

# The Greater Timonium Community Council

Volume IX Issue II

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

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## \*\*\*\*\* NEWSLETTER \*\*\*\*\*

### President's Message – Eric Rockel

#### MORE THAN A MISUNDERSTANDING

Recent news out of Annapolis indicates that the Baltimore County Senate delegation has delayed a vote to allow for an elected school board in Baltimore County. This delay has not deterred Senators Bobby Zirkin, James Brochin and J.B. Jennings, all of whom want a change from the status quo wherein the Governor appoints the school board. Senator Zirkin compared the move for change as similar to the democracy movements swirling around many countries in other parts of the world; while Senator Brochin allows for the fact that we may see a hybrid school board, partly elected and partly appointed, rather than a fully elected board.

County Executive Kevin Kamenetz's efforts appear to have been a major reason for the delay. He lobbied in Annapolis against the current bill, citing that the language of the bill was not well thought out and claiming that while the school system finds a replacement for outgoing Superintendent Joe Hairston, the current board should remain in place. Yet County Executive Kamenetz's efforts seem to fly in the face of current trends in the State and elsewhere. In the State of Maryland, 18 of 24 school boards are fully elected and two other jurisdictions have a hybrid board. In New Jersey the numbers are even more dramatic, according to the *New York Times*. Of 567 municipalities in New Jersey, only 29 have an appointed school board. Clearly there is better than an equal chance that the new School Superintendent will come from a school system with an elected school board. Additionally, wasn't it Kevin Kamenetz, then a councilman, who complained about a past school board that authorized renovations to Ridgely Middle School without having the foresight to include air conditioning in the renovation specifications?

By some accounts, recent appointments to the school board have improved the board's governance and responsiveness, but those opinions are subjective. The recent events concerning overcapacity issues in the York Road corridor indicate that the current governance is not much different than in years past. Four years ago the School system announced that it wanted to build a school in Mays Chapel without attempting to first enter into a dialogue with that community. Ultimately, County Executive Jim Smith overrode that decision, and an addition was built at the Ridge Ruxton School to address capacity problems in Towson.

Fast forward to the present and we find that the School system again wants to build a school in Mays Chapel, this time a 700 seat elementary school, but just as in the past there has been no outreach to the community to explain the needs or if the community park will be replaced following the construction of the school. Residents are rightly upset because these 20 acres are the only usable park area in a high density community. The resident's attempts to meet with County Executive Kamenetz have thus far been rebuffed, and they will be taking their concerns to the School Board at its March 6th meeting.

These concerns include the loss of a much valued park, as well as the fact that the demographics of the Mays Chapel area indicate that there is a paucity of elementary school age children in the community. The resulting lack of immediate need in

the Mays Chapel area seems to indicate that many of the attendees of this new school will need to be bused into the area, and the elementary schools that have a pressing overcapacity problem include Lutherville, Padonia International and Pot Spring. Yet part of the public discussion that should be taking place, but clearly is not happening, is that there will be significant school boundary changes if a new school is built at Mays Chapel. On the other hand, the possibility of strategic additions to existing schools has not been vetted with the public. That strategy would minimize the need to redistrict existing boundaries, and it is a topic that the School Board should absolutely include when addressing the overcapacity issue.

The events that ensue at the School Board meeting on March 6th, and beyond, may give us a better demonstration as to how much the current School Board wants to engage with the public on important issues. At the School Board meeting on March 6th, the Board granted preliminary approval to the Mays Chapel site, but it did schedule a public hearing on March 19<sup>th</sup>, at Loch Raven H.S., to listen to public comment about the site. Will this public hearing offer a meaningful opportunity to have questions asked and answered? It remains to be seen. Meanwhile, many are also waiting to see what happens in Annapolis.

**GTCC General Meeting & ‘New’ 2012 Meeting Calendar**

The GTCC will hold their Next Meeting’ on **Wednesday, March 14th, 2012 at the Cockeysville Library Meeting Room**, with meetings STILL beginning at 7:00 PM. **Our next Meeting will be March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2012 at the Library !**

The Greater Timonium Community Council, Inc. (GTCC) is an umbrella organization with memberships of over 50 area Community Associations which collectively represents some 60,000 residents throughout a 25 mile perimeter of the Greater Lutherville/Timonium/Cockeysville area. We are a vibrant organization which tries hard to maintain and improve the quality of life in our area. We pride ourselves in working with our elected officials, businesses and Community Associations to achieve these goals. Please feel free to attend one of our upcoming meetings and by all means, bring one or more of your Association members with you ..... we look forward to seeing everyone there !!!

