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HOWARD COUNTY TOURISM & PROMOTION
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Howard County, Merry-land Gets Festive with Signature Holiday Events for the Whole Family

Highlights include:
- **Midnight Madness in Old Ellicott City on Dec 2**
- **The Bollman Bridge Lighting in Historic Savage Mill on Dec 3**
- **Symphony of Lights, open for drive through traffic through Jan 1**

Conveniently located between Baltimore and Washington D.C., Howard County is the ideal holiday home base for someone looking for festive fun this December. Visitors of all ages can create new traditions and make great holiday memories at several signature events.

Old Ellicott City will host the 38th annual Midnight Madness Holiday Celebration on Friday, December 2. The event kicks off at 6 pm with the tree lighting in front of the Howard County Welcome Center. Shops and restaurants stay open until midnight! Other festivities include a tree lighting at 6 pm, strolling carolers and a visit from Santa.

On Saturday, December 3, Historic Savage Mill will host their annual lighting of the Bollman Truss Bridge from 6 - 7 pm. There will also be live entertainment and a visit from Santa.

Symphony of Lights has returned! The dazzling display of more than 100 larger-than-life animated and stationary holiday light creations have been delighting visitors for more than 20 years. Other new additions this year include a laser light show, 3-D holiday video (projected 50 feet high at Merriweather Post Pavilion) and an outdoor ice skating rink. The drive through attraction is open through January 1.

"Howard County is a wonderful place to be during the holidays. From the Tree Lighting and Midnight Madness in Old EC to the Bollman Bridge lighting in Savage to the Symphony of Lights in Columbia, there are many opportunities to spend special time with family and friends," said County Executive Allan H. Kittleman. "Throughout the holiday season, you will find special activities celebrating traditions of many cultures and religions. We hope you'll be able to join us for some of these wonderful events."

Find more information at VisitHowardCounty.com/HoCo-Holidays.

Tweets

Old Ellicott City celebrates the 38th annual Midnight Madness on Fri, Dec 2!
https://ellicottcityholidays.com/holiday-events/midnight-madness/

Historic Savage Mill turns up the sparkle on Sat, Dec 3 with the annual Bollman Bridge Lighting!
http://www.savagemill.com/annual-bollman-bridge-lighting/

Symphony of Lights is back and brighter than ever for 2016! New displays, new attractions & ice skating!

http://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/howard_county_general_hospital/ways_give/howard_hospital_foundation/foundation_events/symphony_of_lights/

Tourism WORKS for HOWARD COUNTY, MD!
10,000 employed in County's Tourism industry (1 in 8 Nationally, 131,000 in Maryland)
35,000 visitors in Welcome Center (from 50 states, 18 countries, 3 territories)
$16M in tax receipts reinvested to maintain County's citizens' nationally recognized quality of life

Howard County Tourism & Promotion
Howard County Tourism & Promotion (501c6 not-for-profit) is recognized by Howard County Government and the Maryland Office of Tourism Development as the official Destination Marketing Organization for Howard County, Maryland and funded by a legislated 2% of the county hotel tax, allocated by Howard County Government. Howard County Tourism & Promotion's mission is to increase, develop and promote tourism in Howard County by featuring the county's unique location, sites, services, products and people. We are the first and foremost source of information on all that is wonderful about visiting and living in Howard County, Maryland.
www.VisitHowardCounty.com

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