



# THE BALTIMORE TIMES

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## Father and Daughter Team Launch Homeownership Resource, Platform Focuses on Underprivileged Families



*National Homeownership Month offers a chance to highlight Dante Lee (left), CEO of BlackHomeownership.com and his daughter, Kiyah Jordan, president of the Black-owned mortgage firm. The company was founded approximately a year ago to help individuals acquire a home and/or an investment property. The company does not discriminate against any applicant. However, a special focus is placed on marketing to the Black and brown community. BlackHomeownership.com partnered with a federal credit union that finances loans. The father and daughter team wants to help 1,000 families become homeowners by 2026. (See article on page 8)*

*Photo courtesy of BlackHomeownership.com*



# Civil Rights Leaders Dedicate Monument to Parren J. Mitchell, Maryland's First Black Congressman, In Annapolis on May 28



*The City of Annapolis, in partnership with the Caucus of African American Leaders and the Martin Luther King Jr. Committee, Inc. of Annapolis & Anne Arundel County, unveil and dedicate the Parren J. Mitchell Memorial, to honor the first Black Congressman elected from the state of Maryland at Roger "Pip" Moyer Recreation Center on Wednesday May 28, 2025. Photo: Carl Snowden*

By Marc Apter

A monument honoring Maryland's first Black congressman, Parren J. Mitchell, was unveiled at the entrance of the Pip Moyer Recreation Center in Annapolis on Wednesday May 28, 2025. The Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Committee and the Caucus of African American Leaders raised the \$100,000 cost of the monument from private donors. The city of Annapolis provided the land and perpetual maintenance of the site. Over 500 people attended the event with speakers sharing their memories of Mitchell including Governor Wes Moore, State Senator Shaneka Henson, Annapolis Mayor Gavin Buckley and Mitchell family member,

former State Senator Michael Bowen Mitchell.

"The Parren J. Mitchell monument stands not just as a tribute to a remarkable man, but as a symbol of progress and possibility," said Carl Snowden, chair of the MLK Jr. Committee and convener of the Caucus of African American Leaders. "I thank the community for their support in funding this monument. We are also grateful for the City's support in acknowledging Mitchell's legacy. Together, we ensure that future generations understand the power of principled leadership and the importance of civic engagement."

Mitchell, an influential Black politician, was elected to Congress in 1971 and served as chair of the

House Small Business Committee, passing away in 2007, leaving a significant legacy in his wake. Mitchell was a founding member of the Congressional Black Caucus, a champion for affirmative action, and a stalwart advocate for affordable housing. He worked closely with local leaders to make Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday a state holiday, making Maryland the second state in the nation to recognize the civil rights leader's legacy in this way.

The Roger "Pip" Moyer Recreation Center is a fitting and meaningful location for the Parren J. Mitchell Memorial, not only because it serves as a hub for community, inclusion, and youth development, but also

because of its deep historical ties to the Mitchell family's legacy of civil rights activism. During the Civil Rights Movement, former State Sen. Michael Mitchell—Parren J. Mitchell's nephew—was arrested during a sit-in at a segregated restaurant where he called on Roger "Pip" Moyer to post bail. Placing the memorial here honors that courageous stand and recognized Parren J. Mitchell's legacy in the very heart of a community shaped by his family's commitment to equality, service, and progress.

For more information or to donate, write to MLK Jr. Committee, PO Box 371, Annapolis MD 21404; call 443-871-5656; or visit [www.MLKJr.org](http://www.MLKJr.org).

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# The Booming Market of...Infostealers

By Karen Clay

Clay Technology and Multimedia, L.L.C.

As we have become more digitally connected, cybercriminals have become more sophisticated in how they target us, our organizations, and our places of work. The fairly simple “cat-and-mouse” game we addressed in the early days of computing has grown into one of the most insidious threats to the security of our digital information. “So, what is it?” you ask. It is the rise of infostealers, a category of malware designed specifically to steal sensitive personal information. In the ever-evolving landscape of cybersecurity threats, infostealers have emerged as one of the most dangerous yet underestimated risks facing us. Unlike the flashy ransomware attacks that make headlines, infostealers operate quietly in the background, methodically harvesting your most sensitive information without you ever knowing they’re there. As consumers, understanding what infostealers are and how we can protect against them is crucial.