<b>GTCC</b>		
<i>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.</i>		
<b><u>NOTICE !!!</u></b>	<b>CALENDAR 2012</b>	<b><u>NOTICE !!!</u></b>
	***** <b><u>Meeting Schedule</u></b> *****	
<b><u>Board of Directors</u></b>	<b>7:00 pm – 9:00pm</b>	<b><u>General Membership</u></b>
		<b>7:00 pm – 9pm</b>
<b>February 08, 2012</b> <b>April 11, 2012</b> <b>June 13, 2012</b> <b>August – No Meeting</b> <b>October 10, 2012</b> <b>December 12, 2012</b>		<b>January 11, 2012</b> <b>March 14, 2012</b> <b>May 09, 2012</b> <b>July – No Meeting</b> <b>September 12, 2012</b> <b>November 14, 2012</b>
<b><i>All Meetings are <u>NOW</u> Scheduled at the “Cockeysville Library” Meeting Room, on the DATES NOTED ABOVE.</i></b>		

## Agenda and Speakers - GTCC March 14th, Meeting

1. Introductions
2. Membership & Treasury Update
3. Featured Guest: Sheriff R. Jay Fisher
4. Recap of the Planning Board Hearing On Comprehensive Zoning Issues
5. Mays Chapel School Site
6. Recent Zoning Issues:
  - A. Michael's Cafe
  - B. Sterling Chemical
  - C. Ocean Pride Restaurant
7. New Business
  - A. Deer hunting On Public Lands
  - B. Mercantile Exposition Overlay District
  - C. Other
8. Adjourn

## Annual 2012 GTCC Membership Dues – Frank Regan

GTCC '2012' Membership dues of \$50 dollars for the year are due at this time. We had a great response from (50+) Associations contributing their Annual Membership dues payment last year! Dues notices for 2012 are being mailed out in March so if you don't receive one or if you need a copy, please don't hesitate to let us know. Please send your 2012 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!

## 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.	Northampton 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	Mays Chapel North, Inc.	Topfield Condo	Tralee Forest Condo
Roundwood Ridge I & III	Overlook	Pebble Creek HO	Dunloy Condo
Longford North	Wellington Valley	Towns Of Doolan	Mays Chaple North
Foxford	Dulaney Gate		

## **The Captain's Corner** – Captain Dave Moxley

*We have invited our Cockeysville Precinct "7" Commander, Captain Dave Moxley, 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 Moxley:*

I would like to thank the members of the GTCC for inviting me to your January meeting. I hope I didn't talk too much; my children accuse me of that from time to time. I believe it is important for me, or a member of my command, to attend your meetings. It is a time not only to share information, but an opportunity to hear your thoughts and concerns as to your community needs, as they relate to public safety. In my past experience, it is those community members who attend their community meetings who are truly dedicated to improving their community. As you all know, these meetings are not structured to be adversarial; in direct contrast, the meetings present a unique opportunity to share common goals in an effort to enhance the community's quality of life.

A few quick events I would like to update you on: First, in mid February, Baltimore County upgraded the county's public safety radio system from an old outdated analog radio transmission system to a new P25 National Standards Based digital system. This new upgraded system has several significant advantages over the previous system, which was in place since 1988. This new upgrade brings enhanced clarity, coverage, and coordination. The new system is able to encrypt sensitive tactical information, as opposed to the old system, which could be monitored by anyone with a scanner. You could imagine how problematic it could be if criminals could monitor our radio transmissions. Incorporated in this project was the construction of an additional 10 transmission towers, and a new upgraded state-of-the-art 911 center.

Secondly, in the last several months, the county initiated its on-line crime reporting system which allows citizens to self-report certain types of crimes. Baltimore County residents can now go online and report lost property, abandoned motor vehicles, hit-and-run accidents which do not involve an injury, destruction of property, or theft. The new web site is user friendly and easy to use. Citizens can report minor crimes at [www.baltimorecountymd.gov/policerreportonline](http://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/policerreportonline).

Lastly, I would like to let those folks know, who are not aware, that Baltimore County Police will again be a partner with the Drug Enforcement Administration "National Take Back" initiative. This is DEA's fourth year for this national initiative. Thus far, this initiative is responsible for the removal of excess of 995,185 pounds of unwanted or expired medications. This is the way it works: On April 28, 2012, between the hours of 10:00am and 2:00pm, citizens can bring their unwanted or expired medication to safely dispose of them at three police facilities in Baltimore County. Precincts 2 (Woodlawn), Precinct 7 (Cockeysville) and Precinct 12 (North point) are once again the collection locations in the county. **(DEA stresses that this initiative is for prescription/medication only)**. Why is this initiative important to our community? According to DEA, the "initiative addresses a vital public safety and public health issue. Medications that languish in home cabinets are highly susceptible to diversion, misuse, and abuse. Rates of prescription drug abuse in the U.S. are alarmingly high- more Americans currently abuse prescription drugs than the number of those using cocaine, hallucinogens, and heroin combined, according to the 2009 National Survey on Drug Use and Health. Studies show that individuals who abuse prescriptions drugs often obtained them from family and friends, including from the home medicine cabinet. In addition, many Americans do not know how to properly dispose of their unused medicine, often flushing them down the toilet or throwing them away; both potential safety and health hazards." This is a good opportunity to clean out those medicine cabinets. Now you know why my kids tell me I talk too much.

Thanks for your support in the community.

