

Media Advisory

On Maryland Day, Comptroller to Honor Baltimore Businesses

Franchot to present four proclamations and help cut ribbon at new headquarters of Hispanic media group

WHO: Comptroller Peter Franchot

WHAT: In celebration of Maryland Day, Comptroller Peter Franchot will visit and present proclamations to four Baltimore-based businesses and their owners on Friday.

He will start at [Towson Hot Bagels](#) in Canton, which celebrates Maryland Day every year by making its unique red, yellow, black and white bagels to showcase state pride. Founded by the Scotto family in 1999, THB has grown over the years and now has six locations across the Baltimore region.

Next, the Comptroller will attend a ribbon-cutting ceremony and present a proclamation to the Palomino Media Group, headed by Pedro Palomino, celebrating their new headquarters. The Palomino Media Group publishes [Mundo Latino](#), an Hispanic newspaper, as well as an online publication, [Somos Baltimore Latino](#). Mr. Palomino, a former professional sports journalist in his native Peru, came to the United States more than 20 years ago, working a variety of jobs before returning to his media roots.

From there, Mr. Franchot will visit [Taqueria Vargas](#), a restaurant serving traditional Mexican staples owned by Jose Vargas and his family. The Comptroller will present a proclamation recognizing the family for all of its businesses: Vargas Bakery, which opened in Highlandtown in 2007, Taqueria Vargas, which opened in 2020 down the street from the bakery, and Vargas Restaurant and Bakery in Essex. The family will soon open a sports bar and restaurant called El Golazo, also located in Highlandtown. The Vargas family

are the main sponsors of the annual Independence Festival of Mexico and CentroAmerica in Baltimore, which draws more than 6,000 people.

The Comptroller's final stop will be at [2910 on the Square](#) in Canton, where he will present a proclamation to owner Stephanie Fleishman, who opened the business in 1999. The boutique features Maryland- and Baltimore-themed merchandise and a large selection of fun and stylish clothing, jewelry and gifts designed by local artisans.

Maryland Day is an official state holiday recognizing the anniversary of the March 25, 1634, landing of the first European settlers in Maryland at St. Clements Island in what is now St. Mary's County.

WHEN: **Friday, March 25, 2022**

| | | | |
|---------------|---------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| WHERE: | 11:15 a.m. | Noon | 1 p.m. |
| | Towson Hot Bagels | Palomino Media Group | Taqueria Vargas |
| | 3301 Boston St. | 900 S. Ellwood Ave. | 301 S. Highland Ave. |
| | Baltimore, MD 21224 | Baltimore, MD 21224 | Baltimore, MD 21224 |

1:30 p.m. 2910 on the Square, 2910 O'Donnell St., Baltimore, MD 21224

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