



The Greater Timonium Community Council

Volume X Issue IV

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

September 2008

President: Eric Rockel, 410-252-8439
Treasurer: Frank Regan, 410-337-5070 *Secretary: Katie Barone, 410-561-1848* *Membership: Marge DiNardo, 410-252-3378*
Newsletter: Frank Regan, 410-337-5070

***** NEWSLETTER *****

President's Message – Eric Rockel

Time to Kick-Off the Fall Season of the GTCC

While meetings of the GTCC did not take place over the months of July and August, as is our usual custom, there has been a flourish of events on many fronts over the last couple of months. Let me highlight just a few events that have taken place to demonstrate what is going on in our communities.

Volunteers from a variety of communities, with a strong presence from Pine Valley/Valleywood, are again preparing for the second annual Climb the Ladder Bull Roast in support of the building campaign for the Lutherville Volunteer Fire Company. The event takes place on September 27, 2008 at the Timonium Fairgrounds, and volunteers are hoping to build upon the extremely successful affair from a year ago, when approximately \$85,000 was raised for the capital campaign to rebuild the Fire Company's station. One cannot underestimate the value of the LVFC to this Lutherville/Timonium area and beyond. Even if a bull roast is not your type of entertainment, I would hope that you can still contribute to the capital campaign for rebuilding the fire station. If you want to learn more about the fire company, GTCC will be holding our September 10th meeting in the meeting room of LVFC, at 1609 Bellona Avenue, just one and one half blocks west of York Road. (Please see the flyer at the end of this newsletter for more information about their fund drive)

Another event that will prove to be very popular is the Victorian House Tour in Historic Lutherville, which takes place on October 4th. In the past, thousands of people have attended this walking tour to get a glimpse of the stately houses and their restored interiors. Tickets can be purchased at Bradford Banks, Watson Garden Center and Consign By Design or on the day of the event. Check out Luthervillehousetour.org.

Aside from these fund raising activities, many residents are talking about the news that Padonia Swim Club may be selling its land to the Grace Fellowship Church. The owners of the club, the Rigger family, have been truly touched by the outpouring of sorrow that resulted from the news of a pending sale. I don't think they realized how many members of the community truly appreciated all the enjoyment that the club has brought to so many lives. Through an invitation from Pastor Dan O'Brien, community members were able to attend informational meetings at Grace Fellowship Church to learn what the church has planned.

At this point the details are still somewhat fuzzy, but the Church will buy the property at a price of \$10,000,000 if it receives approval from Baltimore County to build a new church facility on the property. This settlement may not take place for another two years, and it appears that the swim club will remain in operation for at least another season, possibly longer. The pastor indicated that they hope to build a 2,500-seat church, and with associated parking, approximately one half of the site will be cleared for the new use, with the remainder undisturbed. The church has not yet received a conceptual site plan from their architect and civil engineer. So the details of their plan cannot yet be examined.

Many in the community have expressed strong opposition to the Church's plan based upon a variety of sentiments. Should mega-churches or other large institutional or commercial users be allowed to locate in residential settings? Will the traffic patterns on Padonia and Jennifer Roads become unbearable for the immediate residents? Will the attendant traffic congestion cause Baltimore County to have to widen these roads? Since the site is on well and septic, can this type of intense use become feasible without the need to extend public water and sewer? Will storm water runoff be exacerbated? All of these are very legitimate questions that need to be examined and answered. As an umbrella community organization, we will start to examine these questions at our next meeting, but I am sure a full review of the ramifications will take many months to unfold. If you have an opinion, I hope you will voice it when we meet next on September 10th.

Also compelling is the debate about how to control the deer population, or should I say over population, at Loch Raven reservoir. I have heard views both pro and con about the plans to conduct this deer hunt. Baltimore City, owner of Loch Raven reservoir, has been conducting similar hunts in the other two reservoirs for a number of years. Although some of our members believe this hunt will be inhumane, the fact that the City has some experience in the past is at least a relief. Both points of view offer strong arguments, but from my perspective the GTCC should remain neutral unless some compelling, heretofore unheard of argument can be made.