### So, What Are Infostealers?

Infostealers are a type of malware that infiltrate devices to extract valuable information. This can include usernames, passwords, credit card numbers, banking credentials, cryptocurrency wallet keys, browser cookies, autofill data, and more. They are often delivered through phishing emails, malicious downloads, fake software updates, or compromised websites. Once installed, infostealers transmit the stolen data back to cybercriminals, who may then sell it on dark web marketplaces or use it for identity theft and financial fraud.

The most popular infostealers like RedLine Stealer, Racoon Stealer, and Vidar have become common tools among cybercriminals. The most

concerning thing about these malware variants is that they are often sold as “software-as-a-service” on underground forums, allowing even low-skilled hackers to carry out attacks.

### How Infostealers Work

Infostealers typically follow a multi-step process:

**1. Infection:** The user is tricked into executing malicious software through deceptive links, fake ads, cracked software, or phishing emails.

**2. Execution:** Once on the system, the malware runs silently, often disabling antivirus tools or avoiding detection.

**3. Harvesting:** It searches for stored credentials, session cookies, browser data, cryptocurrency wallets, and other sensitive files.

**4. Exfiltration:** The stolen data is sent to a command-and-control server, where cybercriminals collect and use or sell it.

Many infostealers are designed to target specific applications such as Google Chrome, Microsoft Edge, Firefox, Discord, and Telegram, which are commonly used for communication and storing session data.

### Why You Should Be Concerned

While businesses are often targeted for their larger databases and financial assets, individual consumers are also at significant risk. A single compromised device can expose a treasure trove of personal data. Some of the major risks include:

**1. Identity Theft:** Stolen credentials can be used to open fraudulent accounts in your name.

**2. Financial Loss:** Credit card information and bank logins can be directly used to drain your accounts or make unauthorized purchases.

**3. Account Takeover:** Infostealers often collect cookies and tokens, allowing attackers to hijack sessions



*Cybercriminals have become more sophisticated in the methods they use to steal our information.*

*Graphic Design by Karen Clay*

without needing passwords.

**4. Privacy Invasion:** Personal photos, messages, and documents can be accessed and exploited.

Even if you don’t think you have “valuable” information, many attackers sell bulk data on the dark web, where it may be used for large-scale scams or credential-stuffing attacks.

### Warning Signs You May Be Infected

Detecting infostealers can be difficult, as they are designed to be stealthy. However, consumers should be alert to signs such as:

- Sudden unauthorized logins or password reset requests.
- Changes to browser settings or homepage.
- Unexpected pop-ups or crashes.
- Antivirus alerts (especially if disabled or turned off).
- Complaints from contacts receiving strange messages from your accounts.

If you notice any of these, it’s crucial to act quickly.

### How to Protect Yourself

Protection starts with good digital hygiene. Here are some key steps you should take:

- **Use a Reputable Antivirus Program:** Keep it updated and run regular scans.
- **Enable Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA):** Even if your password is stolen, MFA can prevent account access.



**Karen Clay,**  
**Clay Technology and Multimedia**  
*Courtesy, Karen Clay*

- **Avoid Downloading Cracked or Pirated Software:** These are common carriers of infostealers.
- **Be Cautious with Email Attachments and Links:** Phishing remains one of the top delivery methods.
- **Use a Password Manager:** A manager can detect compromised credentials and create unique passwords.
- **Keep Your Operating System and Applications Updated:** Patches often fix vulnerabilities that malware exploits.
- **Clear Browser Cookies Regularly:** Session cookies are valuable targets for infostealers.
- **Back Up Important Data:** Regular backups can save you from data loss in case of infection.

