

The Greater Timonium Community Council

Volume XI Issue IV

9b Ridgely Rd., Box 276, Timonium, Maryland 21093
<http://www.gtccinc.com>

September 2009

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***** NEWSLETTER *****

President's Message – Eric Rockel

The Price for Progress ???

Maybe I'm overreacting a bit, but it seems that the Maryland State Highway Administration has demonstrated rather poor management of its local highway projects lately. The most celebrated case involved a construction sign along I-83, north of Hunt Valley, which touted reconstruction work north to the "Pennsylvania" border. I'm sure that the sign resulted in quite a few chuckles from our Pennsylvania neighbors, and if that was the only misstep from the State Highway Administration, then this wouldn't be much of a story. But the adventures in good signage continued a little closer to home with another recent project.

In July and August the SHA replaced a bridge along Seminary Avenue between Valleyfield Road and Bellona Avenue. Traffic across the bridge was completely shut down for several weekends, and PR bulletins sent out by the State advised motorists to use Falls Road, Bellona Avenue and I-695 while Seminary Avenue was closed to through traffic. However, the signage along Seminary Avenue was the pathetic part of this story. At Seminary Avenue near York Road a sign declared that the road was closed approximately one mile west, and the sign advised motorists to follow the detours. Driving west from that sign there were several other signs advising that the road closure was approaching, but nowhere was there a detour sign to direct motorists to turn onto Bellona Avenue, Front Street or other roadways. The same problem existed west of the bridge project. Signs were up at Falls and Seminary advising motorists of the bridge closure, but signs were nonexistent at Thornton Road or Valleyfield Road advising drivers to turn north to avoid the closure.

After the first weekend of that fiasco, and five unreturned calls to State personnel, I finally spoke to Kelli Kosino of SHA. I apprised her of the missing signs directing drivers to turn before reaching the bridge closure, and her response was that at least a sign at Bellona Avenue was supposed to be up directing drivers to turn. Based upon that conversation, I assumed that the problem would be corrected by the second weekend. Unfortunately, my expectations never materialized on the second weekend or any weekend for that matter. Local motorists finally figured out how to navigate around the bridge closure, but if you were an out of town driver along Seminary Avenue, you got no help from the State Highway Administration.

While these signage fiascos are not a major indictment against SHA project management, the condition of York Road from the Beltway to Ridgely Road is a major problem. This road widening project started in the Fall of 2006 when the utility companies moved lines and poles. By the Spring of 2007 the construction in the roadway began, including the installation of new water lines, the road widening and new curb, gutter and sidewalks. The State advertised that it would take two construction seasons, early Spring to early Winter, to complete the project. Soon we will be near the end of the third construction season, and even then I doubt that the project will be finished. I don't know about you, but I'm tired of driving down a patched up road with more bumps and humps in it.

Originally the State had advertised that this entire project would not be all torn up at one time, but that is exactly what motorists face. Another example of this dragging on is what has taken place at Lutherville Laboratory Elementary School.

In the Summer of 2008 the State's contractor installed a storm water management pond on the school's ground, added additional parking at the school and redesigned the school's southern entrance. But at that time the contractor did not widen the road nor did he install the new curb, gutter and sidewalks.

Move forward one year to September 2009 and the road widening in front of the school is still not finished. In fact, the appearance looks more like a war zone instead of the front of an elementary school. The opening of the new school year was officially celebrated by opening ceremonies with School Superintendent Dr. Joe Harston and County Executive Jim Smith at Lutherville, and I wonder what these two leaders thought when they saw the construction mess in front of the school?

Yes, these aforementioned anecdotes are a sad commentary. Let's just hope that I'm not writing a similar article come Fall of 2010!!!

GTCC General Meeting – Wednesday, September , 9th, 2009

***** **PLEASE NOTE MEETING ROOM LOCATION CHANGE !** *****

The GTCC will hold their 'Next Meeting' on **Wednesday, September, 9th, 2009 at the St. Paul's Church Meeting Room, on 1609 Kurtz Ave. Lutherville, Md.** with *meetings STILL beginning promptly at 7:00 PM.*

Annual GTCC Membership Dues – Marge DiNardo

GTCC '2009' Membership dues of \$50 dollars for the year are due at this time. We had a great response from (51) Associations contributing their Annual Membership dues payment last year! Dues notices for 2009 have been mailed out this past week so if you haven't received one or if you need a copy, please don't hesitate to let us know. . So far, we have received (47) dues paying responses through September! Please send your 2009 dues payments to **GTCC, 9b Ridgely Rd., Box 276, Timonium, Maryland 21093.** Thanks to all our contributing Associations for all their dedicated support for the ongoing work of the Greater Timonium Community Counsel!