*Dave Moxley  
Commander, Cockeysville Precinct*

## **New Water Pipe for York Road** – Frank Regan

Baltimore County's contractors are replacing 9,500 feet of old water line in York Road, between Ridgely and Padonia. The new 24-inch line, double the diameter of the old line, is expected to cost \$5 million and take one to two years to install. The project, say County engineers, is designed "to build redundancy into the system. The County's contractor, Burgermeister Bell, started the project April, 2010 and should be finished by June or July 2012. The project is about 71 percent finished, say engineers. The State Highway Administration plans to re-surface York Road, between Ridgely and Timonium roads, in the near future.

## **An RSVP Volunteer Goes the Extra Step – Eric Rockel**

For the past 40 years, RSVPs, Retired and Senior Volunteer Programs, across the nation have encouraged individuals age 55 and over to volunteer and be a part of the solution for many of our community problems. By forming partnerships with a wide variety of non-profits and government agencies, Baltimore County's RSVP has striven to offer a diverse array of service opportunities i.e, one-day or ongoing, short or long-term duration, spread throughout the County, and with all age groups.

RSVP seeks talented and motivated individuals to address problems in areas such as the following: mentoring children, supporting seniors' independence, alleviating hunger, providing meal delivery, promoting energy-efficiency, offering Medicare Counseling, assisting nursing home residents to resolve problems, housing rehabilitation, preparing for disasters, addressing unemployment, free preparation of taxes, educating about financial literacy, planting trees, cleaning streams, and so much more.

Take that extra step today and call Eddrena Miller, RSVP Volunteer Coordinator, at 410-887-3101 for additional information and to explore volunteer opportunities. (email: emiller@baltimorecountymd.gov )

## **The Librarian's Corner – Mollie Fein**

*We have also invited our Cockeysville Library Manager, Mollie Fein, to provide us with an article for our newsletter in the form of 'The Librarian's Corner' on any issue(s) that she feels might be of interest to our membership. The following article this month is from Mollie:*

### **“Goings on at the Cockeysville Library”**

“On a rain-soaked, foggy night that could have come straight from the novels they were crafting, several members of Cockeysville Library's Teen Writers Club met last week to exchange ideas, inspiration and encouragement.” The group, which meets on Wednesday nights, allows young writers in the area to bounce off one another and meet with area writers. Full article can be read at:

<http://www.baltimoresun.com/explore/baltimorecounty/publications/towson-times/ph-tt-teen-writers>

Are you looking for a good book to read? Cockeysville Librarian favorites are listed below:

#### **1) The Rose Garden by Susanna Kearsley**

"The Rose Garden" is a haunting, romantic and atmospheric love story in the style of Mary Stewart. The author's writing is beautiful and descriptive, and the touch of paranormal is deftly woven into the story line. I love everything this author has written!"

#### **2) The Thousand Autumns of Jacob deZoet by David Mitchell**

"The Thousand Autumns of Jacob deZoet" is an historical adventure with superb writing, an unusual setting, and a riveting plot. Set in the early 1800s, just as the Dutch East India Company was losing its toehold in Japan, the book features explosive naval battles, a daring mountaintop rescue by an elite troupe of samurai, a sinister nobleman with supernatural power, and an ill-fated romance between an earnest Dutch clerk and a gifted Japanese female doctor."

#### **3) State of Wonder by Ann Patchett**

"This story is about a pharmaceutical researcher, Dr. Marina Singh, who travels on a trip into the Amazon jungle to try to find a friend and colleague who has died under strange circumstances. She also goes on this quest to locate Dr. Anneck Swenson, a famous gynecologist, who is doing research on a tribe in the Amazon, in which the women can reproduce in their 60's and 70's. A fascinating adventure about life in the Amazon, and an interesting array of characters are presented by Patchett in this engrossing story."

#### **4) The Art of Fielding by Chad Harbach**

"A baseball thrown awry by gifted shortstop, Henry Skrimshander, impacts the lives of five characters at a small Midwestern college; A finely crafted coming of age novel."

As always, the librarians at Cockeysville are here to assist you find your own 'best book of the year'!

## **The Councilman's Corner** – Vicki Almond and Todd Huff

We have invited our County Councilmen to provide us this month with an article for our newsletter in the form of 'The Councilman's Corner' on any issue(s) that he feels might be of interest to our membership. The following articles this month are from Vicki and Todd:

### **2nd District** - Councilwoman Vicki Almond

Thank you for inviting me to send an update to all of the members of the Greater Timonium Community Council. So far, 2012 has been a very exciting year. In January, I became the first woman to serve as the Chairwoman of the Baltimore County Council in 28 years. I was also elected to serve as the Vice President of the Women of MACO (Maryland Association of Counties) which represents women elected at the county level in all 24 Maryland counties.

I am using both of these positions to insure that residents of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Councilmanic District and across Baltimore County receive the best representation possible. One issue of concern from last year that I continue to focus on is storm response from BGE. I have met with BGE and attended public meetings to discuss the long power outages many of us suffered following Tropical Storm Irene. It is important that BGE listens to the concerns expressed by its customers and insures that it learns valuable lessons so that future storms result in shorter duration power outages.

