



July 2019



The upcoming July 4th holiday is also a reminder of Harford County's role in our nation's history. Similar to the Declaration of Independence, but signed a year earlier in Harford County, the [Bush Declaration of 1775](#) drew support from citizens willing to risk their "lives and fortunes" for the cause of freedom.

As we celebrate our freedom this fourth of July, I hope you have a safe and happy holiday. And remember to stop by our Harford County tent at the Farm Fair, Monday, July 22 – Saturday, July 27!

Barry Glassman
County Executive

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Teacher salaries rise an average of 5% effective July 1

Last week I was pleased to sign documentation certifying that the county's FY 2020 budget provides Harford County Public Schools with \$10.7 million to raise teacher salaries, an amount that qualified the school system to receive an additional state "Kirwan" grant. As a result of the increased county funds, supplemented by the grant, all HCPS classroom teachers will receive an average salary increase of 5% at the start of the upcoming school year. Without a sufficient increase in the county budget, HCPS would have been ineligible for this grant. In addition, all teachers will be caught up by May 2020 on the salary step increases they missed prior to my administration. [Click here to learn more.](#)



Talking to your kids about drugs & mental wellness

Just in time for summer, my administration has launched "Harford Talks," a multi-media campaign encouraging families to talk openly about mental health issues and the dangers of drugs and alcohol. The next time you're driving with the kids, look for our billboards, which are designed to be conversation-starters. You'll also find our [PSA](#) running in local movie theaters this summer and an exciting prize contest for young fans at IronBirds' games. For more resources, visit our new [Harford Talks website](#) to help keep Harford County kids safe and drug-free.



Got conflict? Mediation offers peaceful solutions

Community mediation is a free service offered by our Department of Community Services to help citizens solve problems and resolve conflicts peacefully, without the time and expense of court proceedings. Mediation can help family members, neighbors, co-workers, landlords, students, and tenants. Mediation can be scheduled quickly, usually within 10 business days, with specially trained mediators who help participants come to an agreement and avoid future conflict. For more information, including how to become a trained volunteer mediator, [visit the county website](#) or call 410-638-4807.

Second Chance Job Fair - Seeking employers

Nearly one-third of working age Americans have a criminal record, according to a 2017 study from New York University. To give individuals who have made mistakes a second chance, my administration is partnering with Susquehanna Workforce Network, the Harford County Sheriff's Office, the Harford County Health Department, Harford County Bar Foundation, and numerous other community partners to present the Second Chance Job and Resource Fair on September 26 in Edgewood. In addition to connecting ex-offenders with life-changing opportunities, participating employers may be eligible for tax credits. To learn more about becoming a second chance employer, [click here](#).

Second Annual Harford County
SECOND CHANCE
Job & Resource Fair

Thursday, Sept. 26, 2019
9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
EPICENTER 1918 Pulaski Hwy, Edgewood

ATTENDEES REGISTER TODAY!
harfordcountymd.gov/SecondChance | sefisher@harfordcountymd.gov



Harford Streams Poker Run

Back by popular demand, my administration will host a "poker run" on Saturday, July 20 as part of Harford Streams Summer Adventure 2019. This award-winning program is open to citizens of all ages and raises awareness and support for protecting our local waterways. Poker run participants take selfies and collect playing cards from an attendant at designated stream locations to earn a free T-shirt and be eligible for other exciting prizes. [Harford County's poker run](#) is presented in partnership with the nonprofit Visit Harford, the county's destination tourism marketing organization.

Water safety tips for summer

According to the American Red Cross, nearly 70 percent of young children who drown were not expected to be near water. Our Department of Emergency Services reminds you to secure your pool with necessary barriers and always designate a water watcher around young children. For children and adults alike, remember that swimming in open water brings more potential hazards than swimming in a pool; you should never swim alone, and always wear a life jacket while boating. [Find more tips here](#) for a safe summer in the water.





iCanBike camp

Remember the thrill of your first bike ride? Last week's iCanBike summer camp offered children with differing abilities a chance to learn how to ride a bike - and the joy was contagious! Congratulations to all the campers and thanks to our many dedicated volunteers.

Want more?

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Maryland's New Center of Opportunity!