Finally, the "Comprehensive Rezoning Map Process" culminated with the County Council vote on August 26th. Councilman McIntire voted in favor of many community-driven initiatives, including the desire to keep the corner of York Road and Cavan Drive residential, despite a developer's attempt to change it to a commercial zoning; the retention of the resource conservation zoning around the present foot print of the Oregon Grille; the decision to leave the existing zoning on two parcels- one in Lutherville, the other on Ashland Road - so that two proposed independent living facilities could not be constructed; and the retention of the existing zoning on a number, but not all, properties situated along York Road, including a cluster of properties at York and Hillside in Cockeysville.

Even though many community successes punctuated the Council vote, there were a few troubling changes. Past GTCC President Lou Miller spent many hours successfully appealing the use of a property at 3 Thelma Street by Nationwide Automotive Sales as a car inventory lot. Yet with the Councilman's change to Business Roadside zoning, from residential zoning, Nationwide will now be able to legally use the lot to park their inventory. Even more puzzling was the fact that Councilman McIntire changed sixty acres of the Fairgrounds to Business Roadside zoning, when at a previous GTCC meeting and in private conversations he said he wanted to change only a few acres to accommodate the addition of two hundred stalls at the Fairgrounds. In a more recent conversation with the Councilman, he indicated that this vote was in part a mistake due to Planning Office personnel misinterpreting his intentions. The Councilman promised that he has already asked the Planning Office to begin working to develop a new, unique zoning classification for the Fairgrounds as a remedy to the change of the sixty acres. I know many of our members are disappointed with this change of status for the Fairgrounds, and we shall see if this unique zoning remedies the decision/event that took place on August 26th. In the meantime, all we can do is try to influence the crafting of this new zoning classification that the Planning Office will prepare. On a personal note, I want to avoid the unintended consequences that the BR zoning may portend for the Fairgrounds, and one consequence is the introduction of slots at a future date. For that reason I will personally have to think long and hard about the introduction of slots in Maryland.

Hope to see many of you at the Lutherville Volunteer Fire Company for our next September 10th meeting.

Comprehensive Zoning Map Process – The Final County Council Results

After many community input meetings held by all the members of the Baltimore County Council throughout the county over the past months along with our GTCC direct input into our County Councilman, Brian McIntire, the County Council has finalized all decisions concerning this years cycle of the CZMP process. Please check out all the results that affect us within our area by going to our website and reference the 2008 CZMP Final listing under our Zoning tab or you can go directly to the Baltimore County Website and see all the final listings there too. We will have a brief overview of the more important decisions at our next meeting on September 10th, 2008

GTCC General Meeting – Wednesday, September 10th, 2008

PLEASE NOTE: The GTCC September 10th Meeting WILL BE HELD at the LUTHERVILLE VOLUNTEER FIREHOUSE in their upstairs Meeting Room at 1609 Bellona Ave. @ 7 PM

GTCC General Meetings – 2008 Calendar of Scheduled Meetings Dates

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 2008

NOTICE !!!

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

Board of Directors 7:00 pm – 9:00pm

General Membership 7:00 pm – 9pm

February 13, 2008
April 09, 2008
June 11, 2008
August – No Meeting
October 08, 2008
December 10, 2008

January 09, 2008
March 12, 2008
May 14, 2008
July – No Meeting
September 10, 2008
November 12, 2008

*All Meetings are **NOW** Scheduled at the “**COCKEYSVILLE LIBRARY**”, on the **DATES NOTED ABOVE !!!***

Agenda and Speakers - GTCC September 10th, Meeting - Tentative Schedule.....

1. Introductions
2. Report from the Cockeysville Police Precinct
3. Lutherville Volunteer Fire Company Presentation
4. Reviewing Grace Fellowship Church Land Use Proposal
5. 2008 CZMP Review
6. Loch Raven Deer Hunt
7. Other New Business
8. Adjourn

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:

Just a few reminders for the area residents as kids return to school and the summer comes to an end:

