

Harford Hub Newsletter



JOHN BARCZAK
REALTOR
♦
FALL 2026

Your source for news and events in the county.



Ma & Pa Trail, Bel Air, MD

Fall Fun Around Harford County

Fall is one of the best times of year to get out and explore everything Harford County has to offer. Here are a few local favorites to check out:

- Farms
 - [Lohr's Orchard](#) (Churchville): A local staple for apples, baked goods, and seasonal treats
 - [Weber's Cider Mill Farm](#) (Parkville area): Apple picking, fresh cider, and family activities
 - [Larriland Farm](#) (nearby in Howard County): Pick-your-own apples, pumpkins, and more
 - [Milburn Orchards](#) (Elkton): Pick-your-own apples, pumpkins, farm market, and bakery
 - [Cherry Crest Adventure Farm](#) (Ronks, PA): Corn maze, wagon rides, and farm attractions
- Corn mazes
 - [Beachmont Corn Maze](#) (Kingsville): 2026 theme is The Liberty Express; lots of activities
 - [Maize Quest Fun Park](#) (New Park, PA): Corn maze, bamboo maze, hay ride, slides, and more
 - [Corn Cob Acres](#) (Mountville, PA): Bounce house, peddle carts, jumping pillow, and more
- Local wineries & breweries
 - [Harford Vineyard](#) (Forest Hill): Sunday Fundays, candle workshops, car cruises, etc
 - [Boordy Vineyards](#) (Hydes): Saturday Soirees, Supper Club, tours and tastings
 - [Fiore Winery & Distillery](#) (Pylesville): Sunday Music in the Vineyard and Black Friday escape
 - [Hopkins Farm Brewery](#) (Havre de Grace): Live music, food trucks, and car shows
 - [Falling Branch Farm Brewery](#) (Street): Live music, food trucks, and trivia nights
 - [Double Groove Brewing](#) (Forest Hill): Live music, food trucks, and trivia nights

Whether it's a quick afternoon outing or a full weekend plan, fall in our area is hard to beat.



Small Business Spotlight: Homelands Market (Churchville)

Tucked along Churchville Road, Homelands Market is one of Harford County's newest small business gems. Opened in 2025, the market brings together fresh local farm products, vintage finds, and thoughtfully curated home décor—all inside a beautifully repurposed former bank building on Homelands Farm.

More than just a place to shop, it's designed as a community space, hosting workshops and events that bring people together. It's a great example of how small businesses continue to shape the character of our local communities.



Harford History – The Burning of Havre de Grace (1813)

During the War of 1812, Harford County found itself on the front lines of conflict. On May 3, 1813, British troops sailed up the Chesapeake Bay and attacked the town of Havre de Grace. After a brief but determined resistance from local militia, the British forces overtook the town.

What followed was one of the most destructive events in our county's history. Much of Havre de Grace was burned, including homes, businesses, and storehouses along the waterfront. One local figure, John O'Neill, became known for his stand against the British—refusing to surrender a cannon even when ordered to do so.



Despite the destruction, the town was eventually rebuilt, and today Havre de Grace stands as a reminder of the resilience of this community. It's hard to walk along the waterfront today without appreciating the history that took place right there.

While much of Havre de Grace was destroyed during the Burning of Havre de Grace in 1813, a small number of homes did survive. These remaining structures offer a rare and tangible connection to the town's earliest days. One notable example is the Aveilhe-Goldsborough House (300 North Union Avenue), which stands today as part of Havre de Grace's Lafayette Trail. Visitors and residents can explore the trail through a self-guided experience, with brochures available at the Havre de Grace Visitor Center.



Preparing Your Home for Fall & Winter

As temperatures start to drop, a little preparation now can save you time, money, and headaches later. Here are a few key things to take care of this fall:

- **Clean your gutters:** Falling leaves can quickly clog gutters, leading to water damage and ice issues later.
- **Service your HVAC system:** A fall tune-up helps ensure your furnace is ready when you need it.
- **Seal drafts:** Check windows and doors for air leaks and use weatherstripping or caulk where needed.
- **Inspect your roof:** Look for missing shingles or signs of wear before winter storms arrive.
- **Reverse ceiling fans:** Set them to spin clockwise to help circulate warm air.
- **Lawn care timing:** Early fall is the best time in Maryland to overseed and fertilize cool-season grass.

Taking care of these items now helps protect your home and keeps things running efficiently all winter long.



