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**INAUGURATION ADDRESS**  
**December 4, 2006**

**Billy Boniface - Council President**

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In 1972 the citizens of Harford County recognized the need to create an Executive Branch of Government that could effectively carry out the day to day business of managing the County. The Council was given the responsibility of evaluating the actions of the Executive, listening to the people, and creating legislation that would keep the County on the right track. The Executive and Legislative Branches may serve different functions, but have the same goals and objectives. While much has changed in Harford County since the Charter form of government was enacted, there has never been a greater need of a cooperative and team approach between the Executive and Council than now. The Master Plan of 2004 has laid the course. It created a vision for the future of Harford County. BRAC has only accelerated the urgency of implementing the plan. If we do not accomplish this than inaction will lead to failure. A little over a year ago I lost my grandfather Bill Boniface at the age of 89. This event had a profound impact on me because it was the first time I lost a love one who on a daily basis played an important role in my life. It's fitting that I mention him today. It was on this very ground he spent many years of his childhood growing up on what was once one of the finest horse farms in the country before eventually becoming Harford Community College. Pop had many words of wisdom for me. My favorite phrase that has always stayed with me is that "People earn respect not by the wealth they manage to accumulate, but by what they do with the two most valuable possessions that each of us, regardless of where we come from, has control over, our Time and our Word. This Council represents the diversity of this County like no other. Each of us has chosen to take TIME away from our families and businesses to try and make a difference in all of our lives. We ask that you take TIME to not only recognize the challenges but work with us to find the solutions. By taking this oath today we have given you our WORD that we will work with the Executive, our State Delegation, and the people to find common ground that ensures a quality of life for all who choose to call Harford County home