- The opening of area schools brings an increase in vehicular and pedestrian traffic, particularly in the morning and afternoon hours. While driving, remember to use extra caution during these times while students are going to or returning from school.
- If your children walk to school, please stress to them the importance of crossing the street as designated crosswalks that have assigned school guards. Be particularly attentive near these crosswalks and follow the directions of the school crossing guard or police officer that may be there to direct traffic.
- If your children walk to school, review *pedestrian safety* issues with them and make sure that YOU know the route that they walk. No shortcuts through back yards or woods! Walking in groups is always the safest way to go. Make sure they know NOT to walk up to strangers, NOT to walk up to a stranger's car to answer "questions", NOT to help a stranger find a lost dog. If someone is acting suspiciously, teach him or her to "look to the tag" and, if they can, get that tag number! Have them write it on their hand or backpack if they need to do that. Make sure that they report any suspicious incidents to you or school personnel right away. Call 911 to report these incidents.
- Maryland law requires that vehicles come to a full stop at least twenty (20) feet in front of or twenty (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 \$555.00 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!

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I am pleased to announce that, because of the involvement of community members and increased awareness of potential crime issues, Precinct 7's major crime statistics are below last year's numbers. The number of burglaries in which entry is gained through an unlocked door or window has significantly decreased from the previous two years' figures. That's good news and the community deserves credit for stepping up and taking the simple steps to prevent crime in your neighborhoods.

GTCC Website - <http://www.gtccinc.org> – Frank Regan

The Greater Timonium Community Council maintains an active website to provide everyone information related to our organization and many activities of Community interest. We took on the challenge of updating our website to enhance your surfing experience by providing an updated interface with more information and with greater ease to find what you may be looking for. Our main website access has been changed to **GTCCINC.ORG** instead of **GTCCINC.COM** however we have linked the two addresses together and you can NOW access our site through either of the above web addresses.

Villa Maria Walk Announcement – Calendar Event

Walk/Run for Kids' Sake—Join Friends of Villa Maria for the 8th Annual Walk/Run for Kids' Sake on Saturday, September 20, 2008 at Towson University Johnny Unitas Stadium. Festivities begin at 8 a.m. with a warm-up by Lynne Brick from Brick Bodies. All participants receive a free goody bag, t-shirt, breakfast and are eligible for prizes and recognition gifts. Also new this year is the Elite Mile, a race before the 5K to recognize those who are dedicated to the sport of running. A \$50 pre-registration fee is required and participation is limited. Proceeds benefit the Villa Maria Continuum, a provider of mental health and special education services with 26 programs throughout Maryland including a children's residential treatment center, located in Timonium. For more information or a registration packet, call 410-252-4700 ext. 211 or log on <http://www.cc-md.org/2008VillaWalkRun.html>

The Legislator's Corner – Bill Frank, Steve Lafferty, Bobby Zirkin, John Cardin, Dana Stine & Dan Morhaim

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 11th & 42nd Legislative Districts:

42nd District – Delegate Bill Frank

I wanted to briefly address three issues of interest to our district. The first is the management plan jointly proposed by the city, county and state Department of Natural Resources to control the skyrocketing deer population in and around the Loch Raven Reservoir. I attended the recent meeting at Loch Raven High School where a proposal to allow bow and arrow hunting in a limited section of the reservoir was presented.

Similar hunting is currently allowed at both the Liberty and Prettyboy reservoirs, and both have been successful in controlling the deer population. I support this reasonable proposal to extend this practice to Loch Raven, which I believe is many years overdue. If we fail to act, the water quality will continue to be negatively impacted, and the reservoir's green spaces will continue to be degraded.

Secondly, the issue of slot machine gambling will be on the November ballot. This is a constitutional amendment that will authorize five specific locations across Maryland that would be designated as slots locations. They are: Rocky Gap State Park, Ocean Downs, a location off I-95 in Cecil County, Port Covington in Baltimore City and Laurel Race Track.

While I support slots at the appropriate locations as a necessary way to raise revenue, placing language in the State constitution regarding slots locations is highly troubling. At the same time, I'm pleased that Timonium Fairgrounds is not one of the five designated locations. As you know, I have a long-standing position of opposition to slots machines at Timonium and continue to believe that this is among the worst possible locations in Maryland for this type of activity.

Thirdly, I have been appointed to the Maryland Commission on Capital Punishment to study Maryland's death penalty statute. We have met four times so far, with a December 15, 2008 deadline for our report to the General Assembly and Governor. I have always supported the death penalty, but I'll admit to feelings of increasing ambivalence on this highly emotional issue. I'm keeping an open mind as we deliberate and consider the best course to take, and I welcome your views on this or any issue. As always, I welcome your call on 410-841-3793. I look forward to seeing you at an upcoming GTCCA meeting.

