

GTCC

The Greater Timonium Community Council

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9b West Ridgely Road, Box 276, Timonium Maryland 21093
[http:// www. gtccinc.org](http://www.gtccinc.org)

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+++++++ NEWSLETTER ++++++

President's Message:

Ballot Question C

Two years ago, the voters of Baltimore County approved the creation of a Charter Review Commission to examine the County's Charter every ten years and make recommendations about changes to the charter. On the ballot of November 6, Questions A thru F are the group of suggested changes from the Charter Review Commission. As an observer at many of these Commission meetings, I can tell you that most of the members of the Commission wanted to largely maintain the status quo. So most of the questions on the ballot are largely housekeeping amendments, such as changing the names of departments or correct obsolete Charter references. Time and again I heard citizens ask the Commission to make substantive changes to the way County government operates, but in almost all cases the Commission failed to incorporate these requests into a Charter amendment.

The one exception regarding changes is Ballot Question C. It may not appear to be a sweeping change, but Question C would incorporate an important change to how the County Council does business. Currently, the County Council has 40 days for a proposed bill to be introduced and then voted upon. If a bill does not pass within that timeframe, it is considered dead and cannot be enacted upon unless reintroduced. Because of this 40-day limitation, bills typically get discussed at a Council work session in around day 30 of the 40-day limitation, and the vote on a bill gets scheduled approximately one week after the work session. Such a schedule does not give the public very much time to disseminate news about a bill after the work session. Additionally, if amendments to a bill are introduced at the work session, the same problem about getting out information on the amendments would exist.

Question C would extend the time frame for consideration of a bill from 40 days to 65 days. Such an extension would give the public far more time to consider the ramifications of proposed legislation, as well as allow the public more time to lobby their Council representative about the impacts of legislation. I hope you will vote for Question C as an important tool for allowing more public input on proposed legislation.

Eric Rockel

Calendar of Events

1. November 10, 2018, The Fire Museum of Maryland at 1301 York Road (behind Heaver Plaza) will hold its “FIVE ALARM PARTY” from 6 PM until 10 PM. Enjoy food stations, an auction, live music and more. The event will support the museum’s capital campaign for exhibits, building maintenance etc. tickets: [www.mt.cm/ Five-Alarm Party](http://www.mt.cm/Five-Alarm-Party)
2. November 10, 2018, Ridgely Middle School Craft Fair and Silent Auction will take place from 10 AM until 4 PM. For more information see ridgelymiddlepta.com.
3. November 9-11, 2018, The Irish Charities of Maryland hosts the Irish Festival in the Cow Palace at the Timonium Fairgrounds
4. November 23-25, 2018, the Kennedy Krieger Institute hosts its “Festival of Trees” from 10 AM-9PM in the Exhibition Hall at the Timonium Fairgrounds
5. December 1 & 2, 2018, see the Train Show in the Exhibition Hall at the Timonium Fairgrounds from 10 AM until 4 PM.

County Approves Another Convenience Store

A Baltimore County Administrative Law Judge approved the construction of a Sheetz convenience store at the northwest corner of Beaver Dam Road and Padonia Road. This will mark the first Sheetz convenience store to be built in Baltimore County, and in addition to the sale of convenience items and food, the site will also sell gasoline.

Several citizens from Mays Chapel attended the hearing to express their concerns of traffic congestion along Padonia Road, but the County’s development regulations create a high bar regarding stopping development because of traffic. County regulations stipulate that unless an intersection is considered failing, level of service “F”, the County cannot prohibit development. The intersection of Padonia and Beaver Dam is considered a level of service “C”.

This convenience store is the second new one coming to Padonia Road. Several months ago, a Royal Farm Store, along with gasoline sales and a car wash, was approved at the intersection of Padonia and Broad Avenue.

Community Input Meeting for Development in West Timonium Heights

More than thirty residents turned out for the community input meeting concerning “Timonium Terrace,” a project to build an assisted living facility containing 124 beds. If approved, the three to four story building would be situated on land bounded by Broad Avenue on the west and Roosevelt Street on the south. The property to be developed does not have direct frontage onto York Road. So all access would be gained via Broad Avenue.

What the developer and its engineer showed the public at the community input meeting is known as a “concept plan,” meaning that details on the plan could change before a development plan is approved by Baltimore County. Under the County’s development regulations for residential development containing more than three dwelling units, the developer has up to one year to finalize the plan and submit a “development plan,” which will go before a public hearing and seek approval from the County before any construction can begin. The developer may, but is not required to, incorporate changes requested at the community input meeting into the plan.

