

Carroll County Times

Weather 80/60 Mostly sunny, Sports Page 12 WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2025 www.carrollcountytimes.com Price \$3.50

TRUMP WATCH

Trump's move to cut foreign aid sparks legal debate

President Donald Trump is moving to cut nearly \$5 billion in foreign aid, a decision that has sparked controversy over its legality. The funds, initially allocated by Congress for the U.S. Agency for International Development, are being targeted for reduction through a mechanism known as a "pocket rescission."

According to the Government Accountability Office, a pocket rescission occurs when a president requests Congress to rescind funds close to the end of the fiscal year, allowing the funds to expire before they can be used. It's the first time in nearly 50 years a president has used one, with the last time being Jimmy Carter in 1977, according to the Associated Press. The fiscal year closes at the end of September.

The GAO has said pocket rescissions are illegal as they undermine congressional authority over government funding.

Sen. Susan Collins, a Maine Republican, released a statement saying the Constitution "makes clear that Congress has the responsibility for the power of the purse" and any effort to claw back funds "without congressional approval is a clear violation of the law."

However, the White House argues the Impoundment Control Act of 1974 provides the president with the authority to delay or cancel federal funding. **See Page 7**

Here are more Trump administration headlines from Tuesday:

Ruling: A federal judge ruled Tuesday that the Trump administration "willfully" broke federal law by sending National Guard troops to the Los Angeles area in early June after days of protests over immigration raids. In the 52-page ruling, U.S. District Judge Charles Breyer in San Francisco noted Trump and Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth have stated their intention to deploy National Guard troops to other cities across the country, including Oakland and San Francisco, and that raises concerns they are "creating a national police force with the President as its chief." **See Page 8**

Space Command: Trump announced this afternoon that U.S. Space Command will be relocated from Colorado to Alabama, reversing a Biden-era decision to keep it at its temporary home. Space Command's functions include conducting operations like enabling satellite-based navigation and troop communication and providing warning of missile launches. **See Page 4**

Medal of Freedom: Trump has announced he is awarding former New York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani the Presidential Medal of Freedom. Trump posted to Truth Social on Monday about the honor, calling Giuliani the "greatest Mayor in the history of New York City, and an equally great American Patriot." **See Page 7**

— From wire and Sinclair National Desk reports



Dr. Cynthia McCabe, Superintendent of Carroll County Public Schools, left, and Principal Addison Beck greet a student as she arrives at Hampstead Elementary School on the first day of school Sept. 2. **KAREN JACKSON/FREELANCE PHOTOS**

First Day of School



Dr. Cynthia McCabe greets students.



Students arrive at Hampstead Elementary School on the first day of school on Tuesday.

Trump to order federal troops into Baltimore to fight crime

President: 'We have the right to do it'

By Carson Swick

President Donald Trump said Tuesday that he will order federal troops to Baltimore to fight crime, after weeks of flirting with the idea and sparring publicly with Maryland Gov. Wes Moore over the issue.

"We have the right to do it because we have an obligation to protect this country, and that includes Baltimore," Trump told reporters in the Oval Office, noting he already deployed the National Guard to Washington, D.C., and will also order similar intervention in Chicago. "Governor Moore was asking me to take a walk down the streets of Baltimore. Well, Baltimore's a very unsafe place."

Moore had invited Trump to "walk the streets" of Baltimore and told the president to "keep our name out of your mouth" if he did not want to work with city leaders on crime-fighting efforts.

During his news conference, Trump once again referenced Baltimore as the "number four... most unsafe places anywhere in the world," referring perhaps to U.S. News & World Report's 2025-26 ranking of the "most dangerous places" in America. The list ranked Baltimore at No. 4 behind

Memphis, Oakland and St. Louis, after Charm City did not appear on the list last year.

Trump's announcement came shortly after a federal judge ruled that his administration "willfully" broke federal law by sending National Guard troops to the Los Angeles area in response to protests over immigration raids. In June, Trump deployed more than 4,000 National Guard members and 700 Marines in California, over the objections of Democratic Gov. Gavin Newsom, to quell public unrest.

In Baltimore at that time, demonstrators marched in support of the Los Angeles protesters against anti-immigrant speech from politicians and ICE deportations.

Baltimore has seen considerable progress on violent crime in recent years. The city recorded seven homicides in August and has seen 91 total homicides so far this year, which Mayor Brandon Scott said is the fewest at this point in more than 50 years.

