



County Councilman Mike Ertel 6th District Newsletter



PROUDLY SERVING HILLENDALE, LOCH RAVEN VILLAGE,
MIDDLE RIVER, OVERLEA, PARKVILLE, ROSEDALE +
TOWSON

Happy Summer!

We had a tough Budget Deliberation this past spring as there has been uncertainty and real cuts to the county at the state and federal levels. We have to pass a balanced budget, live within our means and cannot run a deficit. That is tougher as costs are up everywhere. Contrary to popular belief, Baltimore County pays the same higher energy bills for county facilities, street lights, and schools that you endure in your households.

Another issue— back in 2009, the State of Maryland cut the gas tax money that it had previously shared with counties. Thus, Baltimore County lost about \$40 million in revenue that was used to pave county roads and maintain county bridges. When that money was cut, Baltimore County had to take money from other programs to pave our roads. **We currently spend about \$16 million a year on road resurfacing when we need to spend about 2 to 3 times that amount.** While I'm a fan of low taxes, we also need to find revenue sources to make sure our roads get the attention they need.

We are drafting a few different pieces of legislation including:

- A potential Ballot issue (referendum) on the way the county handles future Inspector General appointments.
- A bill that will create a Pilot Program to limit the percentage of rental properties in a neighborhood to 1/3 or less.

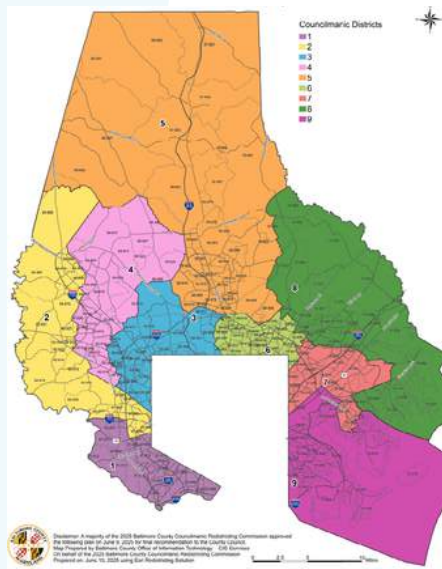
I'm also working with:

- The Planning Department and the Chesapeake Gateway of Commerce on some beautification and store front initiatives along Belair Road and Harford Road.
- A group of volunteers to resurrect a Parkville / Overlea Area Business Association and the Hillendale Neighborhood Association.

We are always looking for volunteers for Fireworks, Neighborhood Clean-Ups, youth mentoring projects and others – so if you are inclined, send me an email at mertel@baltimorecountymd.gov.

Thank you for allowing me to represent you.

- Mike



The Redistricting Commission

The 2025 Redistricting Commission submitted the proposed map on June 9th to the County Council and the final report on June 17th.

The Council held a Public Input Meeting on July 8th to receive feedback on the expansion of the County Council from 7 to 9 Districts and the Redistricting Commission's recommendations. We spent a lot of time listening to county residents and what they wish for the final district maps to look like.

The Council is required to submit the final redistricting bill and map by October 1st.

Patriotic Holidays

Fourth of July

On July 4th, I walked in the annual Towson Parade along Bosley, Allegheny, & Washington Avenues. It was a spirited celebration of our nation's birthday. I'm also still part of the team that runs and raises funds for the Towson 4th of July Fireworks at Loch Raven Academy & I help to financially support the Fullerton Fireworks.



Memorial Day Remembrance

I had a busy memorial Day weekend dedicated to honoring those that bravely served our country.

On May 24th, I supported Scout Troop 828 at Prospect Hill Cemetery in Towson. Then on May 25th, I celebrated with the Towson American Legion & Towson Elks at Wayside Cross. On May 26th, I attended a ceremony with the Parkville American Legion and Scout Troops 26 & 124.





New Park Upgrades

Investing in our
Neighborhoods



Baltimore County Rec & Parks held a Public Input meeting on June 11th, 2025 for proposed additions at **West Towson Park**.

The Department of Rec & Parks is seeking additional input on the following potential amenities:

- Parking • Benches • Pickleball Courts • Walking Path • Pollinator Garden • Bocce Court • Dog Park • Open Green Space • Exercise Equipment • Pergola • Pavilion(s) • Community Theater Stage

SMALL AREA PLAN 11 SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS!