11th District – Delegate Dana Stein

Each fall, legislators are thinking about what bills to introduce in the next legislative session, which next year begins on January 14. We always welcome your ideas, and this year I'd like to ask you for ideas in two particular areas. The first is financial literacy. One of my bills from the past session, House Bill 1242, establishes a task force on how to improve financial literacy. The mortgage crisis has highlighted the need to improve financial literacy, and my bill sets up a task force to make recommendations on improving the financial skills of students and adults. The task force will be meeting this fall. If you have any suggestions, please e-mail me at dana.stein@house.state.md.us or call me at 410-841-3527.

The second is energy and conservation. This past session, the General Assembly passed several bills aimed at encouraging energy conservation and the development of renewable energy. In particular, the legislation doubles the renewable portfolio standard (the percentage of electricity that must come from renewable sources) over the next 14 years, establishes green building standards for public construction projects, and codifies the Governor's initiative to reduce statewide per capita demand 15% by 2015.

Many people have other good ideas for reducing our dependence on traditional forms of energy, which is one of the most pressing issues we face. If you have a good idea on this or any other topic, contact me at my e-mail address or phone number listed above.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to represent the 11th District in the General Assembly. I look forward to hearing from you. Please let me know how I can help, and contact me at 410-841-3527 or dana.stein@house.state.md.us with any questions, comments or ideas.

42nd District – Delegate Steve Lafferty

I appreciate GTCC affording me the chance to provide a brief note as Summer ends and the busy Fall begins. I also want to send kudos to Cathi Forbes and many others who got the school system to find a site for another elementary school without taking a park. And, let me also send thanks to the Baltimore County Police Department for solving cold cases that, while unsolved, tormented family and friends of the victim. I also want to thank my Scholarship Committee, which included Eric Rockel, for their outstanding work in selecting candidates for more than \$34,000 in scholarship funds. If you or someone you know is interested in applying for a scholarship in 2009, please contact my office. By the way, I now have a district office at 304 West Chesapeake Ave. You can reach me or my aide, Marsha Tracy, at 410-296-1699. Lastly, if you are interested in the issues of future growth and development, you should plan to attend one of the six "listening sessions" being held in the state. The one closest to us will be at Woodlawn High School. For more information, to www.mdp.state.md.us/listeningsessions.htm.

11th District – Senator Bobby Zirkin

It is difficult to imagine that the 2009 session is almost upon us. I believe that 2008 saw some very important legislation passed. The "Repeal of the Sales Tax on Computer Services" was certainly important to business in Maryland. The addition of aliases and email addresses to those registered on the "Sex Offender" list will certainly help to identify more people who are a threat to our children. Another law clarifies that an adult who has been convicted for a second time of first degree rape or first degree sex offense involving a victim under age 13 is subject to the 25-year mandatory minimum sentence provided for each offense. A person may not manufacture, sell, import, or distribute a "lead-containing children's product" in Maryland. The Federal government followed suit with similar legislation. Several bills concerning "group home legislation" were passed in 2008 as well.

There is certainly other important legislation that came out of the 2008 session. I would be happy to discuss any of it with you. I hope to attend one of your meetings in this upcoming year. Please feel free to contact my office with any questions or issues that are important to you. My email is bobby.zirkin@senate.state.md.us and my Annapolis phone number is 410-841-3131. I hope to hear from you.

11th District – Delegate Dan Morhaim

**Department of Health Policy and Management
2008 Fall Policy Seminar Series
Organized by Dan Morhaim, M.D., Associate Faculty and
Ellen MacKenzie, Ph.D., Chair HPM
All seminars will be held in the Hampton House Lecture Hall
624 N. Broadway, Baltimore MD 21205
Seminars are from noon-1:15 p.m.
Free lunch provided for all who attend, served at 12:00 p.m.**

The Fall Seminar Series is designed to complement academic presentations by bringing leaders and topics that are shaping today's issues in health policy. Each seminar includes Q&A and stimulating, often informal, discussion with the presenters. The Series is free and open to the public. Reservations not required.