I am also concerned about the overcrowded conditions of the public schools in the Timonium area. Pinewood Elementary, Timonium Elementary, Ridgely Middle School and Dulaney High School are all above the state rated capacity for student populations. The trends indicate that student enrollment in our public schools will continue to increase over the coming years. I have stressed to both the School Board and the Superintendent the need to insure that solutions are found to this issue of overcrowding. I am proud of the level of achievement of the students in the Timonium area, and I do not want to see growing class size become an impediment to academic achievement.

Excellent public schools are important not just for the future of our children, but for attracting young families to move to our community. This in turn helps the real estate market rebound from its recent declines. We want Timonium to be an area where a high quality of life is expected and where those who want to move can sell their homes at a good price. This also impacts our ability to bring quality, new jobs to our community. Companies are more likely to create jobs in a place where it can attract good workers. Those communities that have an educated work force, good schools and excellent public safety have the best chance to move forward as we gradually emerge from the recent period of economic difficulty.

Please let me know if there is anything I can do for you. Constituent service is of great importance to me. Please do not hesitate to call 410-887-3385 or email [council2@baltimorecountymd.gov](mailto:council2@baltimorecountymd.gov)

### **3rd District** - Councilman Todd Huff

Spring is just around the corner which heralds the arrival of the budget process in Baltimore County. The County Executive will present his budget message to the County Council on April 12, 2012. This will be followed by County Council hearings with the many county agencies. We may only make cuts from the budget not additions. Please be assured that the County Council will give great scrutiny to each item to ensure fiscal responsibility to our constituents.

The County Council is nearly halfway through the quadrennial Comprehensive Zoning Map Process (CZMP). There are 71 issues filed in the Third Council District and about 17 of these issues have impact in the Greater Timonium area. I encourage those interested to attend the Planning Board public hearing on Third District issues on March 13, 2012 at 7:00 pm at Loch Raven High School. Should you wish to speak on any issues you must sign up in advance and sign in begins at 6:00 pm.

Planning Board comments are due to be received by the Council not later than May 4<sup>th</sup>. The next step in the process is the County Council Third District public hearing which is scheduled for June 26, 2012 at 7:00 pm also at Loch Raven High. The same rules about signing in to speak apply. The Council must vote on all issues by September 16, 2012.

As per my campaign commitment, I co-sponsored legislation, along with Councilman David Marks, to require Councilmember's to be limited to three terms. Regretfully, this bill was tabled and it is unlikely that the five other members will allow it to be brought to vote. I strongly believe in term limits and I will continue to pursue this important bill.

I look forward to meeting many of you as I visit the CZMP issues in the Third District.

## ***The Legislator's Corner – Annapolis Legislative Updates - 42<sup>nd</sup> District***

*We have 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. The following articles have been graciously submitted by the following legislators for this Newsletter Edition from the 42<sup>nd</sup> District within the GTCC:*

### ***42nd District – Senator Jim Brochin***

As the 2012 Legislative Session enters its final weeks, I wanted to share information with you about several pieces of legislation that I introduced this year in the General Assembly.

Having just witnessed Maryland go through its latest redistricting process, many citizens have seen firsthand how the current system is one where politicians choose their voters, rather than voters choosing their politicians. So yet again, the state ends up with contorted, irrational districts that cut neighborhoods in half and make no logical sense. Therefore, I introduced Senate Bills 160, 161, and 162, which as a group, reform Maryland's Congressional and General Assembly legislative districting process. The bills ensure that no legislative district is drawn for the purpose of favoring a political party, elected official, or other person or group, or for the purpose of augmenting or diluting the voting strength of a language or racial minority group. The bills also provide the public some input in the districting process by including two rounds of public meetings across the State before and after preliminary maps are drawn. Essentially, this legislative package takes the redistricting process out of the hands of politicians, and gives the responsibility of new maps to technicians and the citizens of Maryland.

I was also proud to sponsor Senate Bill 57, "Vehicle Laws - Use of Work Zone Speed Control Systems - Presence of Workers Required." The bill would establish that speed control cameras placed in work zones are only in use when there are workers present. Currently, speed cameras in work zones are permitted to be in operation regardless of whether or not workers are present. This was not the original intent of the speed camera legislation that passed the Senate three years ago. Initially, speed cameras were to be specifically placed in work zones when there were workers present, so as to protect the workers and ensure their safety. The legislation that passed completely disregarded this objective and allowed these cameras to function despite the presence of workers. I sponsored SB 57 because I support an automated enforcement program that focuses on safety, not revenue.

This session I also introduced SB 107, "Criminal Law – Electronic Harassment – Penalties." Today's Internet blogs, social networks, and chat rooms are changing the world at incredible speed. However, some individuals are using this technology to inflict pain and suffering on innocent people. SB 107 would prohibit a person from making a specified electronic communication with the intent to terrify, intimidate, or harass another person, or place another person in reasonable fear of injury or physical harm to that person or the property of that person. The bill says violators found guilty of electronic harassment are subject to maximum penalties of imprisonment for up to three years and/or a \$5,000 fine.

I truly appreciate the opportunity to share this legislative update with you. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 410-841-3648.

### ***42nd District – Senator Jim Brochin***

I am pleased to announce that I am accepting applications for District 42 Senatorial Scholarships. The application can be downloaded online at: <http://jimbrochin.com/wp-content/uploads/2010/03/Senatorial-Scholarship-Packet-2012.pdf>.