Please take a few minutes to complete this online survey and share your input and feedback on the Area 11 recommendations!

**SURVEY LINK
& QR CODE:**

<https://tinyurl.com/zkxw4m5z>



Area 11
Subareas:
White Marsh,
Essex, Middle
River, Bowleys
Quarters, and
Rossville

Baltimore
County
Department of
Planning
planning@baltim
orecountymd.gov
410-887-3211

Small Area Plan

District 6 residents in the Rossville and Middle River area are encouraged to provide feedback to a Small Area Plan survey.

The Department of Planning is currently looking for feedback for Small Area Plan 11 (SAP11) for the Bowleys Quarters, Essex, Middle River, Rossville and White Marsh.

The Small Area Plans are intended to provide area-specific recommendations for achieving and refining the goals of the Master Plan by sectioning the County map into 12 areas, blended by neighborhood similarities.

Each SAP will engage citizens, stakeholders and county agencies to gather input on various aspects, including land use, zoning, pedestrian and road improvements and community design.

Supporting Our Students!

Pine Grove Middle Renovations

On May 21st, Pine Grove Middle School held a ribbon cutting for the completion of new building improvements. After three years of renovations, the school unveiled their upgraded facilities, including greater security measures and a redesigned library.



Student Support Network

On June 3rd, I attended a volunteer event at the Student Support Network's headquarters. It was a great turnout with community members, and state and local representatives who came to help pack food bags for families in need.



Little Free Library



On June 4th, I attended the ribbon cutting for the Little Free Library at Elmwood Elementary.



H.S. Graduations

On May 29th, I had the privilege of attending the graduation for Towson High at Secu Arena.

I'd also like to recognize all the high school graduates in my district including: Carver Center, Overlea, Parkville, & Towson.

A big congratulations to the Class of 2025!



Cleanups in District 6

We have cleaned up litter, graffiti and debris all over the District – if you see an area that needs attention – let us know!

Parkville Sign Powerwashing

On June 5th, my staff powerwashed the Parkville sign on Harford Road.



JOINS Cleanup



Together with the Baltimore County Towson Police Precinct and JOINS (Juvenile Offenders In Need of Supervision), we conducted a cleanup at the fields at the Loch Raven Recreational Center on July 1st. It was a hot morning, but everyone worked super hard to get the job done.

Carney Sign Powerwashing

On July 3rd, we teamed up with District 5 to powerwash the Carney Sign on Harford Road. Councilman Mark's office also invited some local youth volunteers to help us clean up trash and weeds near the sign.



Vacant Home Rehabilitation

On June 12th, my staff visited the home at 1659 Thetford after receiving a complaint about the home's unmaintained conditions. They collected large junk, trash, and mowed the lawn in the front and rear of the property.



Camp Bennett



central union
MISSION

CAMP BENNETT

CHRISTIAN MINISTRY CENTER

In Early July, we conducted another collaboration with Camp Bennett, a sleep away summer camp in Brookeville Md. My staff and I helped shuttle the middle schoolers from Nottingham MS & Parkville MS to the camp and back for the fun opportunity.

New Ridgeleigh Community Park

On July 17th, I attended the ribbon cutting for the Ridgeleigh Community Playground.

A big thanks to Barbara Lewis and the Ridgeleigh board for all of their efforts in getting the new playground for the neighborhood.



Paris Baguette

Paris Baguette is a new bakery that has opened at Towson Row, located at 4 E Towsontown Blvd Ste 108, Towson, MD 21204.

The new business held its grand opening on June 4th. It is the very first business for the owner, Raj. His general manager, Ms. T, loves baking and is excited for the new business to grow as one of the three Paris Baguettes currently in all of Maryland.



Upcoming Events in District 6

Towson Farmers Market

The Towson Farmers Market brings organic, locally grown foods and hand crafted products to the Towson community.

The 2025 season will be open Thursdays from **June 5 – November 20, 2025** on Allegheny Avenue.