GTCC

The purpose of the GTCC is to coordinate a united council of Community Associations to enhance and protect the quality of residential life within the community.

NOTICE !!!

CALENDAR 2009

NOTICE !!!

***** **Meeting Schedule** *****

Board of Directors 7:00 pm – 9:00pm

General Membership 7:00 pm – 9pm

February 11, 2009
April 08, 2009
June 10, 2009
August – No Meeting
October 14, 2009
December 09, 2009

January 14, 2009
March 11, 2009
May 13, 2009
July – No Meeting
September 09, 2009
November 11, 2009

*All Meetings are **NOW** Scheduled at the "ST. PAUL'S CHURCH", on the DATES NOTED ABOVE !!!*

NOTE: GTCC Meeting Room Change - WE'RE MOVING !!!(See Map Below – Elsewhere on Page 8)

Due to the impending renovations and expansion at the Cockeysville Library, we will be unable to use the Meeting Room at the Library as our meeting site for the next year. The September meeting will take place at Spangler Hall on the grounds of **St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 1609 Kurtz Avenue in Lutherville**. Spangler Hall is the building on the southern end of the property, closest to Seminary Avenue.

Please continue to check our GTCC website, GTCCINC.ORG., for the locations of future meetings.

Agenda and Speakers - GTCC September 9th, Meeting - Tentative Schedule.....

1. Introductions
2. Report from the Cockeysville Police Precinct
3. Upcoming Events to Support Cures for Cancer
 - A. Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure- Oct. 18th at Hunt Valley
 - B. Maryland Half Marathon, benefiting the University of Maryland Marlene & Stewart Greenebaum Cancer Center-May 23, 2010 in Timonium
4. Mollie Fein, Head Librarian, Cockeysville- Update on the Library Renovations
5. Featured Speaker
6. Summer Zoning Activities:
 - 11311 McCormick Road- signage variance
 - 1904 Pot Spring Road- special exception for office use- authorization to represent GTCC
 - Anderson Automotive- site plan changes
 - Changes in the Planned Unit Development Regulations
7. Local legislation
8. Mass Transit Initiative- The Yellow Line

The Captain's Corner – Captain Martin Lurz

We have invited our Cockeysville Precinct "7" Commander, Captain Marty Lurz, to provide us with an article for our newsletter in the form of 'The Captain's Corner' on any issue(s) that he feels might be of interest to our membership. The following article this month is from Captain Lurz:

As the summer winds down, I wanted to take a few moments to send a few reminders and updates to help keep everyone safe during the upcoming months:

SCHOOLS

- School is back in session and that means there is an increase in pedestrians in neighborhoods in both the morning and afternoon hours. There is also a lot more activity in the area of school bus stops. Please check your speed and drive cautiously and carefully in these areas. *PLEASE* be aware of School Crossing Guards at certain intersections. They *do* have the authority to stop and direct traffic at their assigned intersections or crosswalks. Please make sure that your school-aged children cross the street at those locations. If a crossing guard is sick or otherwise unable to be at the assigned location, a Baltimore County Police Officer will be there to take the place of the school crossing guard. It is a violation of the Maryland Transportation Article to disobey the lawful direction of a School Crossing Guard. Violators could face fines of up to \$330.00 and one to three points on their driver's license, depending on the circumstances.
- While on the subject of school buses, Maryland requires that vehicles come to a full stop at least 20 feet in front of or 20 feet to the rear (depending on your direction of travel) of a school bus with its red lights flashing. This is a critical safety issue during the school year and state law sees it as such. There could be a \$570 fine and three points against the violator's driver's license. And, when the bus pulls away, why not wait another few seconds to make sure that no one is running after it because they missed it!

- One last school topic...the Baltimore County Police Department has vacancies for School Crossing Guards throughout the county. If you are interested in this part-time employment, please call the Traffic Resource Management Section at 410-887-7364.

POTENTIAL FRAUD AND SCAMS

- We've received notice that numerous people have received text messages on their cell phones that say there is a problem with their bank card or debit card. The messages ask the recipient to call a phone number to correct the "problem". DO NOT call that number. The intent of this scam is to get you to call back and provide your account number and possibly your PIN under the guise of "correcting the problem". Legitimate banks and credit card companies will NOT contact you in this manner. If you receive such a message, I would suggest that you contact the Security Section of the bank and make them aware of what occurred. BUT...use the actual phone number from the phone book or from the back of your credit card.
- The Security Office of BGE has informed us that they have received reports of attempted frauds and thefts in two bordering Maryland counties and also in the eastern section of Baltimore County. Apparently, a male subject wearing what appears to be a legitimate BGE "hardhat" and reflective vest knocks on the door and tells the homeowner that the account is delinquent and he will have to shut the power off if he does not receive immediate cash payment. This person does NOT carry a BGE ID card. *BGE does NOT collect delinquent payments in such a manner!* BGE has asked us to spread the word and, should this happen to you, to immediately call BGE at 410-685-0123 to report the incident. I would also ask that you call 911 first so that an officer can respond to the area to try to locate this person.

