



## In honor of mom, Schreiber set to run Boston Marathon

SPORTS, 1B

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# The Herald-Mail

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## Robin Papa is WCPS Teacher of the Year



Confetti cannons explode as Robin Papa, a Clear Spring math teacher, receives the Teacher of the Year award on April 15. Washington County Public Schools and the Washington County Chamber of Commerce hosted the annual ceremony at the Fountain Head Country Club north of Hagerstown. PHOTOS BY MARKELL DELOATCH/SPECIAL TO THE HERALD-MAIL



Robin Paps hoists a ceremonial \$5,000 check after being named 2026-2027 WCPS Teacher of the Year. Papa is flanked by Hagerstown Honda/Kia General Manager Jacob Ritchie, left, and WCPS Superintendent David Sovine.



2026-2027 WCPS Teacher of the Year finalists were, from left, Ashley Doyle, Kaelii Boyer, Teacher of the Year Robin Papa, Caitlin Keller and Angie Stouffer.



A sign shows gas above \$5 a gallon in Washington, DC, on March 11. ANNABELLE GORDON/REUTERS FILE

## Dems hoping gas prices influence elections

Phillip M. Bailey  
USA TODAY

As rising gas prices force Americans to change their spending habits, Democrats are revving their 2026 midterm messaging on the potentially potent issue.

The last time the average retail price to fill up went over \$4 a gallon was August 2022. Republicans put a relentless focus on gas prices and successfully took back Congress, stalling the rest of former President Joe Biden's agenda.

Now, Democratic challengers in swing districts and competitive states are looking to use the same weapon against Republicans by noting that President Donald Trump's ongoing war with Iran caused prices to skyrocket by more than \$1 per gallon in a matter of weeks.

The issue also helps Democrats position themselves as fighting for economic relief.

Experts say price hikes in gas infuriate Americans more than increases for most other goods.

"It's a sign that people can't do as much as they want," Patrick De Haan, an analyst at GasBuddy, which monitors fuel prices, told USA TODAY.

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## More Americans carrying their passports

Daniel Gonzalez  
Arizona Republic  
USA TODAY NETWORK

PHOENIX — Growing numbers of Americans are choosing to carry documents proving their U.S. citizenship in case they are stopped and questioned

by federal immigration authorities amid the Trump administration's aggressive mass-deportation campaign.

Many of those who have started carrying documents such as U.S. passports or birth certificates say they are afraid of being targeted by immigration authorities based on their skin color, how they

look, speaking Spanish or where they work. They say they want to protect themselves from being wrongly arrested, detained or deported even though they are Americans.

The surge in Americans feeling

See PASSPORTS, Page 3A



U.S. citizens are not legally required to carry proof of citizenship. GETTY IMAGES

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