This is a four-year scholarship for students who reside in District 42. If you are interested in applying, or know anyone who might be interested, please see the above link to the Senatorial Scholarship application. The deadline to return completed applications for the 2012-2013 academic year must be (postmarked) by April 2nd. The FAFSA deadline was March 1st, so if you have not completed it, please fill out the FAFSA as soon as possible online at <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov>.

The Senatorial Scholarships Application is open to all residents of District 42 who are current high school seniors, as well as full-time and part-time, degree-seeking undergraduate and graduate students. If you need to verify whether you live in the 42nd district, please visit this link: <http://mdelect.net>. The scholarship may only be used at a Maryland school, unless your major is not available at any Maryland institution and has been approved as a "unique major" by the Maryland Higher Education Commission. Additional information is included in the application packet.

Please mail the FAFSA Student Aid Report, your most recent transcript (if applicable), recommendation letters, and the completed application to my office at:

Senator James Brochin  
221 James Senate Office Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me directly or my Chief of Staff, Marc Lazerow, at 410-841-3648, or via email at [mlazerow@senate.state.md.us](mailto:mlazerow@senate.state.md.us).

### ***42nd District – Delegate Sue Aumann***

#### ***If It Comes Out of My Pocket It's A Tax - Lesson we learned from the O'Malley-Brown Administration in 2010***

We received a first look at the budget in early January but now the hard work on it begins. There have been rumors of tax and fee increases ranging from the Apps purchased on your iPhone to charging you for flushing your toilet.

Here is a short list of what the O'Malley-Brown Administration has proposed:

- **Gas Tax #1** - 18-cent/per gallon **increase** on gas the gas tax in MD would be over
- **Gas Tax #2** – applying the 6% sales tax to gasoline
- **Boat Fees** – increasing, by hundreds of dollars, the amount to register a boat in MD
- **App Tax** - applying the sales tax to all iTunes and internet downloads
- **Amazon Tax** – applying the sales tax to all internet purchases
- **Cigar Tax** – applying the current tobacco tax to cigars and smokeless tobacco
- **Bullion & Gold Tax** – adding 6% sales tax to all coin and precious metal purchases
- **Income Tax** – increasing the income tax .25%
- **Verizon Tax** - applying a tax to all land lines
- **Flush Tax** - increasing the flush fee and changing the structure to be based on usage
- **Thousandaires Tax** - eliminating the mortgage interest deduction for 100K+ earners
- **Toll Tax** - Doubling the tolls for all MD tunnels and bridges

#### **More on Rising Boat Fees**

House Bill 1307 - Natural Resources - State Boat Act - Fees and Requirements introduced by the O'Malley-Brown Administration is going to raise boat fees.

Under this bill the current \$24 2-year registration fee would increase to:

- \$75 for a boat larger than 16ft
- \$125 for a boat larger than 32ft
- \$250 for a boat larger than 45ft
- \$700 for a boat larger than 65ft

This change would make Maryland much more expensive than Delaware, where the largest boats cost \$60 a year and Virginia, where a three-year registration fee maxes out at \$45. This new fee would not only hurt boaters but would hurt the marinas and all businesses that rely on watermen.

Being home to the Chesapeake Bay, Maryland has a lot to offer to nearly 200,000 boaters that live here. I know that many of you enjoy spending time out on the water and the Administration's policies are aimed at hurting the industry. I am opposed to this increase.



## **SHA & Dulaney Valley Road**

Over the past several months I have been working with the State Highway Administration (SHA) because of the increased destruction and traffic accidents that have occurred on Dulaney Valley Road. Recently, Mr. David Peake, the Director of the SHA for this area and Ms. Dianna Hines, Transportation Engineer Manager met with me and a number of Board members from Fox Chapel to walk along Dulaney Valley Road.

Here is a copy of the email report updating the plans to be made along the roadway to help make our community safer. I will keep you up to date when the work will start and hold a follow up meeting with the communities and representative from SHA.

## **Wind: What the Governor is NOT telling**

Off-shore wind initiatives would increase our energy costs; estimates are projected to tack \$2 to \$9 dollars a month to consumer's utilities' bills and potential increases in the thousands to larger businesses.

NRG energy, a well-capitalized wind industry has **halted all off shore projects**, including one off the coast of Delaware because it could not secure an investment partner. Congress decided to end loan guarantees or tax credits to states interested in pursuing off shore wind projects.

States, which were previously looking to install off-shore wind projects, are now stopping their projects due to the federal government removing subsidies. If the O'Malley – Brown Administration wind power initiatives go forward in the absence of Federal aid, YOU will be the one left on the hook after the Administration has left office. For more information on why off-shore wind energy should NOT be installed in MD.

## **Redistricting Finalized**

Every 10 years, following the U.S. Census, Maryland redraws the Congressional and Legislative districts. [The Congressional map](#) was presented and voted on during the October 2011 special session.

