



**Southern County Taskforce eNewsletter**

**November 2025**

*Dear Community Members,*

*Thank you for your continued interest in the Southern County Taskforce. Remember, our new communications specialist, Maxwell Service, is available to community members who have questions, concerns, or good news to share. You can reach Maxwell via email at [msservice@harfordcountymd.gov](mailto:msservice@harfordcountymd.gov).*

*Please see below for other updates as my administration continues to align governmental and private resources to address the specific needs and tremendous potential of southern Harford County.*

*Very truly yours,*

**Bob Cassilly**

Harford County Executive

[CountyExecutive@harfordcountymd.gov](mailto:CountyExecutive@harfordcountymd.gov)

410-638-3350

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## **Brighter Roads Ahead: Harford County Upgrading Streetlights**

Harford County recently secured a \$400,000 federal grant to replace approximately 500 older streetlights with new, brighter, and more energy-efficient LED bulbs. For neighborhoods in our southern county region, these LED lights will improve public safety and visibility at night. This project will begin in early 2026 and will save taxpayer money by cutting down on the county's electric and maintenance bills. [Read more](#)

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## **New Funds Boost High School Tech Apprenticeships**

Harford County Public Schools recently secured over \$117,000 to expand its high-school IT and cybersecurity apprenticeships. This funding directly supports high-tech programs like the P-TECH (Pathways in Technology Early College High School) program at Joppatowne High School which immerses students in both college coursework and work-based learning, allowing them to gain experience, earn a salary, and receive high school credit while preparing for top careers in Maryland's technology sector. For more information on Harford County magnet programs, [Click here](#)

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# Fresh Start FURNISHINGS

## **Aberdeen Nonprofit Provides Free Furniture to Those in Need**

Fresh Start Furnishings is located in Aberdeen and provides FREE furniture and home goods for those in need. This nonprofit's philosophy is to help clients turn an empty house into a home and create a welcoming space to experience emotional wellbeing and rest. Over 74% of Fresh Start's clients are local families, children and veterans in communities along the Route 40 corridor. For eligibility requirements, to apply for assistance or to donate, visit [Here](#)

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## **US 40 Highway in Edgewood is Getting a \$950k Upgrade**

Resurfacing and improvements are coming to US Route 40 (Pulaski Highway) and will encompass the section of road between MD 152 and MD 24 in Edgewood. This \$950,000 State Highway Administration project has already started and will run through mid-November. Drivers should expect periodic single-lane closures and plan for delays on weekdays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and overnight Sunday through Thursday from 8 p.m. to 5 a.m.

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## **Joppatowne High School Educator Earns National Teaching Excellence Award**

Teacher Erica Richardson of Joppatowne High School has been named the Maryland recipient of the National Education Association (NEA) Foundation Travelers Award for Teaching Excellence for 2026. The award is given for excellence in the classroom, leadership as a teacher, community engagement and commitment to expanding opportunities for all through public education. Richardson credits her success to the strong support system from the Joppatowne community, her family, and the school's leadership, saying, "It's a hands-on, team effort." She is one of just 48 educators in the U.S. to receive this national honor.



## **BangTam Miller Earns Double Honor for Selfless Service to Edgewood**

BangTam Miller of Edgewood has received recognition for commitment and service to her community. In October, she received the Harford's Most Beautiful Ripple Effect Award for her selfless volunteer efforts in community outreach, restoration, neighborhood cleanup events and the creation the 755 Alliance. Miller was also nominated for The Baltimore



Sun's 25 Women to Watch 2025 in advocacy, business, and health, highlighting her broad impact in the county. This double recognition celebrates her commitment to Edgewood and Harford County. See more about BangTam Miller in [Harford's Most Beautiful People](#) or in the [Baltimore Sun article](#).

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### **Joppetowne Winterfest Dec. 13**

The Joppetowne 2nd Annual Winterfest will be held on Saturday, December 13, 2025, at Mariner Point Park, 1000 Kearney Drive in Joppa. This successful holiday celebration will feature food, local vendors, fun activities, and pictures with Santa and is sponsored by the Joppetowne Recreation Council. Come out and celebrate the season! For more information, contact [jtownereccouncil@gmail.com](mailto:jtownereccouncil@gmail.com).

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**Go to [www.aberdeenmainstreet.org/blog](http://www.aberdeenmainstreet.org/blog)**



### **Aberdeen to Host**

### **48th Annual Christmas Street Parade Dec. 6**

Aberdeen Main Street is gearing up for their annual Christmas Street Parade starting at 3 p.m. on Saturday, December 6. This year's theme is "A Griswold Christmas." The parade



will be at Aberdeen Middle School on Mt. Royal Avenue and proceed left onto W. Bel Air Avenue. For information on how to be a part of the parade and to see more holiday happenings, visit [www.aberdeenmainstreet.org/blog](http://www.aberdeenmainstreet.org/blog).

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## **Cunion Field in Edgewood Receives New Field Lighting**

Cunion Field in Edgewood recently received an upgrade of portable lights to help light up the field at nighttime for the Edgewood Recreation Council activities including the Rams football and cheer and soccer recreation program. This upgrade allows players and coaches to practice safely at night, improving access for young athletes and encouraging mentoring relationships. The rental of these lights was funded from a grant through the Community Reinvestment and Repair Fund (CRRF) in support of youth programs and to improve the quality of life in priority areas like Edgewood.

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## **Construction Underway on New Access Road to Copperplex Athletic Facility in Edgewood**

Harford County has begun construction on a new connector road in Edgewood that will



reduce congestion on neighborhood streets and improve access to the Copperplex athletic facility on Cedar Drive. Once completed, Ivanhoe Street will directly connect Cedar Drive to Willoughby Beach Road. The \$1.26 million project is expected to be completed by summer of 2026.

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## **Community Coach and Advocate Tyrone McKisset Adopts Local Court**

Tyrone McKisset, former Edgewood High School basketball player and current coach has officially adopted his neighborhood basketball court located on Brookside Drive in Edgewood, ensuring that the court will be kept clean and remain a positive gathering place. McKisset is known as an entrepreneur and for his advocacy in his community and annual "2 Legit 2 Miss" basketball tournament.

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## **What's your good story?**

Do you have a good story to share about events, good works, or community activities in

southern Harford County? We want to hear from you! Send us a photo and brief description and we may feature your story in an upcoming newsletter. Contact the Southern County Taskforce office at (410) 638-3557 or email taskforce administrator Rob Wagner to help us shine a spotlight on you!

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# VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Ages 16+

- Fire/EMS
- Administrative Support



## HarfordVolunteer.com

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# HARFORD COUNTY

**Bob Cassilly, County Executive**

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