



## ROBERT G. CASSILLY

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Harford County Executive

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 14, 2023

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### **Chesapeake Bay Balloon Festival Canceled Due to Safety Concerns**

**BEL AIR, Md., (July 14, 2023)** - The Chesapeake Bay Balloon Festival, which was to be held August 4 - 6 on Harford County Parks & Recreation property at Cedar Lane Regional Park in Bel Air, has been canceled due to numerous unresolved safety concerns.

After extensive discussions with state and local law enforcement, the county department of emergency services, and other county and state agencies, Harford County government today notified the organizers, American Farm Foundation, that their submitted plans had insurmountable deficiencies that could not be corrected prior to the event. The county has directed the foundation to cease advertising the event and requested that refunds be given on ticket sales to date.

Harford County welcomes festivals and hosts many events throughout the year; however, Harford County government's primary responsibility is to ensure the safety of its citizens and visitors.

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