Infostealers represent a growing threat in the cybercrime landscape. They’re not just a problem for large corporations or tech-savvy users. Anyone who shops online, uses email, or logs into social media is a potential target. Staying informed and taking basic security precautions, can greatly reduce your risk. In the digital age, vigilance and awareness are as important as locks and keys once were.



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# Court Fight Begins Over Trump's Destruction of AmeriCorps

By Stacy M. Brown  
BlackPressUSA.com  
Senior National Correspondent

The Trump administration is preparing to terminate AmeriCorps, eliminating \$400 million in grants and cutting off critical services for tens of thousands, while continuing to advance policies that benefit Donald Trump, his family, and wealthy allies at the expense of low-income Americans. Final layoffs of AmeriCorps staff will take effect on June 24. Under orders from Elon Musk's U.S. DOGE Service, the administration is dismantling the country's only federal agency for national service and volunteerism—without public input or congressional authorization. The decision ends funding for 1,031 organizations and displaces more than 32,000 AmeriCorps members and senior volunteers. The move is part of a broader campaign to punish the poor. Since returning to office, Trump has aggressively pushed cuts to Medicaid, SNAP, and housing assistance while pursuing massive tax breaks for the rich. Now, the administration is erasing programs that served veterans, students, the elderly, and communities devastated by natural disasters.

“These actions are heartless, cruel, and unlawful,” said Joel Berg of Hunger Free America, one of many groups impacted. “AmeriCorps isn't wasteful spending—it's a lifeline.” A coalition of nonprofits and service organizations from across the country has filed a federal lawsuit in Maryland, accusing the Trump administration

of violating federal law by gutting AmeriCorps without legal authority or due process. Plaintiffs include Elev8 Baltimore, Red Cloud Indian School, the AmeriCorps Employees Union, and over a dozen others. The lawsuit states that the cuts violate the Administrative Procedure Act and federal budget law. On April 15, AmeriCorps participants were abruptly told to cease work and return home. Four regional National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC) campuses were closed, and the entire corps disbanded. Most agency staff were placed on immediate administrative leave, and 85% were issued layoff notices effective June 24.

Programs supporting Native American education in South Dakota, school tutoring in Baltimore, housing counseling in North Carolina, and civic engagement in Maine have all been defunded. Rep. Chrissy Houlahan

(D-Pa.), an AmeriCorps alum, called the shutdown a betrayal. “AmeriCorps costs pennies to the dollar and delivers enormous value. This decision will hurt communities that can least afford it.” The lawsuit demands a halt to the shutdown and calls on the courts to block what plaintiffs describe as an “unprecedented and unlawful dismantling” of a vital public institution. “Congress created AmeriCorps to serve the vulnerable,” the suit reads. “This administration has chosen to destroy it instead.”

The decision ends funding for 1,031 organizations and displaces more than 32,000 AmeriCorps members and senior volunteers.



Photo: Jacob Wackerhausen



## Former Foster Child Holds Tight to Lifelong Dream, Takes Stage at the Apollo in New York

By Andrea Blackstone

DeVante Jones (aka “Von Tae”) tells stories through music while performing a variety of musical genres.

“Sometimes there’s certain songs that sound better as pop songs, that sound better as a little bluesy or jazz, or it might be hip hop, rap, R&B, so I usually go by the tone of the message that I’m trying to put out,” the eclectic singer and songwriter explained.

Like many creative hopefuls who dream of someday expanding their enterprise, the Owings Mills-based recording artist splits his time between making a living and embracing his undeniable passion that took shape in his formative years.

Jones grew up in Calvert County and St Mary’s County, Maryland. He danced and performed in front of family members at their family cookouts with other young creatives.

Between the ages of seven and nine, Jones’ family dynamic took a turn. He ended up in foster care although he is uncertain about the reason.

Jones’ foster mother, Sylvia Booth, embraced gospel music and attended church. She introduced Jones to different instruments such as the clarinet, flute and saxophone. Jones learned to play them and joined the band in the fifth grade. Booth purchased musical books for Jones, allowing his passion for music to grow despite the challenges that unfolded in a talented young boy’s life.