Several residents at the meeting expressed concerns about the potential impacts of lighting for the parking lot associated with the project, as well as lighting from a three or four story building. At present the parking lot is proposed to contain forty-two parking spaces, which will serve largely staff and visitor parking needs. Since the average age of the assisted living residents is projected to be in the early 80s, the developer does not anticipate that the residents will bring their own cars to the facility. The engineer for the project indicated that a lighting plan will be submitted in the next phase of review; at which time the community could better evaluate the impacts of lighting. One or more neighbors who live on the south side of Roosevelt Street were concerned about additional traffic on that road, but the engineer for the project indicated that only emergency traffic would access Roosevelt Street from the facility. One final concern voiced was that a four story building would be out of character with other buildings in the neighborhood. No resolution was offered on that front, but it remains possible that the building will be three stories and not four. We will keep our readers informed as further events unfold.

Kaiser Permanente Coming to Timonium

Kaiser Permanente will be building a medical hub to service the north Baltimore area on Greenspring Drive in the next several years. Artist renderings of the proposed facility will be available at the next GTCC meeting, and we have invited the folks from Kaiser to attend our January meeting to provide a full description of the services that will be available at this medical hub.

Local Area Trivia:

1. What area in Cockeysville was once known for its cotton cloth manufacturing ?
2. Where was a large iron smelting furnace located ?
3. What connection does record setting NFL quarterback Drew Brees have to the area?

Answers located on the following page

November General Meeting

Please join us on November 14 for the next general meeting. Our featured speaker will be Chris West, who will talk about a bi-partisan approach to health care in Maryland. We will also hear from representatives of the State Highway Administration about the I-83 bridges over Padonia Road.

Tentative Agenda

1. Report on Public Safety from Precinct 7
2. State Highway Administration
3. Delegate Chris West, Featured Speaker: Health Care
4. Reaction to Community Input Meeting on Timonium Terrace
5. Observations about the Election
6. Old Business & New Business
7. Adjourn

Useful Telephone Numbers for Government Services

County Executive's Office- 410-887-2450	Third Dist. County Council- 410-887-3196
Animal Control- 410-8875961	Cockeysville Library- 410-887-7750
Police, Precinct 7- 410-887-1820	Emergencies, Police & Fire- 911
Code Enforcement- 410-887-8099	Permits, Approvals & Inspections- 410-887-3353
Zoning Review- 410-887-3391	Recreation & Parks- 410-887-3871
Highways, snow & maintenance- 410-887-3560	Water Main repairs- 41-396-5352

Upcoming Events at the Cockeyville Library

We are excited to host the first ever **Book Club Bash** at the Cockeyville Library on Saturday, November 17th from 1-4. Author **Elizabeth Berg** will be with us to talk about her new book, *Night of Miracles*, followed by book sales and signing. Librarians will share hot new titles for book club discussion, and book club members will advise on best practices to start a club and keep it running. Seating is limited to 100 people.

The Cockeyville Book Club will discuss **The Immortalists** by Chloe Benjamin on Monday, Nov. 26th at 7 PM. December's book will be **Pachinko** by Min Jin Lee.

On Monday, December 10th at 7 PM local sports writer **John Eisenberg** will discuss his new book **The League: How Five Rivals Created the NFL and Launched a Sports Empire**. Book sales and signing will follow.

Other upcoming programs for adults include Healthier Holiday Eating, Freedom from Smoking, Eastern Woodland Indians, and the history of Pretty Boy Dam.

We have many programs for children and teens in the coming months, including story times, Break Out Box, Coding Club, Build-A-Drone Workshop, Yoga, "Mixed Reactions" (beginning chemistry), Bad Art Night, and more. A featured program is Blue Sky Puppet Theater's show "If Pigs Could Fly," the ultimate reading readiness/multicultural show. Books from Latin America, Africa, Asia and the Middle East are shown in creative and wacky ways using four different styles of puppetry: shadow, toy, hand and rod. This presentation is scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 29th at 2 PM.

Do you have questions about downloading books, audiobooks, magazines or video streaming onto your phone or tablet? We invite you to visit or call our Information Desk to make a My Librarian appointment, or book a meeting with our eBook Helper on Mondays between 2 and 3.

Ask at our Information Desk (410-887-7750) for details on all upcoming events, or visit our web page at bcpl.info. All of us on the library staff thank you for your tremendous support, and wish you a very joyful holiday season, and a happy, healthy New Year!

Trivia Answers

1. The Warren Cotton Mill, now submerged under Loch Raven
2. The Ashland Iron Furnace was located next to the housing that still remains
3. Drew Brees' father, Chip, graduated from Dulaney H.S. in 1968

Protecting Your Identity

Recent large scale data breaches have many wondering if their identity is really safe in today's technological environment. In 2016, identity thieves stole \$16 billion from 15.4 million consumers.

