



## Baltimore County Announces War of 1812 Bicentennial Advisory Committee

Towson, MD (June 22, 2010) Baltimore County Executive **Jim Smith** today announced the formation of a **Baltimore County War of 1812 Bicentennial Advisory Committee**. The committee will work to educate, engage, and celebrate Baltimore County's War of 1812 heritage during Maryland's statewide bicentennial celebration. The committee is chaired by Francis Taylor of the North Point Peninsula Community Coordinating Council. Carolyn Mroz, President of Todd's Inheritance, will serve as vice chair.

"The people of Baltimore County continue to display extraordinary pride, creativity, and commitment when honoring our nation's heritage," said Baltimore County Executive **Jim Smith**. "The County's central role in the War of 1812 offers an opportunity to celebrate that heritage."

The Bicentennial Advisory Committee, which serves as a subcommittee of the Baltimore County Conference and Tourism Advisory Committee, includes members who are historians and historic preservationists, educators and researchers, citizens developing water, bike, and trail pathways, community leaders, and planners involved with County and State infrastructure.

"We look forward to partnering with the National Park Service, Maryland Bicentennial Commission, Baltimore City Heritage Area, and local stakeholders to create a memorable program that honors our heritage and showcases our pride in the Star Spangled Banner," stated **Francis Taylor**, chair of the Baltimore County advisory committee.

"The history of the North Point peninsula remains part of our daily lives. Residents and visitors hike the trails of North Point, sail along the shores of Fort Howard, and visit Battle Acre Park and Todd's Inheritance," said Baltimore County Council chair **John Olszewski, Sr.**

"The War of 1812 Bicentennial Celebration is an opportunity for the entire state to share our heritage. Visitors from across the country will come to Maryland to learn about our history and celebrate the American spirit," said Bill Pencek, executive director of the Maryland Star Spangled 200 Commission.

Members of the Baltimore County War of 1812 Bicentennial Advisory Committee are in the attached document.