Jones’ younger siblings ended up in a different foster home and were adopted. Jones and one sister remained in Booth’s household together. Jones mentioned that his mother, Gladys Lake shared with him that she sometimes came to his foster home on her own, in the middle of the night to

observe her children through a window although they were not aware of it.

“Being older and understanding that she still was trying to fight for us, and that she still supported us during that time, was a good thing to find out,” Jones stated.

Jones said his mother always had some sort of visitation rights. He did not have much of a relationship with his father while growing up. However, he is now in touch with both parents.

Jones added that his foster mother’s husband became ill. Booth did not want children to witness the physical unpleasantness that her husband was enduring.

“So, we ended up going to two or three different other foster homes during that time,” Jones explained.

He and his sister ended up being cared for by older cousins after various transitions.

Jones is living in a happier life season. Booth, who is now in her eighties, likes videos of him singing on Facebook while following his new journey. Jones successfully auditioned several months ago at the historic Apollo Theatre in New York on Amateur Night. He takes the stage on Friday, June 6, 2025.

“I will be performing on the actual stage, so I’m super excited about that,” Jones stated.

Jones’ big moment proves that a person’s past does not define his or her future. He encouraged supporters to purchase tickets through Ticketmaster to see him perform in New York. Jones will compete for prizes and a chance to return to the stage under bright lights in the following weeks. However, there is another reason making it to Apollo has significance to him.

“Honestly, I’m not doing it to compete. I simply just want to



*Devante Jones as a first grader in 1999 at Sunderland Elementary School. Photo: LifeTouch Pictures*

accomplish a lifelong dream of mine,” Jones wrote on his Facebook page.

He referenced his joyous accomplishment of performing on the same stage where musical legends such as Michael Jackson, Lauryn Hill, James Brown and others have done.

Jones shared that additional goals are in development. Jones founded The R&B Room, a brand that honors the legacy of R&B, and R&B artists will be showcased. It will launch on an official YouTube channel in July. Jones also strives to provide a physical space where he and other musical talents can perform, rehearse, and work in a studio.

Jones is working on a plan to give back to foster care youth who have dreams and aspirations.

“And I also want to give back to the homeless, because I have been homeless,” Jones openly shared.

Jones is currently working on a new album titled “is you alright?” and other musical projects. He aspires to incorporate social issues and to be an



*Von Tae waits outside in New York before auditioning at the historic Apollo Theatre in New York on March 22, 2025. Photo: Von Tae*

artist who gives other people hope.

The public can support Jones by accessing his content online, commenting on his music, attending performances, and by showing concern and compassion for others regardless of political beliefs or race.

“Just be kind. Spread good energy and good messages,” Jones concluded. Visit Von Tae’s website <http://www.theofficialvontae.com>. Find him on Instagram <https://www.instagram.com/theofficialvontae>; Facebook, <https://www.facebook.com/iamvontae>; and YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/theofficialvontae>.



## Preservation of Neighborhood History

# New Honorary Name Sign Honors Centenarian in Historic African American Community

By Andrea Blackstone

For more than sixty years, one hundred-year-old Frances Johnson-George has resided in Browns Woods. Johnson-George was born on January 8, 1925.

"She grew up in the Browns Woods Community and attended Browns Woods School and Bates School in her early years," said Matsudo George-Parker, daughter of Johnson-George.

A celebration marking a significant honor was recently underway in Browns Woods, a historic African American community in Annapolis, Maryland. Johnson-George's local and out-of-state family, church family, friends, and fellow community members gathered to celebrate a memorable day. Attendees cheered on May 31, 2025 when Hollyhock Lane became Frances Johnson George Way, at the intersection of Browns Woods Road.

Johnson-George's newly bestowed honor underscores the importance of including elders in a community's rich legacy at a time when history is at risk of being erased and gentrification looms near in places such as Browns Woods.

"It is important that we reclaim our spaces because there are a lot of efforts being made to change history," said Kenyatta Rowel, Jr.

