



December 2016



The holidays are a joyful time to count our many blessings. Among my blessings I count the opportunity to serve as county executive in a community that cares for our neighbors in need.

Thanks to your generosity, my administration's "Socktober October" and "No Shave November" donation drives will benefit veterans and those experiencing homelessness this winter.

As you gather with family and friends for the holidays, I hope you are blessed by the true spirit of the season. My family and I wish you a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, and peace in the New Year.

Barry Glassman
County Executive

Featured Stories:

- [Harford Gem](#)
- [Saving History](#)
- [Anti-Heroin PSA Contest](#)
- [Route 40 Corridor](#)
- [Green Infrastructure](#)
- [Edgewood After-School](#)
- [Happy Holidays](#)



Harford gem: Ma & Pa Trail connection secured!

For nearly two decades, Harford County government has strived to unite the two sections that make up the popular Ma & Pa Heritage Trail. I am pleased to announce that my administration, in partnership with the Town of Bel Air, recently secured the last piece of property needed to make the connection. Once completed, the nearly eight mile trail will be one of the finest rail-trails in Maryland, taking travelers between Fallston and Forest Hill by way of Bel Air's vibrant downtown area. Planning is underway to break ground on the project in two years. Click on the image above for brief video about the trail connection.



Saving Harford County History

When one of Harford County's oldest homes was faced with demolition, my administration came to the rescue by disassembling the structure located in Bel Air and later reassembling it on county-owned property in Street. The historic Joesting-Gorsuch House, named for two of its previous owners, was rededicated in November. We have also directed funds to stabilize the Mt. Soma Barn and prevent collapse of this historic structure. Both projects reflect the county's agricultural roots and I am proud to preserve them for our next generation. Do you know of a historic preservation project worthy of recognition? Nominations are now open for our Historic Preservation Awards [here](#).

Anti-heroin video contest for Harford County teens & pre-teens

Harford County kids ages 11 to 18: How would you keep your friends from abusing drugs? Local youth are invited to enter our video competition by creating a 30-second public service announcement about the dangers of substance abuse. Sponsored by our Office of Drug Control Policy, the contest will create a library of peer-to-peer messages, which are particularly effective in reaching this age group. Contest winners will earn Visa gift cards and a chance to have their video shown in local movie theaters. Email odcp@harfordcountymd.gov for more information.



Harford County Prevention and Awareness Video Competition

KIDS AGES 11-18

How would YOU keep your friends from using drugs?

Cash Prizes

- 1st Place Winner: \$500
- 2nd Place Winner: \$250
- 3rd Place Winner: \$100

Your PSA could be shown at local movie theaters!

Final PSAs due Friday, April 7, 2017

Create a 30-second public service announcement (PSA) video to help raise awareness about the dangers of substance abuse.

For contest rules visit www.harfordcountymd.gov/services

In partnership with:

- APGFCU
- HARFORD COUNTY
- Public Health

Office of Drug Control Policy
Harford County Department of Community Services
www.harfordcountymd.gov/services 410.638.3388



Incentivizing improvements on the Route 40 corridor

To encourage high quality residential projects on the Route 40 corridor, my administration is proposing a new Magnolia Neighborhood Overlay District located within the development envelope. The new district incentivizes projects that create a sense of community through superior design, incorporating elements of the new urbanism such as walkability, connectivity, a mix of uses, and a range of housing types. This overlay district is an implementation of the goals we established in HarfordNEXT; a copy of the necessary legislation to create the district can be found [here](#).

Green infrastructure; green energy

Protecting the natural environment is essential to our quality of life. Working with community stakeholders, our Department of Planning and Zoning, in cooperation with the American Planning Association, has created a Green Infrastructure Vision plan for the Gunpowder River watershed in Harford County. Green infrastructure involves streams, wetlands and trees in an interconnected network of green spaces that protects natural ecosystems and supports clean air and water. A copy of the plan is available [here](#). To facilitate green energy projects in the private sector, our clean energy loan program will become effective in January. The legislation, approved by the County Council, can be found [here](#).



Edgewood after-school program restored

The Edgewood after-school program, previously run by nonprofits and closed down last year, has since been restored with funding made available by my administration. This valuable program for kids in grades 1- 8 costs only \$5 for the school year and meets daily after school at the Edgewood Recreation and Community Center. Transportation and meals are provided in partnership with Harford County public schools. For more information about this program run by Harford County Parks & Recreation, please call 410-612-1606 or email hfvass@harfordcountymd.gov.



Our holiday video for 2016, including a special guest...

Want more?

Get more updates, photos & event information. Like Harford County Government on [Facebook](#). Follow us on [Twitter](#) @HarfordCountyMD. Check out our new Instagram account: [Harford_County_Government_](#)



  

Email: FYI@harfordcountymd.gov

Maryland's New Center of Opportunity!