When the General Assembly reconvened in January the Governor presented the redrawn [Legislative map](#). The map had 45 days from when it was presented to be challenged in the General Assembly, no alternative maps were allowed and thus the Governor's bill became law. There is a possibility that the legislative map may be challenged in court.

The new 42<sup>nd</sup> District is split into two districts, A and B. "A" incorporates the area below the beltway while "B" stretches from north of the beltway to the Pennsylvania line in Baltimore County. I look forward to representing 42B, the northern part of Baltimore County in 2014. It will allow me the opportunity to meet new people and learn more about rural and agricultural issues while serving in Annapolis

## **2012 Presidential Primary – Early Voting Starts March 24, 2012**

The 2012 Presidential Election season is in full swing. After 27 debates and 48% of Americans (24 states) have cast their votes there is still no clear Republican nominee. The competition is still between Speaker Newt Gingrich, Congressman Ron Paul, Massachusetts Governor Mitt Romney, and Pennsylvania Senator Rick Santorum.

Here in Maryland our Presidential Primary is Tuesday, April 3, 2012. However early voting starts Saturday, March 24, 2012 and runs through Thursday, March 29, 2012. If you are planning to vote early the closest location to Timonium is the Towson University

Administrative Building located at 7720 York Road Towson, MD 21252. For those of you who are planning to vote on Primary Election Day (April 3rd) please check [www.mdelect.net](http://www.mdelect.net) to find out your voting location as it may have changed during the redistricting process.

In addition to voting for our Presidential contenders you will also be voting for U.S. Senator and Representative in Congress. As I reported last week, Congressional Redistricting took place since the 2010 Election, please visit the Maryland State Board of Elections ([www.elections.state.md.us](http://www.elections.state.md.us)) to see if your Congressional Representative has changed.

## **Sponsored Legislation Update**

I am proud to be the lead sponsor on House Bill 847 - Seniors Tax Relief Act. The purpose of this bill is to increase the amount allowed as a deduction for additional exemptions for individuals who are blind or are at least 65 years old. I testified

on this bill on February 28<sup>th</sup> in the Ways and Means committee, it was well received and I will update you if it receives a favorable report from the committee.

Additionally, I am a co-sponsor on House Bill 521 - Interest on Security Deposits. This legislation seeks to reduce the amount of interest, from 3% to 1%, landlords are required to pay on security deposits when they are returned to the tenant. Currently landlords are required to pay 3% on security deposits regardless of the interest the deposit accrued in a savings account or money market fund. Testimony was heard on February 23<sup>rd</sup> and has yet to be voted on in committee.

This session I also sponsored Caylee's Law. For those of you who are unfamiliar with the law, it seeks to change the reporting guidelines for a death or disappearance of a child.

#### Background:

In July of 2011 Casey Anthony was acquitted of the murder of her daughter Caylee because there was substantial evidence that she did not report the death of her daughter to authorities.

Caylee's Law (HB122): The law seeks to make it a felony if the death of a child (under 12y/o), who is not under the care of a doctor, is not reported within one hour or if a child goes missing and is not reported to authorities within 24 hours.

Examining the Problem in Maryland: In Baltimore City 58 children between age of 1 and 9 were reported missing more than 24 hours after they disappeared. (2009-2011)

### ***42nd District – Delegate Steve Lafferty***

#### State Budget and Potential Tax Changes

I have heard from a lot of people about the Governor's proposed taxes and State budget. Most of the comments indicate that we should have no tax increases and government programs and funds should be cut.

At this point, it looks like the Governor's plan to reduce the mortgage interest deduction may be dead and that the massive shift of pension obligations to the Counties won't take place. There are a lot of other ideas on the table, including "level funding" at last year's rates, increasing the income tax for those who have higher incomes, eliminating various tax credits and cutting hundreds of millions of dollars from education.

I don't expect the full budget picture to jell for a couple of weeks. And, this includes the gas tax. I know that we need more money for transportation and a gas tax is the best potential source. *However, I do not like the timing.* Gas prices continue to soar while businesses and jobs are not growing. It will wait to see what is finally proposed but cannot support the Governor's plan as it stands.

While many want me to oppose all tax increases and others do not want their particular programs cut, I think it is irresponsible to categorically say I will oppose all tax increases or oppose all program cuts. There must a balance if we are going to continue to support education, meet public safety needs and meet our Medicaid obligations. The question is: where is that balance?

#### Marriage Equality

The legislature has passed, and Governor O'Malley has signed, legislation which makes Maryland the eighth state to legalize same sex marriage. As I have previously said, I voted for this important legislation. I see it as a civil rights issue and do not believe that marriages between men and women will be harmed or reduced.

#### Baltimore County School Board

Efforts to find a different way to choose the Board of Education of the Baltimore County Public Schools have been on-going since I was elected in 2006. We have considered an appointments commission, a hybrid and a fully elected system of choosing the women and men who lead our school system.

The County House delegation with bi-partisan support, voted for a fully elected nine member Board. This past week, the County Senate delegation met and voted for a hybrid Board that would have seven elected and four appointed members. Since we have different proposals, we have to come together to reconcile differences, if we are going to change from the fully appointed Board.