When: **10:30am – 2:30pm**

Towson Fireworks

The Towson Fireworks Foundation is still accepting donations to offset the costs (about \$1500) from the fireworks show this past July 4th. Donations can be given by checks payable to TCA and write “Fireworks” in the memo line and mail to Towson Communities Alliance, P.O. Box 5421, Towson, MD 21285-5421 or pay via Paypal/credit card at <https://towsonfireworks.com/>



Overlea Community Association *Overlea Farmers Market* 2025



June 7
June 21
July 5
July 19
Aug 2
Aug 16
Aug 30
Sept 13
Sept 27
Oct 11
Oct 25

8:30–12:30

NEW LOCATION: St. James Evangelical Lutheran Church
8 W Overlea Avenue, 21206
facebook.com/overleafarmersmarket

Contact Us:

Historic Courthouse
400 Washington Avenue
Towson, MD 21204
(410) 887-3388

council6@baltimorecountymd.gov

Screen on the Green is a free summer movie series held for residents and visitors of all ages at parks throughout Baltimore County. Pre-movie activities—which begin at 6 p.m.—may include yard games, dancing and arts and crafts. Movies begin at 7 p.m., and participants are encouraged to bring along blankets or chairs and snacks.

Screen on the Green



Saturday, July 26
Sonic 3
Dundalk Heritage Park

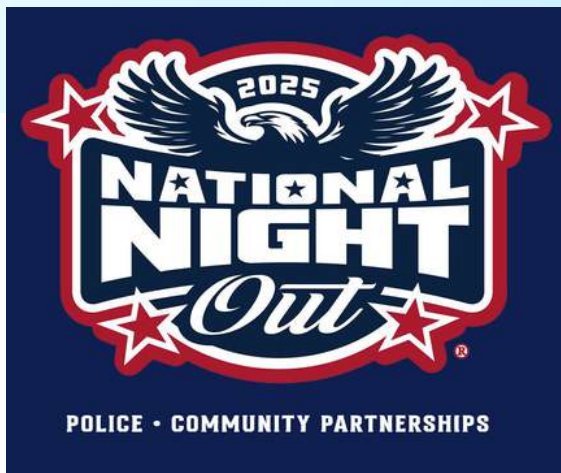
Sunday, August 10
The Wild Robot
Holt Park and Center for the Arts in Overlea Fullerton

Saturday, September 6
Coco
Holt Park and Center for the Arts in Overlea Fullerton

Saturday, September 13
Inside Out 2
at the Essex Day Festival

Friday, September 19
Mufasa
Red House Run Elementary in Rosedale

Saturday, September 20
50 First Dates
Fullerton Community Center



National Night Out

The Baltimore County Police Department will participate in the 42nd year of National Night Out on Tuesday, August 5th, 2025. This annual community-building event promotes police-community partnerships and allows neighbors and law enforcement members to come together.

When: **Tuesday, August 5th**

Where: **Various neighborhoods across Baltimore County**

For more information, visit:

<https://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/departments/police/news/baltimore-county-police-prepare-national-night-out-2025>



Feet on the Street

First Fridays are still on in Towson! This summer music series features talented musical artists, new vendors, food, drinks, and more.

When: **6:30-9:30pm**

Dates: **August 1st, September 5th**

Where: **Pennsylvania Ave. between York Rd. and Washington Ave. Towson, MD, 21204**

Adelaide Bentley Park

Garden Work Days

9 - 11 AM, 3RD SATURDAYS*

APRIL 19TH
MAY 17TH
JUNE 28TH
JULY 19TH
AUGUST 16TH
SEPTEMBER 20TH
OCTOBER 18TH

Join Northeast Towson Improvement Association, the Wiltondale Garden Club, and NeighborSpace for garden maintenance and invasive removal.

438 E Pennsylvania Ave,
Towson, MD 21286
Street parking on Pennsylvania Ave



*Subject to change or substitution due to weather or extreme heat.



BCRP Community & Craft Fair

Baltimore County Rec & Parks invites local artists, crafters, and makers to set up a table at their monthly craft fair.

Register on the Rec & parks' Civic Rec page to showcase your talents and unique creations to a wide audience!

When: **12-4pm**

Dates: **Sunday, August 10th, & September 14th**

Where: **Rosedale RAC
5103 Hazelwood Ave
Rosedale, MD 21206**

Black Business Fair

Shop local during Black Business Month. Celebrate entrepreneurship and community at this special after-hours market featuring local black-owned businesses.

When: **Friday, August 15, 4:00-7:00pm**

Where: **Towson Branch Public Library**