

# East County TIMES

September 9, 2010 • Volume 15, No. 48

Serving Essex, Middle River, Chase, Rosedale, White Marsh, Perry Hall, Edgemere & Dundalk

## Marylanders Descend Upon Ft. Howard for Re-enactment

- Article & photo by Sheri Booker -  
In honor of Defenders Day, the Dundalk-Patapsco Neck Historical Society and Museum sponsored the 5th annual 1814

Battle of North Point re-enactment at Fort Howard Park. The event drew hundreds of visitors from across the Mid-Atlantic, who came out to support the volunteer

effort and get a taste of living history.

While there were many activities and exhibitions taking place, the battle re-enactment was the main event. Soldiers lined up on each side to reenact the activities of that day in real time. The live cannon fire and artillery brought a new understanding to what truly took place when the Battle of North Point

was fought. "It was really loud, but really interesting. The cannons were the best part...the loading, the packing and the guy putting his hands over his ears before firing. It was historically accurate," said Debbie Henderson, who traveled from Silver Spring for the event.

In addition, various living-history displays and interpretative sessions were open to the public. The participants, who were dressed from that era, explained their roles and demonstrated the way of life from the 1812 era. Not only were soldiers dressed in uniform and full artillery, but women and children also played their roles. Many of the re-enactors came from other states to participate in the event. Not only are they experts in their role in the war but some of them even made their own outfits, including military uniforms. Nathan Johns was from the English 3rd regiment on foot and he traveled from New Jersey to participate in the re-enactment. "You have to learn the history to be able to answer questions."

For many community supporters,  
- see DEFENDERS, page 30 -



## DEFENDERS

- Continued from page 1 -

Defenders Day is a proud moment. "The object is to let people know the importance of the Battle of North Point," explained Harry Young, Chairman of the Defenders Day Committee. "It's bigger than the Edgemere/Ft. Howard 4th of July parade."

The Battle of North Point was fought on September 12, 1814. On September 11, 1814 about 5,000 British troops arrived off of what is now Ft. Howard. They had planned to attack Baltimore by sea after they had successfully attacked Washington, D.C. a few weeks earlier. A skirmish ensued which even-

tually caused the British to retreat and an end to the war.

Understanding the importance of the battle, the Historical Society revived the program about five years ago. Each year the program has continued to grow and expand, bringing in more volunteers, participants and spectators. This year there were over 200 volunteers on hand. There were also 21 museums on display including, The Flag House and Star-Spangled Banner Museum, Maryland Historical Society and the Irish Railroad Workers Museum. "The Historical Society will continue to do its part and hope that others will continue to cooperate in the future," said Young. In addition to

Defenders Day, the War of 1812 Baltimore County Advisory Committee will be bringing special events to Baltimore County as the bicentennial celebration of the War of 1812 nears in 2012-14.

