frederick (ANF) is a 501(c) 3 non-profit cultural organization geared towards celebrating and promoting Nigerian cultural values while embracing and adopting the cultural values within the local Frederick community and the US in general.*

# COMMENTARY

Marc Morial

President and CEO, National Urban League



To Be Equal:

## The March on Washington Isn’t About the Past; It’s About Our Future

*“The plain and simple fact is that until we went into the streets, the federal government was indifferent to our demands. It was not until the streets and jails of Birmingham were filled that Congress began to think about civil rights legislation. It was not until construction sites were picketed in the North that Negro workers were hired. We here today are only the first wave. When we leave, it will be to carry on the civil rights revolution home with us into every nook and cranny of the land.”*

—A. Philip Randolph’s 1963 March on Washington

On August 28, thousands of people from every corner of this country will descend on the Lincoln Memorial for the 63rd anniversary of the March on Washington. As they climb the steps of the monument, much of the setting remains the same as it did those six decades ago, but we are living in a different America.

The Washington Monument still stands in the distance, slightly obscuring the dome of the United States Capitol, but today the halls of power are much more diverse. The waiting pool, now coated in chipped blue paint commissioned by the White House, still reflects crowds of Americans who visit

the nation’s capital every year. And Abraham Lincoln’s face still carries the gravitas of this precarious moment in history.

Just as the Lincoln Memorial served as home to a resilient Marian Anderson after being denied the right to perform at Constitution Hall because of her race and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. reshaped America with his “I Have a Dream” speech, we intend to make this year’s March on Washington more than a symbolic moment. We intend to change the course of history and this country.

I will join the National Action Network and a coalition of labor, faith, and civil rights groups to defend the vote, protect equal opportunity, and demand economic dignity. This year’s March, Co-chaired by Rev. Al Sharpton, Martin Luther King III, and Arndrea Waters King and co-convened by the National Action Network and the Drum Major Institute, is a call to action for all Americans to act in the face of growing threats to our progress.

It took two years after the 1964 March on Washington for Congress to pass and codify the Voting Rights Act into law. Today, we’re demanding that Congress restore what has been stripped from us in *Shelby v. Holder*, roll back the damage done by *Louisiana v. Callais*, and enshrine the right to vote for Americans so deeply into our Constitution that challengers cannot attack it in the future.

But make no mistake, we are not in any position to wait. We need action taken now.

Unlike in the 1960s when public pressure forced Congress to act with dignity and recognize the harm of ignoring state-sanctioned racism and segregation, we live in a world where technology is moving our attention and moods at lightning speed.

What gets attention in the news this morning may be eclipsed by another outrageous headline by lunch. And what generates public outrage today gets contorted into narratives that support fragmented opinions on the direction of the country tomorrow.

This March isn’t about reflecting on the past by showing up one day; it’s a continuation of a legacy and another action of sustained pressure from our coalition to demand change.

The Urban League movement, comprised of affiliate CEOs and our auxiliary groups like our Urban League Young Professionals and Urban League Guild, is marching in solidarity for the future of our country.

We are calling on you to be part of this movement. Sign a petition and share the March online if you can’t join us on the 28th in Washington, D.C.

Get involved today by visiting <https://marchon-washington2026.com/toolkit> and watch the livestream on nul.org.

—August 15, 2026

# HEALTH *and* WELLNESS

## Get Moving, Get Screened and Get Connected at Free Prince George’s County Health Fair

Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc. Prince George’s County Chapter to host Sept. 26 event featuring health screenings, interactive wellness activities and fun for all ages

By LADY MARIA JAMES

Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc. Prince George’s County Chapter

CAPITOL HEIGHTS, Md. (Aug. 17, 2026)—Get ready to move, learn and take charge of your health! From children ready for a challenge to older adults looking for fun ways to stay active, there will be something for every generation at the Let’s Move Prince George’s County Community Health Fair.

The Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc. Prince George’s County Chapter, in partnership with the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, Department of Parks and Recreation, will host the free event Saturday, Sept. 26, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Oakcrest Community Center in Capitol Heights.