PERSONAL SAFETY

There have been several recent robberies that have occurred at ATM machines in Baltimore County. None of these have occurred in the Precinct 7 area. Here are some things that the police department and bank security officers suggest to prevent becoming a victim:

- Take a good look around the ATM before you use it. Is there anyone standing close by? Sitting in a car? Circling the parking lot? If you don't feel comfortable – be it day or night – don't use that ATM.
- At nighttime, if the ATM is not well lit, don't use that ATM.
- Be prepared to make your transaction as quickly as possible. Don't stand at the ATM and fill out paperwork.
- Stay alert and pay attention to your surroundings when using the machine.
- Don't stand at the ATM to count your money.
- Make sure you take your card with you and don't leave account paperwork at the ATM.

As in the past few years, I will keep you updated monthly through the GTCC Newsletter with crime information and crime prevention tips to help you keep your neighborhoods safe. My officers and I are so appreciative of the support that the GTCC provides to us. I look forward to continuing that relationship throughout the year.

The Librarian's Corner – Mollie Fein, Cockeyville Branch Manager

"Hello" from the Branch Manager at the Cockeyville Library.

Summer Highlights!

2009 was a record breaking summer! For instance:

- We had 3,570 registrants in the 2009 Summer Reading Club. Breaking Summer Reading Club attendance records that go back to the beginning of the SRC (1984). Runner-up year was 2004 with 3,427. Last year we had just over 2,500 SRC registrations.
- Fiscal 2009 is a record breaking year for circulation at the Cockeyville Library Branch
1,176,298 items circulated in the fiscal 2009 represents the highest circulation since we began compiling statistics.

Library Renovation and Expansion to begin in October

Change is in the air at the Cockeysville branch of the Baltimore County Public Library! In October, renovations begin that will continue into 2010. During this time, we'll move to a smaller space within the building and remain open during our usual hours: Monday through Thursday, 9:00 to 9:00; Friday and Saturday 9:00 to 5:30, and Sunday (October – April) 1:00 to 5:00.

Customers will still enjoy our services, just on a different scale. You'll have access to all materials owned by BCPL, while a limited selection of the latest and most popular material will be available at the branch. Reserved items can still be picked up and the 24 hour drop box will make it easy to return material. Public Internet access will be available, and librarians will answer questions in person or by phone.

During the renovation, you're encouraged to visit nearby full-service branches at Hereford, Towson, and Perry Hall. Mobile Library Services visits the Manor Shopping Center on Thursdays and Rosedale has Storyville, the interactive learning center for age's birth to age 5. Hereford and Towson will offer extra Baby Boosters and Preschool Storytimes throughout the renovation to accommodate our customers, and we are hoping to partner with nearby sites to offer limited programming as well. Of course, you can always visit us online 24/7 at www.bcpl.info

And what can you expect when the doors open on the "new and improved" Cockeysville Branch? A 100% expanded children's area, a designated teen area, additional public computers, group conference and quiet study rooms, and much more! We are excited about all of the changes coming to our library, but one thing will not change: the excellent customer service you can expect from our dedicated staff at BCPL. Thanks for your patience, and come visit us at "The Mini."

The Legislator's Corner – *Delegates Jon Cardin and Steve Lafferty*

We have also invited our State Representatives to provide us with an article for our newsletter in the form of 'The Legislator's Corner' on any issue(s) that they feel might be of interest to our membership. We rotate these requests through the Districts within GTCC. The following articles this month are from the 42nd & 11th Legislative Districts:

11th District – *Delegate Jon Cardin*

This summer, I have had the opportunity to attend events in our district and meet with constituents one on one. Listening to what you tell me helps shape my positions on issues for the next legislative session.

For example, I had the privilege of attending the Grand Opening of the new Randallstown Community Center. This state of the art facility should prove an anchor for the entire community and serve as a key piece of the revitalization of the Liberty Road corridor. Furthermore, working with my District 11 colleagues Bobby Zirkin, Dan Morhaim, and Dana Stein, I have been active in making certain that when the State sells the Rosewood property in Owings Mills, it does so in a manner that protects the best interests of the immediate neighbors and the community at large.