Important Dates & Things To Do

HCPS Dates for Fall 2026

31 Aug: 1st Day of School for 1-12
7 Sept: Schools Closed
21 Sept: Schools Closed
15 Oct: 3-hour Early Dismissal
16 Oct: Schools Closed
30 Oct: 3-hour Early Dismissal
2-3 Nov: Schools Closed
11 Nov: Schools Closed
25 Nov: 3-hour Early Dismissal
26-27 Nov: Schools Closed
23 Dec - 1 Jan: Schools Closed



Local Events for Fall 2026

27 Aug - 13 Sept: MD State Fair, Timonium
13 Sept: Bel Air Arts Festival; 9am-5pm
13 Sept: Belle Aire Market, Bel Air; 9am-2pm
19 Sept: Aberdeen Oktoberfest; Noon-6pm
25-27 Sept: MD Italian Festival, Ripken Stadium
3 Oct: Darlington Apple Festival, Darlington
9-10 Oct: MD State BBQ Bash, Bel Air
10 Oct: Fall Harvest Festival, Steppingstone Museum
17-18 Oct: HdG Art Show, Tydings Park, 10am-5pm
18 Oct: Belle Aire Market, Bel Air; 9am-2pm
24 Oct: Trick or Treating in Downtown Bel Air; 1-3pm
28 Nov: Belle Aire Holiday Market; 9am-Noon
5 Dec: Belle Aire Holiday Market; 9am-Noon
6 Dec: Bel Air Christmas Parade; 3:30-5pm
12 Dec: Belle Aire Holiday Market; 9am-Noon

Cut Your Own Christmas Tree: A Maryland Tradition

Looking for the perfect Christmas tree this holiday season? Harford County is home to several family-owned tree farms offering everything from choose-and-cut experiences to fresh-cut trees, wreaths, and holiday greenery. Popular local options include **Winterfarm** in Jarrettsville, **Jones Family Tree Farm** in Street, **Hickory Hill Tree Farm** in Street, **Hale Tree Farm** in White Hall, and **Jarrettsville Nurseries** Christmas Tree Farm. Many farms also offer wagon rides, fire pits, holiday decorations, and other festive activities for the whole family. For a complete list of local Christmas tree farms and seasonal hours, visit VisitHarford.com.

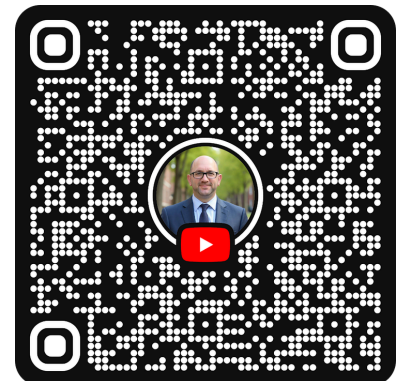


Every Transaction Gives Back

The Chesapeake Bay is one of Maryland's greatest treasures. To help support its future, I make a donation to the **Chesapeake Bay Foundation** for every real estate transaction I complete. It's one small way my business can give back to the community and environment that make our region such a special place to call home.

Real Estate Services Designed Around Your Needs

Selling a home is one of the biggest financial decisions most families will ever make, yet many homeowners have never been shown how the real estate industry actually works. That's why I recently launched my new 5-part **Smart Seller Consumer Advocacy Series** on YouTube. In these short videos, I pull back the curtain on common sales techniques, pricing strategies, listing agreements, and industry practices so homeowners can make informed decisions before hiring an agent. The series is just one part of my commitment to education first. Whether you're preparing to sell, buying your first home, considering a For Sale By Owner approach, exploring downsizing or 55+ communities, or simply trying to understand today's market—you'll find guides, market updates, and resources to help you move forward confidently. **Scan the QR code to watch the series and explore my library of free real estate resources.**



Where's John?



Can you identify this location?

✉ Email your answer by Sept 15 to john.m.barczak@gmail.com

🎉 One winner will be randomly selected from all correct entries to receive a **\$25 gift card** to this issue's featured small business,

Homelands Market.

No purchase necessary.

One entry per household.

Must be 18 or older.

Answer and winner to be announced in the next issue.

Harford County Real Estate Snapshot

Closed Sales: 305 homes were sold in June 2026, a 4% decrease from June 2025.

Median Sold Price: The median sale price in June 2026 was \$420,000, up 5% from the previous year.

Days on Market: Homes sold after a median of 7 days on the market, unchanged from June 2025.

Sale-to-List Price: Sellers received an average of 102% of their asking price, up slightly from 101% last year.

Current Inventory: 579 homes were actively for sale in mid-July, with 1.8 months of inventory, keeping our area firmly in a seller's market.

Market Snapshot: Harford County continues to favor sellers, although buyers have a few more opportunities than they did during the frenzied markets of recent years.

Curious what your home is worth—or what today's market means for you? Whether you're thinking of buying, selling, or simply curious about the current conditions, I'm here to help. Please don't hesitate to reach out to me with any real estate questions you have—I'm always happy to provide a personalized, no-obligation consultation.

Thank you for reading!

Know Someone Thinking of
BUYING OR SELLING?
I'D BE HONORED TO HELP.

NO PRESSURE. NO SALES TACTICS.
JUST CLEAR GUIDANCE.

If you're already working with an agent, please disregard.

Hello!

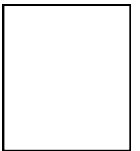
My goal with the **Harford Hub** is simple:

Create something that's actually worth pulling out of the mailbox.

I hope you enjoy this issue!

- John

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