

County Councilman David Marks

Fifth District Newsletter



Message from Councilman Marks

Volume 187 | July 2026



Celebrating America's 250th Birthday

On July 4th, we will celebrate the 250th birthday of that great experiment in democracy known as the United States of America. I hope you will enjoy Independence Day with family and friends, but also reflect on the heritage and uniqueness of this country.

There are many local events that will celebrate on this milestone birthday:

- On July 3rd and 4th, enjoy the Star-Spangled 250 Independence Day concerts at Oregon Ridge Park with the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra. Baltimore County is a proud sponsor of these concerts, which feature patriotic favorites, American composers, and a fireworks finale following each performance. [Learn more here.](#)
- The Kingsville Independence Day Parade is a local favorite. Pre-parade music and celebration will commence at 9:30 a.m. on July 4th at the judges' viewing stand. The parade then proceeds from Bellvue Avenue promptly at 11 a.m., ending at St Paul's Lutheran Church near Chapman Road. This is a terrific celebration of small town America. [Learn more here.](#)
- The annual Middle River Fireworks Extravaganza will take place on Saturday, July 4, 2026, at 9:15 p.m. Hosted by the Marine Trades Association of Baltimore County, the display is shot from barges at Galloway Point. [Learn more here.](#)
- On [Sunday, July 5th, fireworks](#) will once again light up the sky over Kingsville! The fireworks celebration is organized by the Kingsville Volunteer Fire Company.

Baltimore County is also sponsoring other 250th events, [including a Passport that highlights cultural and historical places](#). Some sites are Camp Chapel United Methodist Church, Glenn L. Martin Maryland Aviation Museum, Marshy Point Nature Center, the Heritage Society of Essex and Middle River, the Jericho Covered Bridge, and the Perry Hall Mansion.

As one of the oldest counties in the United States, Baltimore County shares its heritage with our country's past. It's a time to reflect on where we have come from and where we may be going.

I hope you will enjoy Independence Day!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Marks".

Councilman David Marks

**Serving the Eastside:
Carney, Perry Hall,
Kingsville, White Marsh,
Chase, Bowleys Quarters,
and Middle River**

In this Issue

- ▶ **County Council and Executive Honor Reid Wiseman**
- ▶ **Middle River Concert Band to Perform on July 13**
- ▶ **Digital Speed Sign Planned for Joppa Road**
- ▶ **County Breaks Ground on New Essex Police Precinct**
- ▶ **Comment on Honeygo Traffic Options**
- ▶ **Celebrate Ten Years of the Angel Park Build**
- ▶ **New Playground Opens at Eastern Regional Park, Replacement Being Built at Kingsville**

Contact Our Office

Historic Courthouse
400 Washington Avenue
Towson, MD 21204
(410) 887-3384
council5@baltimorecountymd.gov

Follow Us Online

@countycouncilmandavidmarks

@david_s_marks



County Council and Executive Honor Reid Wiseman

At its meeting on June 1st, the Baltimore County Council honored Commander Reid Wiseman, the Baltimore County native who led the Artemis II space crew around the moon in April. Reid Wiseman joined virtually. Reid Wiseman is a graduate of Dulaney High School, and his father Bill Wiseman grew up in Kingsville.

The Council was joined by County Executive Kathy Klausmeier. Bill Wiseman was on hand in person to accept resolutions honoring this extraordinary achievement.

Middle River Concert Band to Perform on July 13th

Enjoy a free concert from the Middle River Concert Band on Monday, July 13th at 7 p.m. at the Bowleys Quarters Improvement Association (1124 Bowleys Quarters Road). The concert will be held rain or shine. Please bring your lawn chair and invite family and friends.

Digital Speed Sign Planned for Joppa Road

Councilman Marks is working with the Baltimore County Department of Public Works and Transportation to erect a digital speed sign on East Joppa Road west of Simms Avenue. This corridor is one of the most traveled routes in Baltimore County, but it is difficult to implement traffic calming that might be found in other communities. The sign will remind motorists of their speed, but not issue tickets.

County Breaks Ground on New Essex Police Precinct



On June 11th, the Baltimore County Police Department broke ground on a new Essex police precinct. This station will greatly enhance the work done by the precinct that provides support for Essex, Middle River, and parts of White Marsh. The 34,000 square foot facility will include updated holding cells, a secure entrance for transferring detainees, and a parking area for police vehicles that features a sally port for prisoner intake. Councilman Marks was pleased to deliver remarks.

Comment on Honeygo Traffic Options

The Baltimore County Department of Public Works and Transportation is finalizing a plan to improve safety along Honeygo Boulevard north of Joppa Road. There are three options:

Option 1

This would involve the construction of a roundabout at Honeygo Boulevard and Cross Road. Councilman Marks secured funding in the budget four years ago for this project, but that money can be reprogrammed for either of the other options. The traffic circle would be among the largest in Baltimore County.

Option 2

This option involves the construction of a signal at Honeygo Boulevard and Gunpowder Farm Road/Brockwell Lane with through and left turn restrictions at Honeygo Boulevard and Cross Road.

Option 3

The third option would allow for a traffic signal at Honeygo Boulevard and Cross Road, with through and left turn restrictions at Honeygo Boulevard and Gunpowder Farm Lane/Brockwell Lane.

[There is a detailed analysis at the project website.](#)

There is a clear need for some improvements in this corridor, which has experienced significant growth in traffic, particularly from Harford County. Crash data show at least 17 crashes occurred here between July 2020 and July 2025, most involving vehicles attempting to cross or turn left from Cross Road. The Baltimore County Police Department has confirmed that eliminating these movements should significantly improve safety for motorists.

On June 8th, the county held its fourth community meeting since 2023 to listen to residents about safety along this corridor. Now is the time for the public to weigh in on what they believe is the best choice. The department is expected to make a decision this summer.



Celebrate Ten Years of the Angel Park Build

Ten years ago, the Perry Hall community came together to build Angel Park, one of the largest civic efforts even undertaken in Baltimore County. Join the Angel Park committee, families, and neighbors for a weeklong celebration. [Learn more at the Angel Park Facebook page.](#)

New Playground Opens at Eastern Regional Park, Replacement Being Built at Kingsville

A new playground has opened at Eastern Regional Park in Middle River—and a replacement will be installed soon at Kingsville Park.

[To see renderings of the new Kingsville Park playground, visit here.](#)

Additional playground projects are expected in the Beldale Court area of Dunfield and Woodcroft Park in Carney.