One of the "sweeter" summer happenings in the 11th was the Grand Opening of the new Gifford's Ice Cream & Candy Co. in Pikesville. It is always wonderful to celebrate new businesses opening in our community, and particularly so in these tough economic times. I also think that the ground breaking for the Baltimore County Center for Maryland Agriculture in Hunt Valley is a notable event. Agriculture is important for our environment as it maintains open space and produces food grown locally which can be consumed locally.

The economy and budget issues continue to be the biggest area of concern to people in our district, our state and our nation. Studying how other states are handling issues that are impacting Maryland is one way that I prepare myself to represent you in Annapolis. Towards this end, I attended the National Conference of State Legislatures. Elected officials from throughout the country gathered in Philadelphia to discuss a wide range of important topics impacting state government. Clearly the economy and how different states were coping with the financial situation was the dominant topic of the meeting. In fact, our colleagues from Pennsylvania and California were absent due to special legislative sessions to grapple with these states budget woes.

This was my first meeting as NCSL's Vice Chair of the Election Law Committee. I led a national discussion on Maryland's new Early Voting Law. Early voting improves our democracy by increasing the opportunity for citizens to participate in elections through enhancing the convenience of going to the polls and casting a ballot. I also participated in sessions on redistricting and the upcoming U.S. Census. The knowledge I gained at this conference will be valuable in my role as the Chair of the Election Law Subcommittee of the House of Delegates.

In the 2010 legislative session, please look to an agenda of election law issues that my committee will consider in advance of the coming elections. I also expect to revisit a number of my environmental and energy saving policies that will improve our quality of life in these fragile times in which we live.

42nd District – Delegate Steve Lafferty

Although the summer is winding down, the state government's challenges have not. This is due to the nearly \$800 million in cuts that the Governor has made because of declining revenues. First in July, and then at the end of August, the Governor and Board of Public Works laid off state workers, reduced funding for local government, health services, transportation, natural resources, the environment and higher education.

The recent \$478 million in cuts included furloughs of all employees employed in the Executive Branch and 205 people losing their jobs. Baltimore County's funding was reduced by more than \$23 million. And, all indications are that revenues will continue to decline and more cuts may be coming. At the same time, the State has maintained its AAA bond rating and is not in as bad a shape as many other states.

The legislative leadership has also directed that its employees have the same furloughs. As a legislator, my salary cannot be reduced or increased during my term. However, I have voluntarily agreed to have the State retain the equivalent of 8 days of my pay. This is approximately \$966. Similarly, I volunteered to have the State withhold 5 days of my pay in the last fiscal year.

But there is much else going on as well. Due to my legislative work to reduce Bay pollution, increase the oyster population and to make government more accountable for its Smart Growth policies, I was given the 2009 Legislative Champion award by the Chesapeake Bay Foundation. I was humbled to receive this award and to receive high scores from the environmental community.

I was also pleased that the County Council listened to my repeated request for the public being able to comment on speed cameras in school zones. I supported this public safety law so that the County can have another tool to slow down speeders near schools. So, those who drive more than 12 miles over the limit between 6 a.m. and 8 p.m. in selected school zones will get a \$40 citation. Warnings will be posted for drivers to slow them down. Hopefully, behaviors will change and no one will be cited!

And, lastly, kudos to the parents and supporters of Ridgley Middle School's for their efforts to get air conditioning. Sweltering rooms do not make good learning environments. Yet, neither the County nor School Board has taken the step necessary to get a chiller installed. I am proud to be a Friend of Ridgley and will continue to push for this needed change. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact me at 410-296-1699 or: Stephen.Lafferty@house.state.md.us.

NeighborSpace of Baltimore County, Inc. - Saving Open Spaces in Our Neighborhoods

NeighborSpace of Baltimore County, Inc. is a non-profit organization that acquires land for communities to enjoy forever as small parks, gardens, or natural areas. NeighborSpace will acquire a piece of land, either through purchase or donation, in exchange for a commitment by a local group to manage the parcel as community open space.

NeighborSpace focuses on open space needs in the County's older communities and growth areas - that is, inside the Urban-Rural Demarcation Line. NeighborSpace can acquire land outright, or it can obtain a "conservation easement" that enables the owner of the property to keep the land but places a permanent restriction on the use of the land. Landowners that donate land or easements to NeighborSpace may receive significant tax benefits. Michele Frome, the Land Trust Administrator for NeighborSpace, gave a presentation one of our GTCC meetings. If you are interested in preserving a piece of undeveloped land or learning more about NeighborSpace, please feel free to contact Michele Frome at 410-727-3245 or Michele.frome@verizon.net. For additional information: www.neighborspacebaltimorecounty.org

Membership & Annual Dues Report

The GTCC has always had a great representation from the many Associations that exist in our geographic area which encompasses about 25 perimeter miles. This area is roughly bound from Dulaney Valley Road & I-695 to Falls Road & I-695, then north on Falls Road to Shawn Road, then east over to York Road, then up Ashland / Papermill Roads to the Loch Raven Reservoir boundary then over to Old Bosley Road and then down Dulaney Valley Road to I-695.