October 2 (Thursday), noon - 1:15pm

**Congressman John Sarbanes, 3rd District Maryland
View from Capitol Hill**

Before his election to the U.S. House, Congressman Sarbanes worked as an attorney focused on health care. He also served as special assistant to the State Superintendent of Public Schools, striving to improve Baltimore City schools. Now, he brings that experience in addressing Medicare, Medicaid, wellness, and children's health issues. He's offered innovative legislation to add environmental education to school programs. With the Presidential election around the corner, you will get a view of the past two years of life inside the Congress...and what might be ahead.

October 10 (Friday), noon - 1:15pm

Keshia Pollack and Shannon Frattaroli

Science, Policy, Public Health, & Politics: Bridging the Gap

Keshia Pollack and Shannon Frattaroli are faculty at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. They are both accomplished academicians and educators who stepped out and worked part-time over the past two years as staff in the Maryland General Assembly. Their work shaped numerous bills. Historically, there has been a great divide between academic institutions and the legislative process, with each side not sure of the role of the other. How should the gap be bridged? How can academics best influence legislators? What political considerations should be considered? What can you do to maximize your effectiveness to make change? Keshia and Shannon will share their insight and experience.

October 16 (Thursday), noon - 1:15pm

Jack Cole, LEAP (Law Enforcement Against Prohibition)

The War on Drugs - Time to End?

Jack Cole knows the front-lines of the drug war, having served for over 14 years as an undercover narcotics police officer, including over two years in "deep cover." Now, he and thousands of other police officers, prosecutors, and judges have come together to form LEAP to offer a wholly new perspective. LEAP believes the US war on drugs has failed, and they support alternate policies that will lower violence, crime rates, death, disease, addiction, and societal costs. They propose ending drug prohibition. This will undoubtedly be one of most provocative talks you will ever hear: come with an open mind, and let yourself be challenged.

October 23 (Thursday), noon-1:15pm

Ken Ulman, Howard County Executive

How Howard County Provides Health Care for All

Elected Howard County Executive in 2006 at age 32, Ken Ulman was not content to wait for federal and state programs to provide health care for his constituents. Working with Howard County Health Commissioner - and JHSP&H graduate - Peter Beilenson, M.D., M.P.H, Ken took steps to be sure every Howard County citizen has access to affordable, quality, and preventive health care. In September 2007, Ken announced plans to make Howard County one of the first counties in the country to cover uninsured residents, and on October 16, 2007, he unveiled details of the Healthy Howard Plan. Ken's commitment has a personal component as well, as he watched his brother, Doug, fight cancer at a young age. Ken is energetic and innovative, and he demonstrates the key role local government can play in health care.

October 30 (Thursday), noon-1:15pm

Chet Burrell, President and CEO of CareFirst

Insurance Companies: Their Role and Responsibilities

CareFirst is non-profit and Maryland's largest insurer. Chet Burrell brings new leadership and, with that, new vision for what an insurance company can and should do. We often discuss, praise, and criticize insurance companies. Chet will share the challenges he faces from the inside: the role of competition; profit vs. non-profit insurance companies; how every citizen can get coverage; what is the proper role for insurance companies at the local, regional, and national level; how to balance his company's bottom line with community service. Chet's wide experience in health care means you will get a perspective rarely heard in academic settings. Don't miss it.

November 6 (Thursday), noon - 1:15pm

The Lobbyist Panel

Barbara Brocato, Frank Boston, Don Murphy, Robin Shaivitz, and Pegeen Townsend

Lobbyists: Hired guns manipulating the political process or essential advocates in the machinery of democracy? How do lobbyists work? How do they see the political system? You know the issues, but if you really want to influence policy and policy makers, you won't want to miss hearing from our panel of experts. They represent diverse clients, from hospitals and universities to police and health professionals to marijuana proponents. They are the masters of persuasion. Listen, learn their secrets, and become more effective. Always one of the most popular and well-attended presentations.

Be there!

For more information, contact Pamela Davis at pdavis@jhsp.edu or 410-614-1580. For disability access information or listening devices, please contact the Office of Support Services at 410-955-1197 or on the Web at www.jhsp.edu/SupportServices.

11th District – Delegate Jon Cardin

As kids and Orioles fans, when we cast our votes for Baseball's All-Star Team, we learn quickly to vote for the best American League players and the worst players of the National League. Despite our attempts to manipulate the votes, that election is actually conducted more fairly than our presidential nominating process.

