

Alan J. McCarthy  
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## CECIL COUNTY, MARYLAND

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### Message from the County Executive

Dear Cecil County Citizens,

President Grover Cleveland signed legislation establishing the annual celebration of Labor Day in June of 1894. Think of it, 115 years ago! The purpose was to officially recognize the importance and impact that those who provide the labor by filling workforce needs. This was in the middle of the *Industrial Revolution!* Take a moment to reflect upon the workforce changes that have occurred over the past century, unfortunately, highlighted by two World Wars, as well as several conflicts, pitting nations and ideologies against one another.

Jumping forward to the Twenty-first Century, 2019, we are experiencing a mixture of new, exciting jobs that require a whole new set of intellect and skills while at the same time relying on tried and true vocations and careers that have existed forever. Even those jobs have had to adapt and incorporate new technologies and concepts to meet today's demands in a timely manner. Think just a moment on the impact of information technology and how immediate the demands for solutions to complex problems are expected. You snooze, you lose in today's world!

Cecil County over the last three years has experienced dramatic and significant growth in the number of businesses locating or expanding, creating thousands of new jobs. Not only are we aware of this growth, but are often recognized by other jurisdictions throughout Maryland, Delaware and the region. As a result, the residential sector is showing signs of re-emergence as a contributing factor to our quality of life by providing affordable housing in nurturing and safe neighborhoods where Cecil County workers can work, live, play and raise their families. In the past year, Cecil County has the second highest job growth rate and the third highest wage growth in Maryland. We enjoy the second highest manufacturing job concentration in the state and the highest on the I-95 corridor between New York and North Carolina.

During the remainder of my first term as county executive, I will continue to prioritize wise, prudent use of taxpayer dollars investing our financial resources to provide the necessary infrastructure to support the continuation of commercial and residential growth in a controlled fashion to maintain the values and principles long held by our citizens as defined by the Comprehensive Plan.

Citizens expect and deserve quality education opportunities provided by our schools and community college. They should feel safe and secure by providing high-performing law enforcement and emergency services entities at both the county and municipal levels. Opportunities to serve the community above the normal day-to-day activities through volunteering their time to a wide diversity of institutions and organizations contribute to a feeling of satisfaction and personal accomplishment making our lives complete.

On September 3, 2019, Labor Day, take a moment to accept, extend and appreciate the importance of our workers who perform each day in a vast variety of jobs holding amazing degrees of complexities and responsibilities unimagined just a few years ago. Performing successfully in the workforce today requires more knowledge and skill than ever before in our history.

Happy Labor Day, Cecil County!

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Alan J. McCarthy".

Dr. Alan J. McCarthy  
Cecil County Executive