Rowel, Jr., who is Johnson-George's cousin, reflected on additional aspects of Brown Wood's historical roots. Family members of local African American communities want to keep the history of historic communities such as Browns Woods alive.

"Established by formerly enslaved individuals and their descendants, Browns Woods became one of the most prominent free-standing Black settlements in Anne Arundel County comprised of Blacks who purchased their own land," Rowel, Jr. explained.

His grandmother and other family members hail from Browns Woods, a descendant community located near a once segregated Sandy Point Beach. Rowel, Jr. stated that following the Civil War, African American communities like Browns Woods, nearby Mulberry Hill, and Skidmore were formed as safe havens for freedmen seeking land ownership and self-sufficiency.

The Browns Woods community has served as a cultural and social hub for African Americans in the region. Rowel, Jr. further noted that descendant communities were often subdivided into small farms, such as Anderson Farm, providing residents with entrepreneurship and the means to support themselves and their families.

The Browns Woods Rosenwald School was also part of a network of schools built in the early twentieth century to improve educational opportunities for African American children in the segregated state of Maryland.

"Efforts are currently underway to restore this historic building and transform it into the Browns Woods Rosenwald Center for preserving the heritage of Blacks on the Broadneck Peninsula. This center aims to document and share the rich history of the community and its residents," Rowel, Jr. added.

Rowel, Jr. and George-Parker stated that neighboring residential descendant properties in Annapolis like Skidmore have names of roads such as Colbert Road, Carr's Road, and Johnson Road in Mulberry Hill, named after descendants.

"Now Browns Woods has one," they agreed.

Rowel, Jr. and George-Parker also said: "Some roads in Browns Woods, which had been named after descendants, were recently changed by newcomers, swiping this history away

forever."

It is befitting that Johnson-George's 100 years of life is being celebrated and recognized in a memorable manner. The mother of six children; a grandmother to 13 grandchildren; a great grandmother to 26 children; and a great-great grandmother to eight has demonstrated resilience, kindness, and family values.

George-Parker mentioned that the centenarian married the late Sergeant Thurman George, Sr., a U.S. Army serviceman, in 1963. Thurman passed away in a car accident in 1972.

The widow worked as a domestic engineer. She was a beloved caregiver, offering support to children in her community, her elderly mother, and other family members. Involvement in church included singing in the choir and volunteering with the finance committee.

"She (my mother) was a beloved caregiver, offering support to children in the community, her elderly mother, and other family members," George-Parker shared.

Johnson-George has earned respect and additional recognition. Citations were presented on January 12, 2025, at her birthday celebration in Annapolis, Maryland by County Executive Stuart

Pittman and Maryland State Senator Shaneka Henson. Rowel, Jr. stated that Johnson-George will receive another Executive Citation from the county executive at the forthcoming Browns Woods Day event to be held on Father's Day, June 15, 2025.

Johnson-George stated that she felt great about having a street renamed after her.

"All my life, I've honored God and His teachings. Treat others as you want to be treated and love one another and always be kind. I worked hard with the help of my Heavenly Father, and I deserve this honor," she declared.



*(Front row, left-right): Brenda Johnson (kneeling); Frances Johnson-George (center); and Beverly Marler (jean jacket). (Second row, left-right): Wanda Lee (black jacket); Connie Johnson (red shirt/tan hat); Chris Cain; Tracey Raikes; and Sharon Stansbury. (Back row left-right): Sadie Maynard (tan hat); and Shantae Charles. Photo: Shantae Charles*



## Father and Daughter Team Launch Homeownership Resource, Platform Focuses on Underprivileged Families

By **Andrea Blackstone**

Homeownership has often been touted as one major aspect of achieving the American dream, but the feasibility of buying a home can become more challenging for first-time homebuyers in a tight economy. Attaining the dream of owning a home may grow more distant if additional factors such as creditworthiness and redlining (discrimination in lending) are added into the equation.