Imagine if we selected our All-Stars the same way we nominated presidents. Only players who grovel to Iowa fans could win that state's premiere caucus (pork-barreling for players just like ethanol). And so many Red Sox would win the New Hampshire primary that by the time Orioles and Nationals fans got to vote, all their players would be eliminated from consideration.

The national primary, unlike All-Star balloting, compromises retail campaigning in all but the handful of battleground states. Having witnessed the value of door-to-door campaigning in New Hampshire, Michigan and Florida, we believe there are benefits to the current system, but Maryland, among 39 other fly by states, lacks the attention it deserves. We are relegated to mere "fundraising" stops to benefit retail politics in battleground states, making Maryland's primary essentially a rubber stamp.

Thus, the troublesome issue is that many early states hold *open* primaries or caucuses whereas Maryland's primary is *closed*, meaning only members of the Democratic and Republican Party can vote in that party's primary respectively. *Open* status allows people, who are not registered members of our parties, to participate in the nominating process. This makes these non-party member's votes in early voting states more relevant to the process than party activists here in Maryland. I.e., *all votes are equal, but some are more equal than others.*

Much is made of the 'chaos' that could be wrought by Republicans voting in the Democratic primary. For example, in years when an incumbent is running for reelection, the incumbent's party members are free to make mischief in the other parties nominating process. One study published by Brown University suggests that voters in the early states, including these non-party members, have as much as twenty times the relevance of party members in the later states. Does this in voting provide equal protection?

When our Democratic and Republican Rules Committees meet to plan governance of the 2012 primaries at their upcoming respective conventions in Denver and St. Paul, how will they explain the fairness of rules carving out early voting status for non-party members in open primaries? It is incumbent on our party leaders to confront the fact that early open primaries discount the votes of party members in later closed primaries.

Last year, Maryland tried to counter this when the General Assembly moved our primary up a month. Nevertheless, by the time we cast votes on February 12th, the GOP nomination was all but over and seven out of nine Democratic candidates had withdrawn from consideration.

By contrast, in violation of both parties' rules, Michigan (open) and Florida (closed) were penalized for jumping their primaries way ahead, ultimately losing half their Convention Delegates. Nevertheless, Republican voters benefited tremendously from more presidential town halls and rallies than any Marylander has seen in a lifetime. Well worth the penalty! While Democratic candidates avoided the states and removed their names from the ballot, these battleground states have since received more than enough attention to make amends. Given the inherent benefits, bucking party rules seems like the way to go.

If the country goes the direction of having battleground independents control the batter's box, so be it, but Party leadership should not cork their Louisville Sluggers. The respective Rules Committees must be honest about the unintended consequence of empowering independents or accept the collapse of party influence. To that end, should closed primaries take precedence?

We are thrilled with our nominees, just not with the process. This is the first election in our lifetime where neither party has an incumbent or VP seeking the Presidency. We don't want it to be another lifetime before we fix the nomination inequities.

Perhaps, we could simply move our primary to the first Tuesday after the World Series, giving Os and Nat's fans something to really cheer about.

Jon S. Cardin (D), lawyer, serves as Chairman of the Election Law Subcommittee in the Maryland House of Delegates

Don Murphy (R), former delegate, chairs the Maryland Delegation to the Republican National Convention.

Membership & Annual Dues Report – Frank Regan

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 is the name of the local businessman who invented an upset stomach remedy and ran a dairy on his Baltimore County estate?
2. Where in Towson were drinking straws manufactured?
3. The largest State Park is located primarily in Baltimore County. What is its name?

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. Capt. Isaac Emerson invented Bromo Seltzer. He bought Brooklandwood on Falls Road in 1916 (now St Paul's School) and also operated the Emerson Farms dairy at the corner of Falls and Green Spring Valley Road.



Emerson Farms Dairy (historical)

2. The building most recently housing the Baltimore County Employees Federal Credit Union on Susquehanna Road in Towson.
3. The Gunpowder Falls State Park. Even though the name suggests it, Gunpowder has no actual falls. The name is used because the rivers cross a geological fault line which separates the rocky and rolling hills of the piedmont region from the flat and sandy coastal plain.