PHOTO CREDIT SLK PRODUCTIONS

Teens and adults can get moving through fitness activities. Above, a Double Dutch activity from last year’s event.

### Event Details

Let’s Move Prince George’s County Community Health Fair

Saturday, Sept. 26 | 10 a.m.–2 p.m.

Oakcrest Community Center  
1300 Capitol Heights Blvd., Capitol Heights, MD 20743

Free and open to the community

Under the theme “Wellness for All: Mind, Body, and Community,” this won’t be your typical health fair. In addition to valuable health information, attendees will be invited to get up, participate and try something new through interactive activities for all ages.

Children can take on a Kids Challenge, while teens and adults can get moving through fitness activities or learn practical techniques during a self-defense demonstration. Adults and older residents can try chair yoga, and attendees can pick up healthy eating ideas

through a nutrition workshop and cooking demonstration.

Men’s health will also take center stage, with a special panel designed to engage men in conversations about their health and wellness.

Visitors can learn important information about their health through screenings and services, including blood pressure and A1C checks, vision and hearing screenings, and sickle cell trait testing and education. Mental health and other community wellness resources will also be available.

The fair will bring together organizations including the Prince George’s County Health Department, AARP Maryland, Howard University Sickle Cell Center, NAMI, the Colorectal Cancer Alliance and other health and community partners.

Whether you come to get screened, join an activity, learn about men’s health, discover a new healthy habit or enjoy the day with your family, the health fair offers Prince George’s County residents an opportunity to make wellness active, accessible and fun.

## Luminis Health Helps Families and Communities Prepare Children for a Healthy School Year

By PRESS OFFICER  
Luminis Health

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (Aug. 20, 2026)—As students return to classrooms, Luminis Health is offering parents and families practical tips to help children start the school year on a healthy note. From nutritious eating habits to establishing healthy screen-time routines, small changes can help students feel their best and stay focused throughout the school year.

Healthy habits begin with nutrition. Before students leave the house, parents and guardians should make sure they start the day with a nutritious breakfast.

“Breakfast should always include a protein,” said Colleen Kiley, Luminis Health’s Lead Diabetes Educator. “While eggs are an obvious choice, a good source of protein is also Greek yogurt, a protein shake, protein waffles or pancakes with peanut butter, or cheese.”

Parents and guardians should also include the following options:

- Include a variety of fruits and vegetables. Offering different fruits with breakfast and

lunch can help keep meals interesting for children. When packing lunch, cut vegetables such as carrots, cucumbers, bell peppers, and celery are healthy and delicious options.

- When students return home, good afternoon snacks include an apple with peanut butter or a yogurt bowl with fruit, chia seeds, and protein granola. Another option is a high-fiber, high-protein muffin.
- Avoid sugary drinks before, during and after school. Water is always best, but families can also consider zero-sugar drink mixes or zero-sugar sports drinks.

With a new Maryland law requiring all public schools to prohibit student use of personal electronic devices and certain social media during the school day by the 2027–2028 school year, screen time is an increasing concern for many parents and educators.

“One of the best ways to limit screen time is to delay giving young children their own personal device for as long as possible,” said Dr. Jesselina Curry, a Luminis Health child



PHOTO COURTESY LUMINIS HEALTH

School supplies gathered at Doctors Community Medical Center (DCMC).

and adolescent psychiatrist. “Early exposure to screen time has been linked to developmental and cognitive concerns, including delays in language development. When you introduce screen time in your home, it should be in an open area and not behind closed doors.”

Other ways to promote healthy screen time habits include:

- Set clear expectations by discussing what is and isn’t acceptable screen use

- Establish consistent weekly screen time limits. If your child currently spends several hours a day on a device, gradually reduce that time to make the change more manageable
- Practice what you preach by limiting your own recreational screen time
- Set limits on social media by using built-in phone settings to monitor screen time and establish boundaries
- Create device-free family

time, such as during meals or while watching TV or a movie together as a family

- Make screen time a reward that they can work towards
- Download age-appropriate games that do not require internet access for young children
- For older children, require approval before they make pur-

chases or download new apps

Beyond offering families tips for healthy habits at home, Luminis Health supports students throughout the school year through programs and services designed to promote physical and behavioral health.

