



Southern County Taskforce eNewsletter

December 2025

Dear Community Members,

As the holidays approach, I hope you can take time to celebrate with family and friends.

Please see below for our December news as my administration continues to align governmental and private resources to address the unique needs and tremendous potential of southern Harford County.

With best wishes for a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, and Happy New Year,

Bob Cassilly

Harford County Executive

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Bridge Drive Maintenance Work Completed in Joppatowne

Bridge Drive in Joppatowne, between Towne Center Drive and Shore Drive, was reopened to all through traffic on December 3, following completion of maintenance on the bridge over the Gunpowder River. The \$300,000 project included routine maintenance on the bridge piers. A short-term closure is scheduled for spring 2026 to allow for deck cleaning and additional routine maintenance and will take about 3-4 weeks depending on weather conditions. A map of all current and planned county road closures is on the county website at www.harfordcountymd.gov/1164/Road-Closures.



1,182 Fire Hydrants Reconditioned

Harford County is continuing its fire hydrant reconditioning program into the new year scheduling the final 366 hydrants to be sand blasted, primed and painted. To date, 1,182 of the existing 1,612 hydrants within the Southern County Taskforce area have been completed.



Aberdeen's Hall's Cross Roads Elementary Earns National Honor

Hall's Cross Roads Elementary has been named a 2025 National ESEA Distinguished School for exceptional growth making the school one of only two schools in Maryland to receive the award and one in less than 100 nationwide. The school was recognized as a 2025 Distinguished School for exceptional student performance and academic growth, specifically in reading. Halls Cross Roads has boosted its Maryland Star Rating from 2 Stars in 2022 to 4 Stars in 2024, maintaining a strong performance in 2025. For more information visit [here](#).



Edgewood Christmas Tree Lighting Dec. 13

Enjoy an evening of holiday cheer at the Edgewood Christmas Tree lighting celebration from 6 – 8 p.m. on Friday, December 13 at the Harford County Sheriff's Office's southern precinct at 1305 Pulaski Highway. This FREE event will include Christmas carolers and hot cocoa courtesy of the Boys and Girls Club of Harford & Cecil Counties. Children can write letters to and take photos with Santa. The festivities will culminate in lighting the tree. For information and to reserve your spot, visit [here](#).

Homeschool 3V3 BASKETBALL LEAGUE



Register by Jan. 8 for Homeschool 3v3 Basketball League

Registration is now open for the Homeschool 3v3 Basketball League at Edgewood Recreation and Community Center, 1980 Brookside Drive. The league for ages 9 - 13 runs on Thursdays from January 15 to February 19, 2026, from 1 to 3 p.m. Registration is required and the cost is \$40 per child. Register at www.harfordcountymd.gov/parksrecreation.



Harford Pushes Back Against Environmental Threat to Joppatowne

Harford County Executive Bob Cassilly has strongly urged the Maryland Department of the Environment to deny a request by Days Cove Rubble Landfill to double its allowable discharge into the Gunpowder River from 12,500 to 25,000 gallons per day. This requested increase could significantly raise pollutant levels in the Gunpowder River, impacting Joppatowne, which relies on this waterway. To read the full press release and the county executive's letter to MDE, please visit [here](#).



Holy Spirit Catholic Church in Joppa Hosts Holiday Food Drive Dec. 21

Holy Spirit Catholic Church will be collecting donations of non-perishable food items to support local families in need from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Sunday, December 21 at 540 Joppa Farm Rd in Joppa. Donated items support the weekly Sharing Table Food Pantry and will ensure that no one goes hungry this Christmas. For information, visit [here](#).



Free Urban Line Dancing Classes on Mondays in Edgewood

Healthy Harford and Disco Sistas/Brothas invite you to FREE Urban Line Dancing every Monday at 7 p.m. at The EPICENTER, 1918 Pulaski Highway in Edgewood. All ages and skill levels are welcome! Bring the family and enjoy great music and movement. For information, visit the [Healthy Harford website](#).



New Upgrades at Joppatowne Wastewater Treatment Plant

Plans have been made to upgrade the Joppatowne Wastewater Treatment plant to ensure safe wastewater treatment in compliance with evolving environmental regulations. Air compressors and blowers used in the treatment process will be replaced and a new system will be installed to reuse water treated at the plant for its internal processes. These improvements will ensure reliability and increased efficiency for plant operation. Bids are currently being solicited, and work is expected to be completed in 13 months.



Edgewood Middle School Students Brighten Edgewater Village

Students from Edgewood Middle School's Willpower Unleashed group rolled up their sleeves on Friday, November 21 to improve the Edgewater Village Shopping Center. Entryway curbs were painted and trash was removed, creating a cleaner, more welcoming space for the community. Seventh-grader Landon said, "It's important for young people to invest in their community." Well said, Landon!



Sewer Line Upgrades on Brookside Drive in Edgewood

Sewer line rehabilitation has begun along Brookside Drive, with 1,150 feet of sewer line and 53 connections renewed or repaired to date. Harford County Department of Public Works is working with a contractor using a method called “lining,” in which repairs are made by inserting a flexible liner that is hardened with ultraviolet light. This method also minimizes disruption to roads, sidewalks and yards. The improvements are expected to increase the life of the system by 50 – 60 years and prevent costly repairs. Please obey “No Parking” signs and expect to see contractor equipment from Pleasants during several short periods throughout 2026.



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!



HARFORD

VOLUNTEER FIRE & EMS

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Ages 16+

- Fire/EMS
- Administrative Support





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HARFORD COUNTY

Bob Cassilly, County Executive

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