Moore and Scott have credited their focus on gun policy and community partnerships with Baltimore's declining violent crime rates. Baltimore City State's Attorney Ivan Bates says his more aggressive prosecution of "repeat violent offenders"

Turn to Troops, Page 2

Md. electricity rates to rise in September

Advocacy groups are urging state officials to hold BGE accountable

By Hannah Gaskill

Consumer, low-income and environmental advocates want Maryland officials to hold the state grid operator accountable as ratepayers are poised to see higher bills from Baltimore Gas and Electric (BGE) in September.

The Maryland Office of the People's Counsel estimates that average BGE customers will owe an additional \$16 monthly. That's on top of other estimates that show the average energy customer in Maryland is spending \$1,000 more per year.

"Mismanagement by BGE and PJM (Interconnection) has left customers facing relentless rate hikes while utilities and power plants rake in massive profits," said Emily Scarr, a senior adviser with Maryland PIRG Foundation.

According to a news release from the public relations firm Waldron

Strategies, electricity costs for BGE customers rose Sept. 1 because of the 2024 energy capacity auction held by PJM Interconnection (PJM).

In a statement to The Baltimore Sun, PJM spokesman Jeff Shields said the grid operator has been warning since 2023 that "higher capacity pricing resulting from the last two capacity auctions signaled the tightening of electricity supply and demand across the PJM region."

PJM operates the electrical grid that powers Maryland, as well as Delaware, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, New Jersey, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia and Washington, D.C.

"We don't underestimate the impact of higher electricity costs to consumers that are being felt within PJM and across the country," said Shields. "PJM does not dictate the prices for electricity supply, but we do operate and facilitate markets that are based on supply and demand, just like any other market for goods

Turn to Rates, Page 2

Moore, wife photographed on Clooney's boat in Italy

Governor's office says he personally paid for the trip to celebrate wife's 50th birthday

By Carson Swick

Maryland Gov. Wes Moore was photographed this weekend on actor and Democratic Party

megadonor George Clooney's boat in Italy, The Daily Mail reported Monday.

The photos show Moore in swimming trunks with his wife, Maryland First Lady Dawn Moore, on deck as the boat powers through Lake Como, where Clooney and wife Amal own a \$100 million waterfront villa and spend several months each summer. The small vessel sports an Italian maritime

civil ensign flag and appears to be the same boat that hosted Barack and Michelle Obama, as well as WWE star Stacy Keibler — a Maryland native and former girlfriend of Clooney.

The Daily Mail reported that, while the Clooneys were out of town, the Moores had "all the luxuries of the more-than \$100

Turn to Moore, Page 2

One-room Amish schoolhouse proposed for rural Westminster site

School to serve approximately 35 students

By Bryna Zumer

A one-room Amish schoolhouse has been proposed for a farm in Westminster, to serve approximately 35 students.

The Fisher Amish Schoolhouse, on North Old Bachmans Valley Road, would be the third Amish schoolhouse approved in Carroll

County in recent years.

The county's Planning and Zoning Commission is set to review a site plan Wednesday evening for two buildings on the one-acre site, part of a rural 109 acres.

The 1,320-square-foot school building, for grades one through 8, served by one teacher, would be the "same as we've done in a few other locations in the county," said Joseph Lapp in an April review by the county's Board of Zoning Appeals.

He represented the Older

Amish Carroll-Adams Community Fund, the farm lessee and developer for all the Carroll schoolhouse projects.

Besides the school building, there would be a 520-square-foot cement-block building for toilets — "privies," as Lapp called the outhouse. The school would be 19 feet tall, with a 2-foot bell tower.

Some of the children would walk to school, while

Turn to Schoolhouse, Page 2

Police probe shooting near Towson shops

Baltimore County police are still investigating a shooting Saturday evening at a basketball court near the Shops at Kenilworth in Towson. **Page 3**

Burning smells forces return of Baltimore flight

A flight from San Francisco to Baltimore returned to San Francisco International Airport on Tuesday due to the crew smelling burning plastic in the cabin. **Page 2**

M&T Bank Stadium adds to food menu

M&T Bank Stadium is making some additions to its budget-friendly menu. This year, the venue will sell 11 food options across eight kiosks on all levels of the stadium. **Page 4**

READER POLL

Do you plan to get a COVID shot this season?

Vote at baltimoresun.com/cctpoll or by scanning this QR code with your phone. The Carroll County Times reader poll is an unscientific survey in which website users volunteer their opinions on the subject of the poll.



■ **TALK TO US:** The Carroll County Times welcomes reader submissions responding to our coverage or highlighting an issue. Letters should be 350 words or fewer and submitted online at baltimoresun.com/cctletters or sent to cctletters@baltsun.com. Include your name, address and phone number.