See **PREPARE** Page A6

## The Prince George’s Post

The Prince George’s Post  
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Contents © 2026, The Prince George’s Post

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Prince George’s County, Md. Member National Newspaper Publishers Association, and the Maryland, Delaware, District of Columbia Press Association.  
The Prince George’s Post (ISSN 10532226) is published every Thursday by the New Prince George’s Post Inc., 15209 Marlboro Pike, Suite 209, Upper Marlboro, Md. 20772-3151.  
Subscription rate: 25 cents per single copy; \$15 per year; \$7.50 senior citizens and students; out of county add \$1; out of state add \$2.  
Periodical postage paid at Southern Md. 20790.  
Postmaster, send address changes to Prince George’s Post, P.O. Box 1001, Upper Marlboro, Md. 20773.

# BUSINESS AND FINANCE

## Social Security Matters

Ask Rusty:

### We Were Bitten by Medicare’s IRMAA This Year; What Should I Do?

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

**Dear Rusty:** My wife and I file our taxes jointly. In 2024, I took an IRA Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) which was significantly more than I was required to take. My Medicare premiums were not affected in 2025, and our Social Security payments were not reduced. Then, our joint filing in 2025 kept us below the IRS’ “Modified Adjusted Gross Income (MAGI) level. Yet in 2026 our Medicare payments increased and our Social Security payments were reduced.

If my MAGI is below the maximum for 2025, will my regular SS payments/Medicare reductions be restored in 2027? Is there any action I need to take to ensure this will happen, or will our Medicare payments and reduced SS payments be our new norm? **Signed: Worried Retiree**

**Dear Worried Retiree:** FYI, your Medicare premiums in 2026 were affected by the large RMD you took in 2024, which caused a Medicare provision known as the “Income-Related Monthly Adjustment Amount (IRMAA)” to apply for 2026. When determining the Medicare Part B premium for next year (each fall), Medicare uses the income you reported to the IRS two years prior to calculate your Medicare Part B (and Part D) premium for upcoming year.

If you exceed the base “IRMAA” income threshold two years ago, then your Medicare premiums for the next year will include a supplemental amount on top of the “standard” Medicare premium for that year. The amount of the supplement depends on how much you exceed the base IRMAA threshold by (FYI, the base IRMAA threshold for 2026 for a married couple filing jointly was \$218,000). If your 2024 income exceeded that initial IRMAA threshold, you paid a higher Medicare premium which also reduced your SS monthly payment (because Medicare is deducted from your SS benefit). IRMAA uses a sliding scale to determine how much more than the standard Medicare premium you will pay.

However, that will all automatically correct itself going forward. In other words, when determining your premiums for 2027, Medicare will look at your 2025 income. If your 2025 MAGI is less than the base IRMAA threshold, you (and your wife) will both automatically revert to paying the standard 2027 Medicare Part B and Part D premiums. You don’t need to take any action for that to happen; it will all be automatic.

*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 ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org.*

The 2.4 million member Association of Mature American Citizens [AMAC] [www.amac.us](http://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](http://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](http://www.amac.us/join-amac).

AMAC | Washington DC | 917-846-8485

## PGC Economic Development Corporation

### SAVE THE DATE:

**Kenya Bilateral Trade Mission Information Session**  
**Thursday, September 3, 2026 | 6 p.m.**  
**Innovation Station Business Incubator**  
**1801 McCormick Drive, 4th Floor**  
**Largo, MD 20774**

### Discover Investment Opportunities in One of the Africa’s Fastest-Growing Economies

Prince George’s County Economic Development Corporation (PGCEDC) invites exporters, manufacturers, entrepreneurs, investors, and business leaders to attend the Kenya Bilateral Trade Mission Information Session, the official launch of PGCEDC’s upcoming Kenya Bilateral Trade Mission scheduled for November 15–22, 2026.

This exclusive information session will introduce Prince George’s County businesses to one of Africa’s fastest-growing economies and provide an overview of the trade mission, including business match-making opportunities, investment potential, and strategies for building long-term commercial relationships with partners in Kenya.

