



WOODS END NEWS

September 7, 2023



GLENNIVEY

Representing the 4th District of Maryland

Dear Neighbor,

Capitol Hill is quieter than usual during the District Work Period. Also known as August Recess, this is a time when members focus on events and constituents close to home. But Maryland's Fourth District never sleeps! Whether it's fighting for a good cause or celebrating student achievement, our community always finds reasons to come together. Here are a few highlights from this month:

National Night Out in Prince George's County



A strong partnership between police and the communities they serve helps keep everyone safe. The annual National Night Out campaign hosts events where people can meet and mingle with local law enforcement officers. My staff attended events across the district, including in Morningside, District Heights, and New Carrollton. It was great to see Governor Wes Moore out there as well. This is what community policing looks like!

Secretary Cardona Visits Crossland High School



On August 2, I joined Education Secretary Miguel Cardona at Crossland High School to discuss the growing popularity of Career & Technical Education, or CTE Programs, in Prince George's County.

CTE Programs bring hard skills like construction and auto repair back to high school classrooms in the form of apprenticeships, training, and certification. But this isn't your grandfather's trade school. Today's CTE Programs offer access to high-tech, high-demand jobs which often pay better than those requiring a four-year college degree.

For our Constituent Spotlight, watch how one student in Prince George's County is using carpentry to kick start her career. Stephanie Romero found her calling while participating in a CTE Apprenticeship Program at Bladensburg High School. She says that the skills and confidence she acquired in the program inspired her to pursue new career opportunities.



You can read more about my visit with Secretary Cardona, CTE programs, and student opportunities in [this article from The Washington Informer](#).

Minority Business Round Table in Largo, MD

It's been about 2 months since the Supreme Court struck down affirmative action in higher ed, and the decision is already causing ripple effects on minority-owned business.

On August 4, Prince George's County Council Member Jolene Ivey and I co-hosted a round table where we discussed the path forward after this disastrous ruling. I was joined by local business leaders from my district, including Mayor Tim Adams of Bowie, lawyer and activist Darryl Barnes, and Robert Rashford, President & CEO of Genesis Engineering Solutions, Inc.

The conversation that followed was sobering. With so many attacks on equity and inclusion - - such as the recent injunction against the 8(a) program, which protects minority-controlled business -- one could easily lose heart that our country is moving in the right direction. And in the case of affirmative action, we seem to have taken a step backward.

But hope is not lost. Many state- and corporate-level programs are still in place which protect minority business. Furthermore, we have allies in the White House, federal agencies, and local governments who have the power to counteract some harmful effects of the Supreme Court ruling. And the SBA is accepting 8(a) applications once again, provided that applicants detail in writing how their minority-owned business might suffer from discrimination.

The Court's ruling in the affirmative action case may have thrown an obstacle in our way, but it isn't slowing us down as we work toward innovative solutions to keep the program alive through various channels. We should now direct our efforts to contacting elected officials, The White House, and organizations like the U.S. Small Business Administration and demand that minority-owned businesses get a fair shot at securing government contracts.

Thank you to the more than 70 community leaders who showed up to the round table, virtually and in person. It's time to join our voices and be the "squeaky wheel" that can't be ignored.



UMD Engineering Team Wins National Competition

On August 30, I joined UMD President Darryll J. Pines to present a Congressional Citation to the University of Maryland Autonomous Micro Aerial Vehicle (AMAV) team led by Dr. Derek Paley. Over the past year, the AMAV team designed, built, and tested a custom drone, called Gambit, which is capable of performing search and rescue operations inside of burning buildings and other hazardous areas.

The UMD AMAV team won the NIST 2022 First Responder UAS Indoor Challenge Grand Prize along with four out of six sub-awards in the final stage, receiving \$152,500 in prize money.

This accomplishment is a sterling example of what can be achieved when students learn, engineer, and build at the cutting edge of technology. Beating out other

universities *and* the private sector demonstrates that the AMAV team are at the top of their game. Congratulations and keep up the great work!



In Case You Missed It: Constituent Spotlight with Samia Bingham, Co-Founder of Flavors

For our Constituent Spotlight series, we interviewed Samia Bingham, co-founder of Flavors Shared-Use Kitchen and Pop-Up Restaurant in Hyattsville, MD. Samia's business provides space, equipment, licensing, and training for entrepreneurs to kickstart their culinary aspirations.



I hope you've found this newsletter to be fun and informative. Please do not hesitate to reach out to my office if there is any way I can better serve you. As always, you make me proud to represent Maryland's Fourth District.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Glenn Ivey". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Glenn" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Ivey".

Rep. Glenn Ivey
Member of Congress