Each year we have been fortunate to increase our participation with a growing number of Community Associations. We are pleased to report that the GTCC now has over 50+ active dues paying Associations within its umbrella that represents over 60,000+ residents within our thriving neighborhoods. It is through the hard work and participation by each member Community Group that helps to enhance and protect the quality of residential life within our area.

Please find a list of participating Community Associations below:

Belmont Forest Condos	Falls Road Comm.	Monterey Imp.	Springlake Comm.
Brooking Court Condos	First Mays Chapel HO	Orchard Hills Comm.	Stapleton Court Garden Condos
Burncourt Condo	Fox. Chapel Comm.	Pine Valley / Valleywood	Stratford Comm.
Chapel Hill	Holly Hall Garden Condos	Pot Spring Comm	Tullamore Condos
Chapel Gate HO 1-2-3	Hunt Meadow Comm.	Ramsgate Comm.	Valley Crest Civic
Chapel Gate 4-5-6	Huntridge Comm	Rockfleet Garden Condos	Valley Garth
Chapel Ridge Comm.	Kilcolman Garden Condos	Rosslare Ridge Condos.	Wakefield
Coachford Comm.	Lutherville Comm.	Shepherd's Knoll Garden Condos	West Timonium Heights
County Home Park Comm.	Northhampton Comm.	Sherwood Hill	York Manor
Dulaney Forest Comm.	Mays Chapel Village Garden Condos	Springdale Comm.	Yorkshire/Haverford Comm
Dulaney Valley	Mays Chapel Townhouse HomeOwrs	Limerick Condos	Longford
Jennifer Ridge	Overlook	Topfield Condo	Tralee Forest Condo
Roundwood Ridge I & III	Wellington Valley	Pebble Creek HO	Dunloy Condo
Longford North			

This & That – Regular and New Helpful Items

- **Balto.Co. Executive Updates** - The Office of the County Executive periodically has information to provide to community leaders. A number of community leaders have expressed a desire to receive this information in an email format. If you would like to receive these emails, please register using the following website:

<http://www.baltimorecountyonline.info/Subscribe/communitynews>

- **Balto.Co. E-Community Newsletter** - Baltimore County has unveiled a new County service, the E-Community Newsletter. The county will publish seven monthly letters, one for each County Council district, detailing planning, zoning, development and public works decisions and their impact on communities. The first issue will be published in mid-August. Residents can register for the newsletter at:

<http://www.baltimorecountyonline.info/subscribe/updates>.

You can find a weekly calendar of development- and zoning-related hearings and meetings for County:

Council District 3 at: http://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/MeetingsandEvents/pdm_d3.html

Council District 2 at: http://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/MeetingsandEvents/pdm_d2.html

Full Newsletter at: <http://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/Agencies/communityupdates/d3/060901d3.html>

Previous Editions at: <http://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/agencies/communityupdates/d3/index.html>

- **Baltimore County Public Library** – The Cockeysville Library is located at 9833 Greenside Drive adjacent to the Baltimore County Home Park. Library hours are Monday-Thursday 9-9; Friday and Saturday 9-5:30, and Sundays 1-5 (October-April). The library has 153,000 books, DVDs and videos, CDs, newspapers, magazines and more. Annual circulation is more than 1.1 million items. There are (19) computers available for the public that have Internet access and Microsoft Office for typing resumes and other documents. All programs are free and include drop-in story times for children, family puppet shows, computer courses and book discussions for adults. The BCPL website (www.bcpl.info) has magazine, newspaper, genealogy, literature and other databases for research and general information. Librarians welcome information requests and questions at 410-887-7750. Please..... Give them a call!

GTCC Trivia – Did You Know?

There is so much history and tradition here in both the *Greater GTCC and the Baltimore County* area that books could easily be written and filled with all the information. However, from time to time we will provide a source for the lighter side of our many Communities.

