

# MarylandReporter.com

*The news site for government and politics in the Free State*

Dear Subscriber,

November 1, 2018

Nine years ago this Friday we launched MarylandReporter.com as the state's first nonprofit news website covering state government and politics. We need your help continuing our mission of telling you what your state government and politicians are doing to you and for you into our tenth year.

We are grateful that four national foundations are helping us do that by matching any individual contribution to MarylandReporter.com up to \$1,000 we get by the end of the year. In its third year, NewsMatch will send us up to \$25,000 if we can raise that much from individual donors by December 31. The money is coming from the Knight Foundation, the MacArthur Foundation, the Ethics and Excellence in Journalism Foundation and the Democracy Fund, along with a big contribution from Facebook Journalism Project.

Happy Birthday to us, and thanks to many of our 9,000 newsletter subscribers for your past support that has kept our nonprofit news organization going since 2009. Over those nine years, we've produced 2,200 daily State Roundups of news about government and politics. We're up early every morning and often work late at night, producing 3,000 original stories, with special emphasis on how your tax dollars are raised and spent.



Again this year for NewsMatch, a \$50 donation is worth \$100, a \$250 gift equals \$500 and a \$1,000 contribution brings us a total of \$2,000. All checks should be sent to the Columbia address below and they must come from individuals and include a family or personal name to count for the match. Any credit card contribution will do the same.

MarylandReporter.com tries to report what others aren't reporting. One of our most popular items this year was our constantly updated list of candidates for all offices in Montgomery County. Over 25,000 readers opened that list. Our annual list of laws going into effect Oct. 1 was in the top 10 with 9,000 page views (down a bit from past years), as were stories from previous years on EZ-Pass transponders and

fees. We have provided the most consistent coverage of the Kirwan Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education over the past two years. Its recommendations will be a key battleground for the new legislature that we will cover closely.

Our model is collaboration not competition. Whether we report the story or someone else does, you'll find links to the most comprehensive coverage we can find. Please let us know if there's something we missed.

Over the years, we've been honored for our own reporting by the Society of Professional Journalists, and last year Baltimore magazine gave us our third Best in Baltimore award. These honors only reinforce the many kind words and positive feedback we get from our faithful readers. Many of you tell us how you start your work day with our roundup. You let know how important our work is in keeping you informed about what your state government is doing to you and for you.

We don't charge a subscription fee to read our work, and we never will. We subscribe to newspapers that have ever stricter paywalls so that you can get a hint of their best stories. Please subscribe to those you like best. We rely on the generosity of readers like you to keep us going.

**[Will you please make a fully tax-deductible contribution to MarylandReporter.com with the knowledge that your gift will be doubled by NewsMatch?](#)**

In addition to the foundations matching your donation today, we are also grateful to the other foundations that have supported our work. These include the John J. Leidy Foundation that has just renewed our grant, the Abell Foundation, the Rothschild Art Foundation and the Franklin Center for Government and Public Integrity, our original funder.

We are especially grateful to the 500 donors like you who affirm our work with your contributions. If everyone who opened our newsletter gave just \$50 we would be able to add staff and do even more original reporting about Maryland government and politics.

Please make a tax-deductible contribution by the end of the year so its impact will be doubled. You can do so online through our Donate button, or by sending a personal check to the address below.



Thanks in advance for your support.

With gratitude,

*Len Lazarick*

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A copy of the current financial statement of MarylandReporter.com (IRS Form 990) is available on the website at [MarylandReporter.com](http://MarylandReporter.com); by writing Len Lazarick, MarylandReporter.com Inc., 6392 Shadowshape Place, Columbia, MD 21045, or by calling 410-312-9840. Documents and information submitted under the Maryland Solicitations Act are also available, for the cost of postage and copies, from the Maryland Secretary of State, State House, Annapolis MD 21401, (410) 974-5534.