### Legislative Redistricting

The Governor's proposed redistricting plan has now become law. When it takes effect in the 2014 election, District 42 will continue to have a single Senator (currently Sen. Jim Brochin). There will be a new, single Delegate sub-district (42A) for the communities inside the Beltway to the city line and from Charles Street to Loch Raven Boulevard. The new sub-district 42B will continue to include Lutherville, Timonium and parts of Loch Raven Village and will include a large part of the northern County. Please let me know if you have questions about the redistricting.

### Early Voting

Primary election day in Maryland is now **April 3**. The State's Early Voting will be held between March 24 and March 29 at voting centers throughout the County. The closest poll for those in the 42<sup>nd</sup> District is the Towson University Administration Building at York Road and Cross Campus Drive. Except for Sunday, March 25, the voting centers are open between 10 a.m. and 8 p.m. each day. For addresses, directions and other information, go to [www.elections.state.md.us/voting/early\\_voting.html](http://www.elections.state.md.us/voting/early_voting.html).

### Some Local Matters

I was pleased to see that Maryland's Department of Natural Resources seeks to include nearly \$400,000 for projects in FY 2013. I will share more detail when I get it.

Thanks to Delegate Aumann for working with the State Highway Administration ("SHA") on the Dulaney Road problems. Public safety is critical for all who use that busy road.

I have been in touch with SHA and with the City about the persistent water problem at York and Stevenson. The City has not found the source of the leak but I have pushed SHA to continue to monitor it so that – as temperatures drop- we don't have icing problems.

Again, congratulations to Dr. Adam Riess. Dr. Riess, a 2011 Nobel Prize winner from Towson, was recently recognized and honored by the legislature for his extraordinary work. A Professor of Physics and Astronomy at Johns Hopkins, he led a team that discovered the expansion rate of the universe is expanding due to "dark energy". It was a thrill to have Dr. Riess and his wife with us.

I continue to appreciate all of the calls, letters and emails about issues that are important to you. Please feel free to contact me at 410-841-3487 or at [Stephen.Lafferty@house.state.md.us](mailto:Stephen.Lafferty@house.state.md.us).

### 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. 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.

### Crime Reporting On-line – Frank Regan

**Citizens Now Can Report Certain Minor Crimes Online** - As of February 27, 2012 Baltimore County has given citizens the ability to report certain minor crimes online. This system will allow people to get crime reports much more quickly – and will free officers to handle more serious incidents. County Executive Kevin Kamenetz and Police Chief James Johnson held a press briefing at the North Point Police Precinct to demonstrate the new online crime reporting tool.

"Our officers are a precious resource, and it doesn't make sense to send them on routine, low-priority calls for service when technology and modern communications give us a better alternative," said Chief Johnson. "Every officer who doesn't need

to respond to a routine call because of this new system is available to investigate cases, respond to emergencies and patrol their neighborhoods.”

**Improved Customer Service** - The Office of Information Technology and the Police Department’s Technical Services Division about a year ago began developing an online crime reporting system that allows citizens to self-report certain types of crimes. “In every agency, we want to use technology and modern communication tools to improve customer service and make more efficient use of resources,” County Executive Kamenetz said.

This Internet-based crime reporting tool is available at <http://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/Agencies/police/onlinereport/index.html> to victims of the following crimes:

- Lost property
- Abandoned motor vehicles
- Hit-and-run accidents (not involving injury)
- Destruction of vehicular property
- Destruction of other property
- Theft from a motor vehicle
- Other theft

In the months ahead, the Department will evaluate whether other categories of crime might be appropriate for online reporting. The tool takes customers through a series of simple questions to determine if the circumstances allow them to file an online report, or if they need to follow the traditional reporting process. Crimes involving suspects, injury or significant amounts of money or damage are not eligible for online reporting.

Once a citizen files the report, the Police Department’s Records division reviews it. If the report contains errors, Records personnel send it back to the user for correction. If there are no corrections, the citizen immediately receives an e-mail containing a case number, and he/she can print out a copy of the report for insurance purposes, etc.

This is a major improvement in customer service. Until now, customers often have had to wait for reports on lesser crimes because police officers make serious issues a higher priority. Now, people don’t have to wait.

Since November, about 330 people have used the online reporting system.

### **iWatch, iReport, iKeep Us Safe** – Frank Regan

iWatch Baltimore County is a neighborhood awareness program created to educate and encourage citizens to vigilantly watch around them and report suspicious behaviors that may have connections to crime, as well as local, state, or national security threats. The Baltimore County Police Department has initiated this community partnership to help and assist local neighborhoods in staying safe from crime and possible terrorist activities. Together we can make our streets safe for our families and children, and can prevent our communities from being the target of possible terrorist attacks.

Subscribe to iWatch Crime Alerts: <http://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/Agencies/police/media/iWatch/index.html>

iWatch crime alerts provide information about wanted criminals, missing persons, criminal arrests, and other significant cases. In many of these cases the public's help is requested to help identify or locate a suspect. You can make a difference by alerting police to information you may have about crime trends and wanted criminals. Receive iWatch crime alerts directly in your e-mail inbox when you subscribe to this free service. iWatch crime alerts provide the most immediate information available to the public from the Police Department and are also available on the County web site.