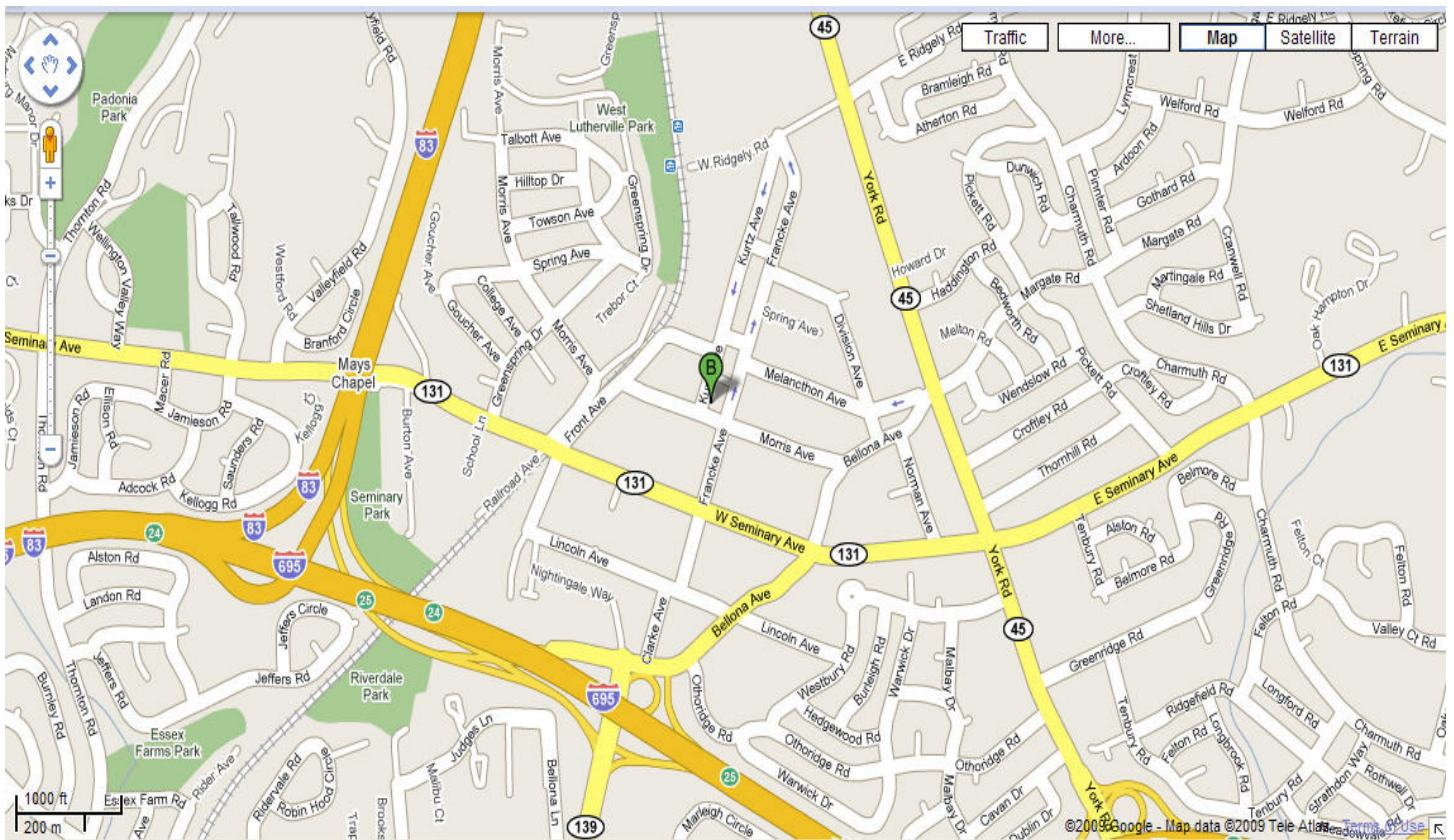
See if you know the answers to these few trivia factoids:

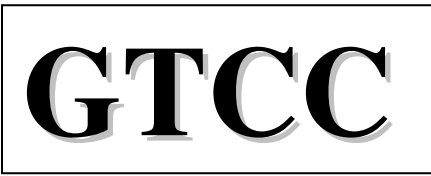
1. What railroad served Baltimore County from 1901-1958?
2. What Baltimore County based business began by selling "Iron Glue" (Sticks To Everything But the Buyer) and "Uncle Sam's Nerve and Bone Liniment" (For Man Or Beast)?
3. What present day institution of learning stands on part of an early estate called Northampton?

