



County Executive Bob Cassilly eNewsletter

November 2024

This month we celebrate Veterans Day, Nov. 11, and Operation Green Light for Veterans from Nov. 4 - 11, to let our veterans know they are appreciated and supported. Harford County will be joining the effort by illuminating our county office building with green lights and hosting our annual veterans resource fair.

Please visit our [veterans' webpage for more events countywide](#) and see below for details on the fair.

With best wishes for a Happy Thanksgiving,

Bob Cassilly

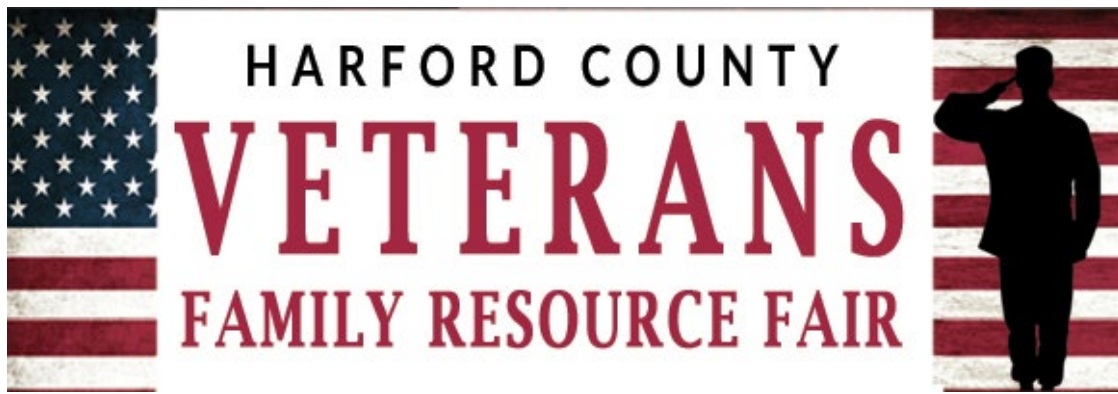
Harford County Executive

CountyExecutive@harfordcountymd.gov

410-638-3350

Featured Stories

- [Veterans Resource Fair Saturday, Nov. 9](#)
- [School safety update](#)
- [Harford County government earns clean audit for FY 2024](#)
- [Update: Harford's 1,200-Acre Oakington Peninsula Park System](#)
- [Economic Development Week celebrates local businesses](#)
- [Drug Take Back Day results](#)
- [Night of Conversation Nov. 13](#)
- [America Recycles Day Nov 16](#)
- ["Inside Harford County" - Country Life Farm](#)
- [Budget Matters: Watch 1-minute video](#)



Veterans Resource Fair Saturday, Nov. 9

Harford County will hold our annual resource fair for veterans, active-duty military, and their families from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. this Saturday, November 9 at the Bel Air Armory, 37 N. Main Street in Bel Air.

This free, annual fair is a one-stop event for information about veterans' healthcare, benefits, and other resources, including a guide to local businesses that offer discounts to veterans. Giveaways will include drawings for gift cards and two Ravens tickets courtesy of APGFCU. Lunch will be provided free of charge, catered by Mission BBQ. Face painting and balloon art will be available for kids. We hope to see you there!



School safety update

It is imperative that our students, teachers, and staff are safe in school. In response to recent violent crimes committed by Harford County students, I have been advocating for changes to state law that will allow schools to be informed when students may be a danger to others. In these cases, schools must also have the authority to take appropriate action. To address other security needs, my administration met last week with HCPS officials to discuss how we can help with funding as they consider their options and priorities. I will continue to collaborate with the school system and law enforcement to enhance school security because there is no higher priority.



Harford County government earns clean audit for FY 2024

Auditors from CliftonLarsonAllen LLP have issued a clean opinion on Harford County government's [financial report](#) for the fiscal year that ended on June 30, 2024. This is the highest possible opinion for accurate financial reporting from one of the nation's top accounting firms. Thanks to the outstanding work of my budget team, my administration's commitment to accuracy and transparency has once again been recognized by independent financial professionals.



Update: Harford's 1,200-Acre Oakington Peninsula Park System

Planning continues for our future system of interconnected county parks and trails on 1,200 acres on the Oakington Peninsula between Aberdeen and Havre de Grace. The beautiful property includes more than two miles of Chesapeake Bay waterfront and many natural and historic treasures. This summer we asked for your ideas and suggestions for the park system, and they are [now published on the county website](#). Our next step is to complete a map of different areas on the peninsula and potential uses for passive and active recreation. That map will be presented at the next community meeting planned for the spring.



Economic Development Week celebrates local businesses

This year for Harford County Economic Development Week, held from October 21 - 25, we visited 21 local businesses to offer support and celebrate their success. Fifteen of those companies were honored for milestone years of service (including 100 years for Highland Heights Farm!) and all were recognized for their commitment to our community. Other activities during the week included a manufacturers' showcase that brought in high school students to learn about exciting opportunities for well-paying careers. Harford County is home to so many businesses doing amazing work. [Click here](#) to connect with our Department of Economic Development and see photos of the week's activities.



Drug Take Back Day results

Thanks to everyone who dropped off unwanted medication for safe disposal at last month's Drug Take Back Day. We collected 838 pounds of prescription drugs for safe disposal, bringing our total for the year to nearly 3,000 pounds. Since 2013, in cooperation with the federal Drug Enforcement Agency, Harford County has collected 49,381 pounds of potentially harmful substances to keep them from hurting someone or damaging our environment.



Night of Conversation Nov. 13

Wednesday, November 13, is a night when we encourage Harford County parents to have dinner-table conversations with their children about the dangers of drugs and alcohol. Our annual Night of Conversation for children in pre-school through high school is also an opportunity to help kids practice refusal skills and make plans to escape difficult situations. Look for resources and age-appropriate conversation starters on the [Harford Talks website](#). Together we can help local kids stay safe and drug free.



America Recycles Day Nov 16

This year Harford County will celebrate America Recycles Day with an event to raise awareness about recycling items rather than throwing them away. Bring in unwanted furniture and even pumpkins for recycling at this event for all ages, featuring giveaways and drawings, Myrtle the Recycling Turtle, and food trucks with proceeds to benefit Darlington/Dublin VFW Post 10146. Join us from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, November 16 at Poplar Grove Park, 3519 Conowingo Road in Street. Call 410-638-3417 or email wdoring@menv.com for more information.



“Inside Harford County” - Country Life Farm

This month on “Inside Harford County,” we’ll explore the world of Thoroughbred horse racing and breeding on a visit to Country Life Farm in Bel Air. Josh Pons, co-owner of the farm, will also join me and our host, Mark Vernarelli, in-studio to talk about the history and the future of this vital Maryland industry. “Inside Harford County” is [HarfordTV's](#) half-hour community affairs program airing at 7 p.m. on Wednesdays on Armstrong channel 7 & HD101, Comcast channel 31 & HD1084, & Verizon channel 31.

Are you willing to pay
25% more in taxes?

Budget Matters: Watch 1-minute video

Want more?

Get more updates, photos & event information from Harford County Government:

Like us on [Facebook](#), follow us on [Twitter](#) or check out our Instagram [Harford_County_Government](#)



Got Feedback?

citizensaffairs@harfordcountymd.gov