

# Capital Gazette

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## TRUMP WATCH

### 910 arrests made so far in DC takeover

More than 910 arrests have been made since the start of President Trump's federal takeover to make D.C. safer, according to new numbers from the White House. Ninety-three of those arrests happened on Saturday, Aug. 23. One arrest included a man who hit a Homeland Security Investigations agent with his car on Aug. 22. The White House said that during that person's arrest, he attempted to get away by ramming into several law enforcement vehicles. He was eventually taken into custody. Since Aug. 7, when the crime crackdown started, at least five known gang members have been arrested, including members from MS-13, the White House said. 101 firearms have also been seized and taken off D.C. streets. The White House noted that two missing children were also found during the operation. *Here are more Trump administration headlines from the weekend:*

**Fatal crash dispute:** A truck driver accused of making an illegal U-turn that killed three people in Florida last week was denied bond Saturday. The crash sparked a clash between U.S. Department of Homeland Security and California Democratic Gov. Gavin Newsom over Harjinder Singh, a native of India, obtaining a work permit and driver's license in the state. The Trump administration says Singh was in the U.S. illegally. Singh was charged with three state counts of vehicular homicide and immigration violations, and he was denied bond on all charges. He is being held in the St. Lucie County Jail, Lt. Andrew Bolonka from the St. Lucie County Sheriff's Office said. U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement has put a hold on him. Homeland Security spokesperson Tricia McLaughlin said issuing a commercial license to someone in the country illegally is "asinine." California is one of 19 states, in addition to the District of Columbia, that issues licenses regardless of immigration status. Supporters say that lets people work, visit doctors and travel safely.

**Ryder Cup:** President Donald Trump says he will be at the opening round of the high-charged Ryder Cup next month in New York, and he thinks U.S. captain Keegan Bradley should be playing. Trump posted Saturday night on his social media site that he would be there on Friday, Sept. 26, for the start of three-day matches between the United States and Europe. He said he was invited by the PGA Tour, making a common mistake distinguishing between the tour and the PGA of America, which runs the Ryder Cup in America. A PGA of America spokesman said the organization and Bradley invited Trump. This Ryder Cup has more anticipation than usual because of the venue — the Black course at Bethpage State Park on New York's Long Island. — *From wire and Sinclair National Desk reports*



Mindy Shore, a grade 3-5 Alternate Framework Classroom teacher, prepares learning engagement activities for the first day of school. Behind her is a photo cutout of Abraham Ellenbeger, who was promoted to middle school last year, a gift from the Abraham's parents so he wouldn't be forgotten. Teachers at Jacobsville Elementary School are preparing for the new school year on Wednesday. **JEFFREY F. BILL/STAFF PHOTOS**

## Educators here to stay

### Decline in job vacancies continues at Anne Arundel Co. Public Schools

By Bridget Byrne

Anne Arundel County Public Schools is starting the academic year with just 32 classroom vacancies — a significant improvement from previous years. At this time last year, there were 69 vacancies. In 2023, the number was 171, and in 2022, it reached 283. The total number of teaching positions varies, but in 2024, 6,000 of 11,000 employees were teaching positions. The Board of Education

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Instructional Assistant, grades K-2, Roxanne McQuaid cuts out laminated letters of the alphabet.

## ANNE ARUNDEL

### Plan focuses on streamline land use, development

By James Matheson

A recent report from Anne Arundel County calls for changes to the county's land use decision-making processes. It follows negative feedback from area businesses and developers about the permitting and review processes. For years, those who participate in the land use system repeatedly expressed frustration with the complexity and inconsistencies in how regulations are applied, according to a news release from the Office of the County Executive Stewart Pittman. "This report is a direct response to the people who work with our land use system every day," Pittman said in the release. "We listened to their concerns, asked our departments to identify solutions and laid out steps to make the process more predictable, transparent and efficient." Supporters of the report say it will make it easier to plan and zone for growth, encourage private developers to build in the county and reduce the cost of development. Several county depart-

ments are involved in the county's land use process. All land is assigned a zoning district — such as residential, commercial or industrial — based on its intended use. There are particular applications that need to be submitted and reviewed by the county, and accompanying building limitations. The county has a long-term plan, Plan2040, that guides these designations and ensures development is consistent. Some recommendations in the plan to simplify the process include restoring and expanding "fast-track" permitting options for tenants and earlier communication of requirements so businesses can plan for costs before signing leases. "Streamlining land use processes isn't just about efficiency, it's about clarity, fairness and helping our communities grow thoughtfully," Janssen Evelyn, the county executive branch's deputy chief administrative officer, said.

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## Trump keeps promise to ax 'green new scam'

### What does that mean for Maryland's clean energy plan?

By Ben Mause

WASHINGTON — After four years of state and federal alignment on energy policy, Maryland is on defense against the Trump administration's crusade against renewable energy projects in favor of fossil fuels. Executive actions and new laws are undermining the state's plan for a clean energy future as Maryland faces growing demands on its electrical grid. The Republican administration of President Donald Trump has worked quickly to dismantle energy regulations passed under Democratic President Joe Biden. Since taking office, Trump has launched efforts to expand fossil fuel production under the banner of "energy dominance," prioritizing oil, gas, and coal over renewable sources. He cites America's status as the leading oil producer as a national strength. Specifically, the Trump administration has targeted policies that comprised much of Biden's legislative legacy, including eliminating several tax credits for



The Project Lime Kiln community solar project array will produce enough energy to power up to 500 Maryland homes and businesses and save subscribers 10% on their electricity bills. **KIM HAIRSTON/STAFF**

clean energy projects that were part of the Inflation Reduction Act, a Democratic spending package passed by Congress in 2022. That year, Maryland's state legislature passed the Climate Solutions Now Act. The act set benchmarks for the state to achieve net-zero carbon emissions by 2045: a 60% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions targeted by 2031 and 100% clean electricity by 2035. The plan's reliance on an increase in renewable energy sources aligned with the Inflation Reduction Act credits that encouraged companies to invest in solar and wind power.

Biden's act was set to contribute to a growth in renewable facility construction across the country, in Republican and Democrat-controlled states alike. But conservative opposition to the bill didn't dissipate. Repealing the "Green New Scam," as President Donald Trump coined it, became a key policy promise of his campaign. And after winning, he followed through. "President Trump is fulfilling his promise to the American people to restore America's energy dominance and lower costs for

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## Problems with drug overdose

Although Baltimore's drug markets show change, some say the attention on city's drug shops is harmful. **Page 3**

## Town Hall talks police reform

Advocates and officials discussed the task of police reform over threats of a takeover by enforcement. **Page 4**

## Rally for Abrego Garcia

Within days of being released from jail, Kilmar Abrego Garcia could be deported to Uganda. **Page 4**

## READER POLL

### Do you think President Trump should send federal troops to Baltimore to address crime?

Vote at [capitalgazette.com/readerpoll](https://capitalgazette.com/readerpoll) or by scanning this QR code with your phone.

The Capital Gazette reader poll is an unscientific survey in which website users volunteer their opinions on the subject of the poll.



**LAST WEEK'S RESULTS:** Is Baltimore 'so far gone' on crime?  
**Agree:** 60%, 2,073 votes  
**Disagree:** 37.3%, 1,287 votes  
**Unsure:** 2.7%, 94 votes

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