The evening will feature remarks from H.E. David Kerich, Ambassador of Kenya to the United States, along with representatives from Invest Kenya, who will share insights into Kenya’s business climate, priority industries, and opportunities for U.S. companies seeking to expand into East Africa.

### What You’ll Learn

- Overview of the November 15–22, 2026 Kenya Bilateral Trade Mission
- Why Kenya is a strategic gateway to East African markets
- Trade and investment opportunities for Prince George’s County businesses
- Business matchmaking and networking opportunities
- Resources available to companies pursuing international expansion
- Mission itinerary, expectations, and next steps for participants

## M&T Bank Launches Prince George’s County, MD Small Business Accelerator Program

*Free, 8-week program for local business owners begins Sept. 24, 2026*

By PRESS OFFICER  
**M&T Bank**

Now through Sunday, September 6, M&T Bank is seeking entrepreneurs to participate in its Prince George’s County Small Business Accelerator Program, a program designed to provide small business owners with the guidance and skills needed to build strong businesses, spur economic growth, and build generational wealth for their families.

Registration is now open for the free, 8-week program held in partnership with the Prince George’s County Economic Development Corporation. The program’s sessions will focus on business planning, establishing credit, accessing capital, marketing, branding, and networking.

The Accelerator begins September 24, 2026, with in-person courses held at the Prince George’s County Economic Development Corporation each Thursday evening. It will conclude on November 12 with a pitch competition and opportunity to win grants totaling \$5,000 for first place, \$3,000 for second place and \$2,000 for third place—all funded by M&T.

Entrepreneurs interested in participating in the program must complete an online application no later than September 6, 2026, and meet the following eligibility requirements:

- In business between two – five years;
- Annual business revenue of \$50,000 - \$500,000; and,
- Principal owner must be 18 years or older; and,

- Operate a business located in Prince George’s County, MD or surrounding areas.

Qualified applicants will be enrolled in the free program on a first-come, first-served basis. To apply for the Prince George’s County Small Business Accelerator Program, visit <https://www.mtb.com/pgcprogram>

### WHEN:

- Applications open through Sunday, September 6
- Program begins Thursday, September 24, 2026
- Program concludes Thursday, November 12, 2026

## honeygrow Opens in Hyattsville

*The opening marks honeygrow’s 82nd restaurant and 15th location in Maryland*

By PRESS OFFICER  
**honeygrow**

HYATTSVILLE, Md., (Aug. 24, 2026)—honeygrow, the Philadelphia-born fast-casual restaurant known for freshly cooked-to-order stir-fry, salads and honeybar desserts, is expanding its Maryland footprint with a new restaurant in Hyattsville.

The opening brings honeygrow’s signature flavors and customizable menu to Hyattsville, from favorites like the Spicy Garlic Stir-Fry and OG Cobb to a sweet apple cobbler honeybar dessert. It also comes during a year of momentum for honeygrow, including being named one of the country’s best fast-casual restaurants by USA TODAY 10 Best.

At honeygrow, fast casual still means real cooking. Stir-frys are cooked to order, salads are made fresh, and customers can customize every meal with bold sauces, proteins, vegetables, and more. It’s a more flavorful, more personal alternative to the typical assembly-line experience.

“Maryland continues to be an important part of honeygrow’s growth, and Hyattsville is a community we’re really excited to join,” said Todd Miller, SVP of Marketing at honeygrow. “We can’t wait to welcome our new neighbors and give them a taste of what makes honeygrow different.”

WHERE:



PHOTO COURTESY HONEYGROW

**General Manager Joanne Wilson cuts the ribbon opening the Hyattsville location of honeygrow on August 24, 2026.**

3500 East-West Hwy, Unit 1270  
Hyattsville, MD 20782  
Hours: 10:30 a.m.–10:00 p.m., daily.

*honeygrow is on a mission to bring people together through wholesome and flavorful foods. Founded in 2012, the Philadelphia-based company specializes in cooked-to-order stir-fry, salads, and honeybar desserts. Using only the highest quality*