BCDA 5K Run/1 Mile Walk

As Honorary Chairman of the second annual “Get Ready, Get Set, Get Fit 5K Run/Walk-1 Mile Walk”, Baltimore County Executive Jim Smith encourages your involvement in the race - whether by running, walking or sponsoring a participant. Proceeds go to the Baltimore County Department of Aging senior fitness programs in the County's senior centers.

The race will take place on Sunday, September 21, 8:30 a.m., Johnny Unitas Stadium, Towson University.

Information: To Register or call 410-887-2594



The Greater Timonium Community Council

The Next GTCC General Meeting is scheduled for September 10, 2008 at 7:00 PM at the Lutherville Vol. Fire Station

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)

Bill Kidd's Volvo, 10525 York Road: The Deputy Zoning Commissioner has approved zoning relief to allow commercial parking in a residential zone, to allow a very limited amount of parking in a 100 year flood plain and to allow for a reduction in the residential transition area buffer. The Sherwood Hills improvement Association and the People's Counsel have appealed this decision. GTCC has requested to be an interested party in the appeal. (A. Heaton & E. Rockel)

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)

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 will become involved once its membership reaches a consensus. (E. Rockel & the GTCC Executive Committee)

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). No further plans presented to occupy the property. GTCC continues to monitor this property. (E. Rockel, L. Miller, F. Regan, GTCC Executive Committee.)

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 site work begun (L. Miller, F. Regan)

York Rd. Widening, Seminar to Ridgely Rd.: York Road is a Md. State road. Funding approved of \$5.5 million from Md. State and \$875 thousand from Baltimore County to widen and provide for a third middle lane. Utility relocation activity started in August. Estimates of two years of construction were previously given for the entire project, including utility pole relocations, water main replacement and road work.. From the Fall of 2006 to Fall 2007 expect water main construction, and road widening to take place from Fall 2007 to Fall 2008. Expect project completion in the Spring of 2009.(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 garage parking below for five-hundred twenty-eight (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)

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)

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 or the Baltimore County Website. (E. Rockel & L. Miller)

Epithany Episcopal Church, 2216 Pot Spring Rd. – Cingular Antenna Tower: Church is proposing to lease space for Cingular to place an antenna on their property. GTCC and many of its member Community Associations totally oppose that use. Baltimore County Regulations 426 governs that use. Church property is undersized to provide required setback from other residential property. Case law has determined this in other cases. Letter received from Executive Vice President, External Affairs and Public Relations of Cingular stating no decision yet but may file for approval to install a stealth system within the steeple. (Means a hidden antenna). As of October, no communication from Cingular's attorney had been received. This shall remain on our Current Issues list, but the proposal may be dead. (E. Rockel, L. Miller, GTCC Executive Committee, C. Roller & M. DiNardo, Pot Spring Community, S. Smith, Springlake Community)

COMPLETED ISSUES

Smyth Property, Falls Rd & Padonia Rd: New (20) home development. Traffic, water table, and environmental concerns still. The Court of Special Appeals dismissed FRCA appeal without hearing its merits. The Court ruled that the FRCA lacked standing to continue the appeal by itself and this case is now concluded. More details at <http://www.thefrca.org> (FRCA)

Anderson Honda: Proposal to construct a Honda dealership at the corner of York Road and Halesworth Road. This proposal will require that the project go through a Planned Unit Development process (PUD-Commercial), as was done for the Hummer facility because the existing zoning is not fully commercial. The Community Input Meeting produced no objections to the proposal. In fact the communities of Monterey and Still Pond are supportive of the dealership. (E.Rockel, J.Rogers)

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. (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 Keelty 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.(E. Rockel, L. Miller, GTCC Executive Committee & Stratford Community)

Mays Chapel School Site: The Baltimore County Board of Education originally planned to move a special needs school to a 20 acre site off of Padonia Road in Mays Chapel. After much community opposition, County Executive James Smith intervened to propose that existing schools in Towson, including the current site of the special needs school, receive additions to accommodate the overcrowding at the elementary school level. At present, the Mays Chapel site does not appear to be in the Board of Education's plans (E. Rockel & Mays Chapel Community Associations)

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6:00 – 11:00 pm

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