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County Executive Leopold Announces War of 1812 Commemoration Event at Hancock's Resolution

Committee will develop program

Annapolis, MD (June 22, 2011) - County Executive John R. Leopold today announced that a special commemoration event will be held next year at Hancock's Resolution in Pasadena to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the War of 1812.

"Our County has many ties to the War of 1812, and Hancock's Resolution was a signal point to warn Baltimore of the approaching British fleet," County Executive Leopold said. "We are very excited to get started planning this event."

Historical records indicate that on August 24, 1812, the British spotted a schooner on Bodkin Creek that was possibly the famous Lion, known as a privateer vessel that was doing great damage to British ships. The crew saw the British coming, and removed the sails before abandoning ship and landing at Hancock's Resolution. Normally the British would have taken the vessel because it was very useful in navigating shallow waters, but with no sails they decided to burn the Lion. The wreckage has never been found.

Jim Morrison, President of the Friends of Hancock's Resolution, has agreed to serve on a committee appointed by County Executive Leopold established to plan the commemoration.

Other interesting historical links between the War of 1812 and Anne Arundel County:

- Francis Hancock, Commanding Officer of the 22nd Maryland Militia Regiment, was stationed along the shores of the Patapsco River and the Bay along the Bodkin Peninsula.
- Curtis Creek Furnace produced large quantities of pig iron used in the war effort.
- Isaac Mayo was a U.S. Naval Officer who received the Congressional Medal of Valor for his service.
- A skirmish broke out in October of 1814 between American and British soldiers at Tracy's Landing.
- The Maryland Gazette supported the anti-war pro-British federalists.