*ingredients, honeygrow provides a robust variety of nutrition-forward options for customers across a wide range of lifestyles. honeygrow has more than 80 locations across the Northeast and Midwest in DE, MA, MD, MI, NJ, NY, PA, VA, and OH. For more information about honeygrow, please visit [www.honeygrow.com](http://www.honeygrow.com) and follow honeygrow on Facebook, Instagram, and TikTok.*

## FedChoice Charitable Foundation and Blacks In Government Celebrate 2026 Guy Fleming Scholars

By PRESS OFFICER  
**FedChoice Charitable Foundation**

LANHAM Md. (Aug. 14, 2026)—The FedChoice Charitable Foundation (FCF) is proud to announce the recipients of the 2026 Guy Fleming Scholarship, a collaborative educational scholarship presented in partnership with Blacks In Government, Inc. (BIG). Each student will receive a \$1,000 scholarship to support their post-secondary educational pursuits.

Following a competitive review process, the BIG-FCF Scholarship Selection Committee selected ten outstanding college-bound seniors attending Title I high schools from across the United States. The scholarship recognizes academic achievement, leadership potential, community involvement, and commitment to personal growth.

### The 2026 Guy Fleming Scholarship Recipients

**Cole Berry**, Rockdale County High School Conyers, Georgia College: Georgia State University / North Carolina A&T

**Olivia Bradley**, Eastside High School Gainesville, Florida College: University of Florida

**Kamora Cox**, Dutchtown High School Decatur, Georgia College: Alabama State University

**Lauryn Jefferson**, Paxon School for Advanced Studies Jacksonville, Florida College: Florida Atlantic University

**Janiya Lewis**, Reynoldsburg High School Reynoldsburg, Ohio College: North Carolina Central University

**Tikwana Pinnock**, Paul Laurence

Dunbar High School Washington, District of Columbia College: The George Washington University

**Jayla Rollins**, Brewbaker Technology Magnet High School Montgomery, Alabama College: Tennessee State University  
**Jayda Shoats**, South Gwinnett High School Snellville, Georgia College: Louisiana State University

**Jordin Walker**, Pedro Menendez High School St. Augustine, Florida College: St. Johns River State College

**Erion Wilson**, River City Early College Vicksburg, Mississippi College: University of Pennsylvania

Established through the generosity and vision of Mrs. Sarah Fleming, a longtime member of FedChoice Federal Credit Union, the Guy Fleming Scholarship honors the life and legacy of Mr. Guy Fleming, a dedicated public servant who served at both the U.S. Department of the Treasury and the Internal Revenue Service. The scholarship reflects his commitment to service and recognizes the transformative role that education and financial capability play in creating opportunities for young people.

This year’s scholarship program also highlighted the importance of financial literacy in shaping the next generation of leaders. As our nation looks toward its next 250 years, financial education remains a critical tool for building stronger, more equitable communities and preparing students to make informed financial decisions. Through their partnership, BIG and the FedChoice Charitable Foundation demonstrate how financial literacy, advocacy, and educational opportunity can empower students, strengthen communities,

and help create a more financially resilient America. As part of the application process, students were required to submit an original essay exploring the impact of financial literacy and leadership.

Over the past several years, the FedChoice Charitable Foundation has expanded its partnership with Blacks In Government and Future Leaders of America’s Government (FLAG), supporting community events, educational programs, and participation in the BIG regional events. Together, these organizations continue to invest in students from underserved communities and help prepare them for future academic and professional success.

The Honorable Deena M. Sheppard, Guy Flemming Educational Scholarship Committee Chair, Blacks In Government, Inc., said: “It has been Blacks In Government’s pleasure to work alongside the FedChoice Charitable Foundation to identify and award deserving students across the nation. We look forward to continuing this nationwide community support for youth.”

*Blacks In Government, Inc. is an advocate for equal opportunity and professional development for Black government employees at the local, state, and federal levels, as well as others dedicated to justice and equity for all. Learn more at: [www.bignet.org](http://www.bignet.org)*

*Founded in 2017, the FedChoice Charitable Foundation advances financial well-being and strengthens local communities by serving as a resource, advocate, and champion for the federal community and beyond. Learn more at [www.fedchoicegives.org/GF-BIGscholarship](http://www.fedchoicegives.org/GF-BIGscholarship)*

