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## **CECIL COUNTY, MARYLAND**

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March 9, 2018

Cecil County Citizens:

Maryland Senator Wayne Norman (District 35), representing northeastern Harford County and western Cecil County, passed away suddenly this past weekend. Senator Norman was a good friend to all of us as he was always willing to listen and to assist us in any way he could. To say that he will be missed is an understatement. Our hearts and prayers are extended to his wife and family.

Cecil County was part of history this past Friday night, March 2, 2018, as both the I-95 Tydings Bridge and Route 40 Hatem Bridge were closed to traffic for the first time ever. Sustained winds over fifty-five miles an hour necessitated the closure of this major transportation link during rush hour on a Friday night. Traffic jams included backups on both I-95 and Route 40 as well as every connecting road that travelers ventured on to find an escape from the mess. I could not be more proud of the response of Cecil County citizens to this emergency. It did not matter if it were state, county or local law enforcement, county or municipal emergency services personnel, local business owners or just private citizens -- every one stepped up and provided a helping hand to thousands of stranded motorists. Thank you, Cecil County!

Please be reminded of the budget process underway for next year's (FY 2019) operating and capital spending plans. Members of my staff are in the process of compiling a budget for my approval, which I will deliver to the County Council on March 30, 2018. The County Council approved the [budget hearing schedule](#) this past Tuesday night.

The Maryland General Assembly has passed the halfway point in the 2018 Session. Hundreds of bills have been filed and are currently in the legislative approval process. We have several local bills that will assist our businesses or streamline regulations allowing our local government to better serve you. We keep an eye out for bills that will result in unfunded mandates for local taxpayers and oppose each. My schedule requires me to travel to Annapolis several times per week to monitor or testify on proposed legislation. The Session ends at 11:59 PM. on Monday, April 9<sup>th</sup>.

The past few months have provided many opportunities for me to demonstrate that I am more committed than ever to continue to move Cecil County forward. I appreciate the continued trust you have in me as County Executive. As Winston Churchill once said, "Every day you may make progress. Every step may be fruitful. Yet there will stretch out before you an ever-lengthening, ever-ascending, ever-improving path. You know you will never get to the end of the journey. But this, so far from discouraging, only adds to the joy and glory of the climb."

You deserve nothing but our best effort. Thank you for your support.



Dr. Alan J. McCarthy  
County Executive