Please don't hesitate to send any of our Board members a trivia fact and we will try to include them in our next Newsletter.(See Answers Below)

1. The Maryland and Pennsylvania Railroad (Ma and Pa). Towson served as a major source of passengers. It carried coal into the Towson University. In Long Green Valley, it served the farmers who sent their milk to Baltimore.
2. McCormick and Company. The company was started in Baltimore in 1889 by 25 year old Willoughby M. McCormick. His products were sold door to door and his motto was "Make the Best--Someone Will Buy It."
3. Goucher College. In 1745, Charles Ridgely, a merchant, bought 1500 acres in the wilderness that lay north of Towson. He became an iron entrepreneur and established the Northampton Furnace. The site of this extremely successful enterprise lies under the Loch Raven Reservoir today.

NEXT GTCC Meeting Location: St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 1609 Kurtz Avenue in Lutherville





The Greater Timonium Community Council

The Next GTCC General Meeting is scheduled for September 9 at 7:00 PM at the St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 1609 Kurtz Avenue in Lutherville.

CURRENT ISSUES

Potin Stil Restaurant Zoning Variance Appeal – Zoning Case 02-165-A, 2323 York Rd, Variances to Parking Regulations as to number required, island sizes, aisle space dimensions. Zoning Commissioner granted all variances. GTCC filed an appeal with the Board of Appeals. Appeals Board reversed the Zoning Commissioner's order by a 2-1 vote. Petitioner made request for Judicial Review to Baltimore County Circuit Court. GTCC and Peoples Counsel of BC filed in opposition to request. Circuit Court Judge agreed with the Board of Appeals decision reversing the variances granted. Director of Permits and Development and Code Enforcement have not exercised the Circuit Court's order of July 5, 2005. Request, if granted by the County, for any future meeting to be held, to participate in settlement of this case. Engineer for the owners have requested a refinement to the development plan to correct this violation. Lou Miller attended the DRC meeting, and Baltimore County did not approve the DRC request. The matter is rightfully considered a zoning violation and not a development refinement. To date, the violations have not been corrected, and Baltimore County needs to enforce the zoning violations. The engineer's revised plan has been rejected by zoning officials of Baltimore County. As of the end of April revisions to the plan have not been received. Lou Miller is writing a letter to County Exec. Jim Smith asking him to intercede to require code compliance. (E. Rockel, L. Miller, and GTCC Executive Committee)

Hampton Inn & Suites: Hotel is proposed on lot 6 at Texas Station Court. The Development Review Committee approved that this project would not require Community Input Meeting and Hearing Officer's Hearing despite objection raised by GTCC. (E. Rockel)

Galloway Avenue and Texas Station: Recently the Development Review Committee postponed consideration of a decision to allow two-way traffic at the entrance from Galloway Avenue into Texas Station. Both GTCC and the County Home Park association questioned two-way traffic in light of the original development plan restrictions on the site. Before any change takes place, an assessment of the York Road and Galloway Avenue intersection should take place. (E. Rockel)

1131 McCormick Road: The owner has received a variance to construct signage larger than permitted under zoning regulations. In conjunction with the Sparks/Glencoe Association & People's Counsel, GTCC opposed the variance. The County Board of Appeals, in its public deliberation, gave indication that the variance would be denied, but in its written decision, the Board of Appeals upheld the variance. The People's Counsel has asked for a reconsideration of the ruling in light of the public deliberation comments. (E. Rockel)

1904 Pot Spring Road: The owner has appealed a prior Zoning Commissioner's decision, with restrictions, to allow a professional office in the dwelling at this location. The adjoining community associations wish to minimize any nonresidential intrusion into the residential community. (E. Rockel, Valley Crest C.A., Valley Garth C.A. and Dulaney Forest C.A.)

Anderson Automotive: Dealership wishes to reconfigure its site layout by establishing the Honda dealership on the current GMC site and moving the GMC trade to the Hummer site. The site at the corner of York & Halesworth would be sold for another usage. While not objecting to the reconfiguration, GTCC believes this proposal needs to be approved by the Hearing Officer, who approved the previous configuration as part of a Planned Unit Development process (E. Rockel & People's Counsel)

Aylesbury Road: Owner is proposing a mixed use project for the property on the north corner of Aylesbury Road and Business Park Drive. Residential, commercial and office uses are planned. This project may take until 2011 to receive County approvals. (E. Rockel)

ON-GOING ISSUES

Texas Station – Jacoby Properties sold property to Peter Angelos. Zoning changed in 2004 Comprehensive Zoning Cycle from ML-IM to BM (Business Major). GTCC continues to monitor this property. (E. Rockel, L. Miller, F. Regan, GTCC Executive Committee.)