There are steps you can take safeguard your information and protect yourself from identity theft.

- Shred any documents that have your full name and address before throwing them in the recycling bin or trash can. This includes envelopes, bank statements, bills, ATM receipts, and credit card/loan solicitations.
- Don't access accounts or make financial transactions – including purchases – using unsecured Wi-Fi (like at the coffee shop or airport).
- Create strong passwords, and change them often. Avoid using the same password on all your accounts.
- Avoid PINs derived from your birthday, address, or other easy-to-guess numbers.
- Use your hand to block the buttons when entering your pin.
- Be sure your anti-virus and other computer software are up-to-date.
- Look out for suspicious emails that request passwords or other personal information. Never click on a link or open an attachment if you aren't sure of the source.
- Don't overshare on social media, and make sure your privacy settings are at the highest level.

Monitor your credit and bank accounts regularly. Report any suspicious activity immediately.

Also monitor your credit report. You can get a free copy of your report from annualcreditreport.com.

Place a fraud alert or credit freeze on your credit reports, which makes it difficult for scammers to open new accounts in your name.

Reprinted from the SECU website

As the Holidays Approach

As the holidays approach, let us not forget those who are less fortunate than ourselves. Donations of food and clothing are always welcome at a variety of charity centers. In this area we have two excellent food banks nearby: Agape Christian Church, 100 East Timonium Road, and the Assistance Center of Towson Churches, 120 West Pennsylvania Avenue. Please consider making a donation to one or both of these organizations in the coming weeks. You can also support students in need with a donation as described below.



**THE STUDENT SUPPORT NETWORK FALL DRIVE FOR SCHOOLS
YOU CAN HELP OUR STUDENTS IN NEED!**

**DATES/DROP OFF TIMES: Friday, November 9th, 12 noon to 5 pm
Saturday, November 10th, 9 am to 3 pm**

**LOCATION: Fellowship Hall, St. Thomas' Episcopal Church,
1108 Providence Road, Towson, MD 21286 (right off I-695)**

VOLUNTEERS WILL BE COLLECTING AND SORTING DONATIONS FOR SCHOOLS COUNTYWIDE

Bedford Elementary; Campfield Early Learning Ctr; Dumbarton Middle; Judy Center (Campfield); Deer Park Elementary; Fullerton Elementary; Loch Raven High; Loch Raven Technical; Mays Chapel Elementary; McCormick Elementary; Oakleigh Elementary; Padonia Int. Elementary; Parkville High; Pine Grove Middle; Perry Hall Elementary; Pot Spring Elementary; Riverview Elementary; Warren Elementary; Woodmoor Elementary

Our Schools Have Requested the Following Items – Can You Donate:

Non-perishable food: Cereal bars, Granola and Protein bars (like Luna/Cliff, no nuts), boxes of tuna fish or chicken w/crackers, fruit in flip-top cans or fruit cups, small packets sunflower seeds or almonds (shelled), cheese crackers, belVita biscuits, 100% juice boxes; small individual packs of crackers, Goldfish, pretzels, Cheez It; Pop Tarts

School supplies: Backpacks, notebooks, composition books, notebook paper (college rule), graph paper, pens, pencils, pencil sharpeners, erasers, highlighters, folders, dividers, 4x6 index cards, gently used books for ages 5-11, reusable tote bags, reusable water bottles, umbrellas

Toiletries (new only please): (Medium or travel sizes, please) Deodorant (men's and women's), shampoo, lotion, sunscreen, body wash, Chap Stick, feminine care supplies (all kinds, especially pads), acne face wash, nail care kits, new brushes and combs, individual toothbrushes, toothpaste, regular and small size hand sanitizers, Band-Aids (travel packs); toiletry/dope kit bags (new or gently used only please)

Household Supplies: Paper towels (1 or 2-packs), toilet paper (individual or 4 packs), laundry soap (and pods), dish soap, Clorox wipes, sponges, boxes/packs of tissues, can openers, laundry detergent, including pods, trash bags

Linens: New or gently used twin and queen sheet sets, new/gently used clean towels, washcloths, blankets, new bed pillows

Clothing: New underwear and socks; girls' leggings/stretchy pants, all sizes; new/gently used coats, hats, gloves for K-12

***We are unable to accept any clothing other than that listed above due to a lack of storage space.**

Monetary Donations also welcome! We will have "runners" going to stores these days to purchase additional items requested by schools

Questions/Can you volunteer? Please contact Jan Bahner, jbahner.ssn@gmail.com

No time to shop? Let volunteers shop for you – we will have "runners" on these days to purchase items needed by schools with your monetary donation!

There will be no GTCC meeting in December. Enjoy the holidays. Our next meeting will be January 9, 2019.