### What Statistics Say

“Despite fast-rising mortgage rates, minority groups saw increased homeownership rates in 2022. Asian (63.3%) and Hispanic (51.1%) homeownership rates registered all-time highs.<sup>3</sup> The Black homeownership rate experienced a modest uptick to 44.1%, but remains substantially lower than Asian, Hispanic and White (72.3%) Americans,” National Association of REALTORS reported (<https://www.nar.realtor/newsroom/racial-minority-groups-increased-their-homeownership-rates-while-still-facing-significant-homebuying-challenges>).

### A Goal to Empower Black and Brown Families

#### BlackHomeownership.com

Dante Lee, CEO of BlackHomeownership.com and his daughter, Kiyah Jordan, president of the Black-owned mortgage firm, started the endeavor last year to encourage more African American families to think about home ownership, according to Lee. BlackHomeownership.com was founded approximately a year ago to help individuals acquire a home and/or an investment property throughout the United States. The company does not discriminate against any applicant.

However, Lee shared that a special focus is placed on marketing to the Black and brown community, because “that community is often overlooked.”

“Real estate is actually one of the keys to wealth, not just in our community, but in any community. Many people talk about generational wealth. They talk about leaving a legacy behind for their children, but unfortunately, our community falls short or misses the mark when it comes to home ownership,” Lee added.

According to BlackHomeownership.com, the company’s goal is to help Black families become first-generation homebuyers; bridge the homeownership gap; avoid predatory lending; and avoid housing discrimination. Applicants who want to be considered for assistance from BlackHomeownership.com undergo a pre-approval process, but Lee says his company takes other measures to support applicants. The company wants to qualify families for loans.

### Creative Financing

“We want to make sure that they can actually afford the property,” Lee explained. We have to ask for pay stubs and tax returns and things like that, but what we do, I would kind of describe it as creative financing. So, you walk into a typical bank, usually the first thing they ask is about your credit score. You give them that, then you’re automatically disqualified if it’s not a certain score. But for us, we work with families who may not have the credit score that they need.”

### More than a Credit Score

A person’s credit score and income-to-debt ratio are not the only decision-making factors in obtaining assistance through Lee and Jordan’s platform. Black Homeownership.com partnered with a credit restoration company to raise



*Kiyah Jordan, president  
BlackHomeownership.com*

credit scores through strategies such as addressing why applicants were denied and reporting on time rental payments.

“The idea is to have them come back in six months and we try it again,” Lee shared.

BlackHomeownership.com reportedly partners with a very reputable federal credit union that finances the company’s loans.

“There is no predatory lending going on. There is no discrimination, and these guys have never been sued,” Lee stated.

He mentioned that major banks have been found guilty of predatory lending.

Lee further mentioned: “For those who already have a home, but maybe they’re looking to refinance the loan, or they’re looking to get a home equity line of credit, we can help them as well. So, we’ve created a site called [refinanceyourhouse.com](https://refinanceyourhouse.com).”

### Reaching First-Time Home Buyers

Lee noted that BlackHomeownership.com’s short-term goal is to help 1,000 families achieve homeownership. The long-term goal is to assist 100,000 of them.

Jordan serves as BlackHomeownership.com’s strategic partner and co-educator who supports this vision.



*Dante Lee, CEO of the  
Black-owned mortgage firm,  
BlackHomeownership.com*

*Photos courtesy of  
BlackHomeownership.com*

“My focus is on outreach, systems, and making sure our clients — especially first-time buyers — feel equipped and empowered. I help create the tools, resources, and conversations that make the process more approachable and less overwhelming, particularly for our community,” said Jordan.

She mentioned that a client from Iowa was recently qualified for a \$300,000 home loan that he will use to buy a multiple-unit building. He will live in the unit and rent out the others to generate passive income.

Jordan added, “There’s something powerful about watching someone realize that owning a home isn’t just a dream — it’s an option. For many of our clients, it’s not just about a house. It’s about security, legacy, and finally being seen by a system that’s historically left them out. Helping to shift that narrative feels personal for me.”

Visit <https://BlackHomeownership.com> for more information about Lee and Jordan’s endeavor. Call 614-595-6073 for a free consultation.