York Rd. Widening, Seminar to Ridgely Rd. Most curb and gutter relocation and sidewalk work to Bellona Avenue will be completed by June 2009. Expect work from Bellona to Ridgely Road from Spring 2009 to Spring 2010. So far, the SHA is approximately one year behind the project completion estimate. (E. Rockel, GTCC Executive Committee)

Beaver Dam Swim Club Property – Development Concept Plan reviewed by GTCC. Plan calls for four (4) mid-rise residential buildings with fifty-five units per building, or eleven units per floor. Two hundred twenty (220) units, with below grade parking for 528 spaces. Plan would occupy ten of the twenty-six acres. No plans given for the remaining acres. A PUD overlay zoning is required. Further discussion with Mr. Mark Hanley, Jr. results in no further action at this time. (E. Rockel, L. Miller, GTCC Executive Committee)

York & Ridgely Roads: The former Lincoln/Mercury dealership has been reported to be the future site of a Walgreen Drug Store and pad site. The property is currently being graded for the new uses. (E. Rockel)

Comprehensive Rezoning for 2008: See the list of properties requesting a zoning reclassification under the Comprehensive Zoning Map Process by looking at the GTCC website. GTCC continues to work with Councilman McIntire on developing a unique zoning classification for the Timonium Fairgrounds. (E. Rockel, L. Miller & GTCC)

COMPLETED ISSUES

Jessup Property – The County Landmarks Preservation Commission has approved placing the Jessup House on the landmarks list. The Baltimore County Council would have to also approve the inclusion. As of August, the developer's attorney indicated his client was reviewing how this would impact the proposal. Regardless of the Landmark's issue, the developer has not submitted a development plan for County review. Longford North was to hold a fundraiser in early November to help pay for its legal expenses. The developer has submitted a revised development plan in December. The Hearing Officer's Hearing was held in April with Longford North, Pine Valley/Valleywood, Huntridge and GTCC offering comments on the plan. A consistent remark from all was that the number of units, 103, needed to be reduced. The hearing officer approved the 103 unit plan. The Longford North Community reached a compromise with the developer and has dropped any plan to appeal the development. It has come to our attention that the original developer is trying to sell the property to a third party to develop. (E. Rockel, Longford North)

Hampton Manor: This property is located on the east side of Scott Adam Road and is an existing multifamily residential development that will be adding more units. Concept Plan Conference scheduled for 11/6/2006 at 10:00 am in Room 123 County Office Building. Community Input Meeting will be scheduled thereafter. The community input meeting demonstrated several objections to the plan. The most common objection was a proposal to connect Southfork Road with the existing roads in the apartment complex. Residents on Southfork are concerned about additional "cut thru" traffic. Despite the owner's willingness to eliminate the connection to Southfork Road, Baltimore County DPW and Fire Department officials insist on a second access. A compromise may have been reached at the start of the Hearing Officer's Hearing. Both sides will examine making the Southfork connection a gated entrance. At the Hearing Officer's Hearing, Baltimore County agreed to allow Southfork Road to be a gated entrance. (E. Rockel)

York Rd.-Timonium Condo Proposal – A & A Global Industries and Keely Company are proposing a two tower Condo and mixed use on York Rd across from the north end of the Fair Grounds. Meetings were held 9/21/05, 10/27/05, 1/10/06, 3/08/06, 5/24/06 concerning adopting the site plan to minimize sight lines from Stratford Community at top of the hill. What started with 14 stories and one underground and two above ground parking stories is now reduced to two underground parking and one above is now 10 stories of 216 Condo's. Movement into the hill is now approximately 35 feet. The Stratford Community Association's Board of Directors and GTCC have recently agreed not to oppose the Planned Unit Development (PUD) with respect to height and size. The Planning Board approved the condo plan., and the Zoning Commissioner approved the project. In February 2009 the development plan for the project was submitted to Baltimore County for review. (E. Rockel, L. Miller, GTCC Executive Committee & Stratford Community)

Ames Store Building – Land and building owned by Capital Enterprises. The DRC approved plan to change the building which should lead to the construction of a Giant Foods in place of the now vacant store. Despite requests from GTCC and Yorkshire/Haverford, Giant has not replied to a request to publicly present their plans. Former Ames building has been demolished, and Giant has successfully opened at this location. (L. Miller, F. Regan, E. Rockel)

1928 Greenspring Drive: Plans to create a commercial recreational facility within the existing building to host birthday parties, corporate outings and other events. The recreational uses will include laser tag, cosmic miniature golf and other high tech gaming activities. (E. Rockel)

Padonia Swim Club: Grace Fellowship Church announced plans to purchase the 29 + acre site of the swim club. Many nearby residents have expressed concerns that the church plans to build a 2,500 seat sanctuary on the site. GTCC members have voted to disapprove the site for the church's intended use. In November, the Church announced that it would not build on the site. (GTCC Executive Committee & Community Organizers)

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