

County Executive Bob Cassilly eNewsletter

June 2025

As a U.S. Army veteran, I'm especially excited about this month's events celebrating the Army's 250th birthday. In partnership with our veterans' commission and other veterans' organizations, Aberdeen Proving Ground and others, we've planned activities for all ages to mark this special occasion. Please join us as we honor the men and women who have kept us safe and free for 250 years.

Details are below along with the latest news from my administration.

Go Army!

Bob Cassilly

Harford County Executive

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County Executive Holds the Line on Spending Despite Push from County Council

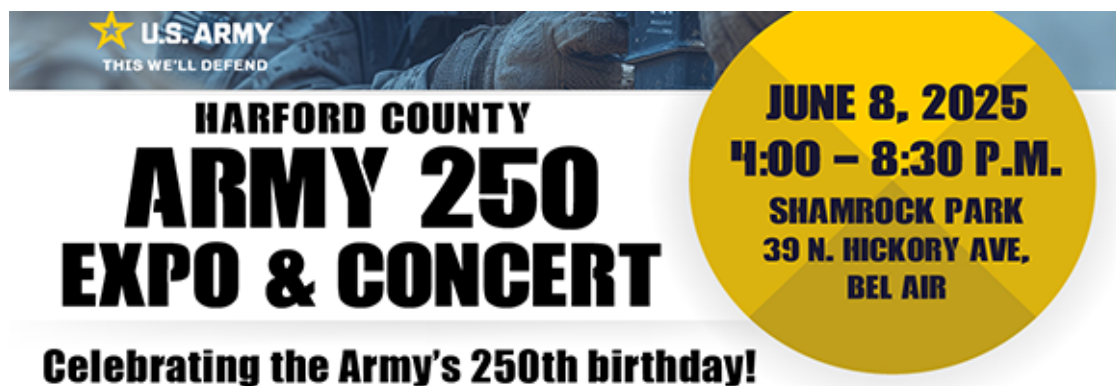
Last night, the council president and a majority of council members voted to enact reckless cuts to county services in an effort to force me to increase overall spending in the FY26 budget. Under the county charter, the council has no authority to increase spending on their own. As a result, the council made harmful cuts to critical services in an effort to force me to increase spending by more than a million dollars on outside agencies, like the State's Attorney, Sheriff's Office and Community College. Outside agencies already comprise 76% of county spending and have already received an increase of \$40 million in the upcoming budget. In last night's council meeting, the council president said these harmful cuts would go away if I reappropriate \$1 million to those agencies. Harford County will not be coerced. I will continue to do the right thing and remain on a path of fiscal accountability to meet the needs of our citizens.

In the week since the council first demanded these amendments, I explained to each council member, in writing, why this additional spending was unnecessary and that it would come at the expense of essential county functions. I urged the council to pass my budget as proposed, which is balanced and meets our needs without raising taxes.

The council's actions last night, in carrying through with their threats, reduced 50% of funds set aside to purchase land to address highway congestion, traffic safety issues, and county-wide school crowding. The school overcrowding is caused largely by the council's prior decisions to fast-track new residential development that converted agricultural land to high density residential.

The council majority also made reckless cuts to the budget for cybersecurity, putting taxpayers' sensitive personal information at risk. Additionally, they cut funds to the County law office that are used to protect the county from lawsuits. At the same time, the Council increased their own spending on lawyers by 200%, totaling an outrageous \$800k. Through these actions, the council has unnecessarily risked county operations in an effort to force increased funding in their desired areas without my approval.

While I am deeply disappointed by the council's actions, I will continue to hold the line on excessive spending of taxpayer money to ensure that government lives within our taxpayers' means.

The poster features a blue header with the U.S. Army logo and the slogan "THIS WE'LL DEFEND". Below this, the text "HARFORD COUNTY" is in a smaller font, followed by "ARMY 250 EXPO & CONCERT" in large, bold, black letters. To the right, a yellow circular graphic contains the date "JUNE 8, 2025", the time "4:00 - 8:30 P.M.", and the location "SHAMROCK PARK 39 N. HICKORY AVE, BEL AIR". At the bottom, the text "Celebrating the Army's 250th birthday!" is written in a bold, black font.

U.S. ARMY
THIS WE'LL DEFEND

HARFORD COUNTY
ARMY 250
EXPO & CONCERT

JUNE 8, 2025
4:00 - 8:30 P.M.
SHAMROCK PARK
39 N. HICKORY AVE,
BEL AIR

Celebrating the Army's 250th birthday!

Army 250 Expo & Concert June 8

Join our celebration of the U.S. Army's 250th birthday on Sunday, June 8, at Shamrock Park in Bel Air. Beginning at 4 p.m., this free event will feature interactive military equipment and vehicle displays, kids' activities, and food trucks. A helicopter flyover by the Maryland National Guard, guest speakers, and an enlistment ceremony for new Army recruits are scheduled for 6 p.m. Enjoy a concert featuring patriotic music by the Susquehanna Symphony Orchestra beginning at 7 p.m. Bring your lawn seating for the concert - and bring the whole family. Go Army!