# THE BALTIMORE TIMES

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## American Legion Department of Maryland Donates \$7,000 To Support Veteran Patients Throughout Maryland

The American Legion Department of Maryland recently donated \$7,000 to the Veterans Affairs (VA) Maryland Health Care System to benefit veteran patients throughout the state.

The donation will directly support veterans who receive their care at the Baltimore, Loch Raven, and Perry Point VA Medical Centers. Thanks to the support of the American Legion, Department of Maryland, veterans throughout the state will have access to resources for new homeowners, transportation services, food and clothing assistance, adaptive sports programming, supplies for hospice patients, and equipment for inpatient care units.

“The continued support from the American Legion Department of Maryland makes it possible for us to enhance the services and programs we provide to veterans,” said Jonathan R. Eckman, director of the VA Maryland Health Care System. “It also sends an important message to our veteran patients that their service in the armed forces has not been forgotten.”

The VA Maryland Health Care System is dedicated to providing safe, quality and compassionate care to more than 58,000 veterans in Central Maryland and on Maryland’s Eastern Shore. Under the new PACT Act, millions of veterans are now eligible for VA health care. With this recent change, all veterans are encouraged to apply for VA health care by calling **877-222-8387** Monday through Friday between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. or by visiting [www.va.gov/PACT](http://www.va.gov/PACT). To learn about volunteer or donor opportunities throughout the VA Maryland Health Care System, call 410-642-1038 or visit <https://www.va.gov/maryland-health-care/work-with-us/volunteer-or-donate/>.

## Legal Notice

### CITY OF BALTIMORE DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS NOTICE OF LETTING

Sealed Bids or Proposals, in duplicate addressed to the Board of Estimates of the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore and marked for **BALTIMORE CITY NO. RP24809R Robert C. Marshall Field Renovation** will be received at the Office of the Comptroller, Room 204 City Hall, Baltimore, Maryland until 11:00 A.M. **July 16, 2025**. Positively no bids will be received after 11:00 A.M. Bids will be publicly opened by the Board of Estimates in Room 215, City Hall at Noon. The proposed Contract Documents may be examined, without charge, at the Dept. of Rec & Parks at 2600 Madison Ave, Baltimore, Md. 21217 by appointment only on Mondays - Fridays, 8:30am – 4:00pm by emailing [benitaj.randolph@baltimorecity.gov](mailto:benitaj.randolph@baltimorecity.gov) as of **June 6, 2025** and copies may be purchased for a non-refundable cost of **\$100.00**. A SharePoint link to a PDF of the Construction Drawings will be provided to all prospective bidders. **Conditions and requirements of the Bid are found in the bid package.** All contractors bidding on this Contract must first be prequalified by the City of Baltimore Contractors Qualification Committee. Interested parties should call (410) 396-6883 or contact the Committee at 4 South Frederick Street, 4th Floor, Baltimore, Maryland 21202. **If a bid is submitted by a joint venture (“JV”), then in that event, the document that established the JV shall be submitted with the bid for verification purposes.** The Prequalification Category required for bidding on this project is **G90132 Park Rehabilitation**. Cost Qualification Range for this work shall be **\$2,800,000.00 to \$3,400,000.00**. A Mandatory “Pre-Bidding Information” session will be conducted in a **HYBRID** fashion, both **in person and via Microsoft Teams at 10:30am EST on June 24, 2025**. Email your contact information to [Larissa.torres@baltimorecity.gov](mailto:Larissa.torres@baltimorecity.gov) to receive an invite to the Microsoft Team (video conference meeting) no later than **9:00pm EST, June 23, 2025**. Principle Items of work for this project are Demolition of existing retaining walls, stairs and walkways; tree removal; earthwork; storm water facilities; new athletic fields; landscaping; new concrete retaining walls, stairs and walkways; new water service and irrigation system, athletic field lighting. The MBE goal is **27%** and WBE goal is **10%**. **APPROVED: M. Celeste Amato, Clerk, Board of Estimates**



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