Army 250 Dinner Dance June 14

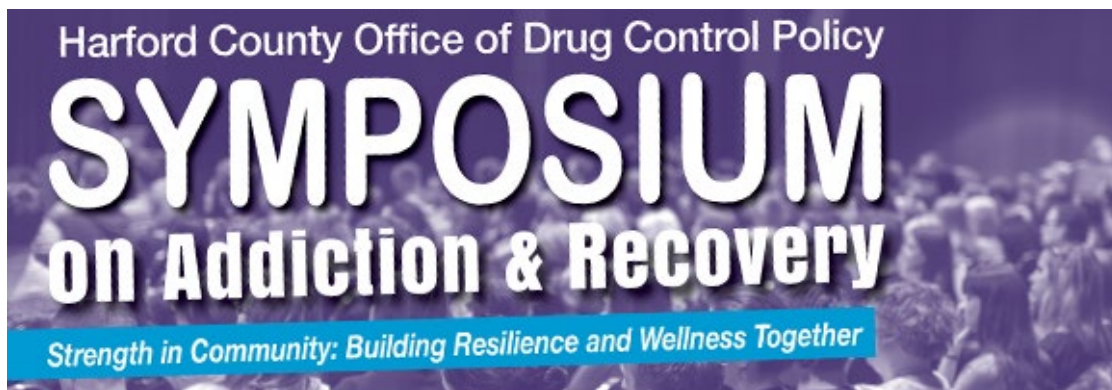
Celebrate the Army's actual birthday Saturday, June 14, with dinner and dancing at American Legion Post 39 in Bel Air beginning at 6:30 p.m. The buffet-style dinner will include pit turkey, beef and ham, beer, wine, and non-alcoholic drinks. Cocktails will also be available for purchase. A DJ will provide entertainment including patriotic music and dance tunes from the 50s and 60s. Attire is business casual; uniforms are welcome. Tickets are \$25 per person. Space is limited for this event sponsored by Harford County Government, in partnership with Post 39. [Army 250 dinner dance tickets can be purchased online.](#)

Additional Army 250 events planned by Aberdeen Proving Ground are listed on APG's website at [APG Army 250th Birthday: U.S. Army Aberdeen Proving Ground.](#)



Southern County Taskforce public meeting June 23

Improving the quality of life for residents and businesses in the Rt. 40 corridor is the focus of my administration's Southern County Taskforce. More than just talk, our partnership, among government, community organizations and individuals, is producing real results including neighborhood cleanups, better street lighting, and road improvements. Get updates and share your views from 6 - 8 p.m. on Thursday, June 23 at the Edgewood Recreation Center. We hope to see you there!



Registration open for Harford Symposium on Addiction & Recovery

Harford County is not immune to the scourge of addiction affecting families throughout our nation. But help is available, and recovery is possible. Learn more by [registering for our popular symposium on addiction and recovery](#), including workshops on drugs and the elderly, first responder perspectives, relapse prevention, and more. The symposium will be held from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Friday, September 12 at Mountain Christian Church, 1802 Mountain Road in Joppa.



Bike camp volunteers needed June 23 - 27

Volunteers are still needed for Harford County's summer camp for people with differing abilities to learn and experience the thrill of bike riding. Volunteer spotters assist instructors and serve each rider on a specially adapted bike; no experience is necessary. I especially encourage high school and college students to consider volunteering for this joyful and uplifting program. Our eighth annual bike camp will be held Monday, June 23, through Friday, June 27 at the Churchville Recreation Center, Level Building, 3023 Level Road. [Click here to register as a bike camp volunteer.](#)



Dump the Pump Day – Ride free on Harford Transit LINK buses June 18

National Dump the Pump Day encourages commuters to save money on gas and reduce the impact on our environment by using public transportation to get where they need to be. In Harford County, join in by taking a ride for free on Harford Transit LINK buses all day on Wednesday, June 18 (fixed route service only). We're also hiring skilled bus drivers. For more information including routes and schedules, [visit our Harford LINK webpage](#).



Prepare for Hurricane Season

We know that Harford doesn't often get hit by a hurricane - by the time it reaches us, it's usually been downgraded to a tropical storm or a heavy rain with gusting wind, which can still flood roads and knock down trees and power lines. The beginning of the 2025 hurricane season, which runs June 1 - Nov. 30, is a good time to prepare for these storms. Assemble a disaster supply kit and have an evacuation plan, then be sure to gas up vehicles and charge your electronics when storms are predicted. [Visit the county website for details on what to do before, during and after a storm](#).



WATCH HarfordTV's "Inside Harford County" - Economic Development

Please join me and Karen Holt, Harford County's economic development director, along with host, Mark Vernarelli, this month on "Inside Harford County." Learn what we're doing to help businesses thrive and bring well-paying jobs to our communities. "Inside Harford County" is [HarfordTV's](#) half-hour community affairs program airing on Wednesdays throughout the month on Armstrong channel 7 & HD 101, Comcast channel 31 & HD 1084, and Verizon channel 31.



Fun things to do in Harford County

The new [Hello Harford website](#) and [Facebook page](#) are your best guide to farmers' markets, breweries, restaurants, and exciting events in Harford County. Bookmark these sites and discover - or re-discover – all the fun you can have in our own backyard.

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_](#)



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