**Report Suspicious Activity** !!! Citizens are encouraged to report activity that just does not fit. You can now use our web tips form to submit a tip or report suspicious activity to police. Information can be sent from your cell phone, hand-held device, or computer 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. Tips can also be e-mailed to: [iwatch@baltimorecountymd.gov](mailto:iwatch@baltimorecountymd.gov). However, to report an emergency or a crime in progress call ....“911” immediately.

## Regular and New Helpful Items – Frank Regan

- **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.baltimorecountymd.gov/Subscribe>
- **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.baltimorecountymd.gov/Subscribe/updates/index.html>

## GTCC Trivia – Did You Know?

*There is so much history and tradition here in both the greater GTCC and the Baltimore County areas 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 and interesting sides of our many Communities.*

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

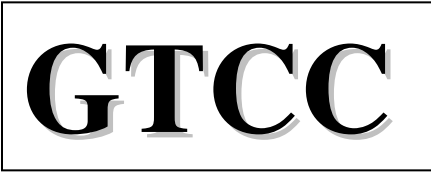
1. The Beaver Dam Swim Club is located at the site of an important nineteenth century commercial activity. What was it?
2. Name the first three turnpikes in the County.
3. The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad (B&O) founded in 1827 traversed Baltimore County. What was significant about its founding?
4. A castle once stood on the land that became the Loch Raven Reservoir. What was 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. The Oregon Iron Furnace established in 1849 by Richard Green. The abandoned iron ore pit on the property is always full of water and provides a supervised swimming hole.
2. In 1804, Frederick, Reisterstown, and York Roads were incorporated as the first successful private turnpikes.
3. The B&O was the nation's first chartered common carrier railroad.
4. Glen Ellen. It was the birthplace and estate of Harry Gilmore, the notorious native son and Confederate raider. It had turrets and high mullioned windows, 18 rooms and one bathroom. It is now in ruins.



Glen Ellen



# The Greater Timonium Community Council

*The Next GTCC General Meeting is scheduled for March 14<sup>th</sup> at the Cockeysville Library at 7:00 pm*

## CURRENT ISSUES

**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. Thus far the project has not moved to the construction phase (E. Rockel)

**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 proposed. This project has not moved beyond the preliminary concept stage. (E.Rockel)

**York Road, Timonium Condo Project:** Recently land owner A&A Global Industries notified GTCC that the condo project proposed by Keelty & Company will not proceed. A & A Global is examining other possible uses for the site, none of which at this time would include a high rise residential development. As of February 2012, the owner notified that he is attempting to lease the remaining building for commercial uses, and the first tenant will be a ( E. Rockel & GTCC Executive Committee)

**Pot Spring Road, South of Old Bosley Road:** A ten acre parcel is under contract to a developer who wishes to construct an “over 55” age restricted development. Originally proposed as a four, 4-story building complex, the plans have been changed to call for 33 carriage style units. This parcel would require PUD approval because the number of units exceeds the density permitted under the current zoning. At a community meeting on the proposal, nearly 200 residents expressed opposition to the increased density on the site. Ultimately, Councilman Huff elected not to allow this project to proceed as a PUD. As a result, no more than 13 dwelling units may be built on the property. Councilman Huff reports the developer intends to move forward with the 13 unit project.( E.Rockel, Dulaney Gate HOA, Springlake HOA, Timberline Park HOA )

**Spencer’s Crossing, West Timonium Road:** This housing development, just west of the I-83 interchange, had originally been proposed to be a large day care center. Through negotiations with the developer and an offer to support increased housing density on the site, a residential housing development became approved in lieu of the day care facility. One unit was completed, as well as a model home, and several units are partially completed. Recently, it was learned that the property has gone up for foreclosure, and a public auction took place on March 9. The lender failed to sell the property at auction.( E. Rockel and PVVW Community Assoc.)

**Comprehensive Zoning Map Process, 2012:** Go to the GTCC website for a full list of properties requesting to be rezoned. As of the end of the open filing period, there was one more property requesting to be rezoned compared with a similar point in 2008.

**Michael’s Café & Grill:** The owners received zoning approval to enlarge the outdoor patio area on the southwest and south sides of the existing building. A stone-clad wall, approximately five foot high, will surround the patio seating area. (E.Rockel & Yorkshire/Haverford C.A.)

**Former Sterling Chemical Building, West Timonium Road:** This property is now under the control of St. John Properties, who plan to convert the former warehouse into retail shops and a restaurant, consistent with its manufacturing zoning. St. John Properties recently underwent a zoning hearing in which they petitioned to seek relief from the parking requirements and to reduce the side yard setbacks. The Administrative Law Judge has not issued a ruling as of yet. (E.Rockel)

**WaWa Convenience Store, York Road at Halesworth:** This site, formerly part of the Anderson Automotive PUD, was the subject of a hearing to amend the previously approved planned unit development. The Monterey Community Association and GTCC supported this amendment, however, several other nearby owners opposed the plan. The hearing has been continued to provide for more testimony. ( GTCC and Monterey C.A.)

## 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, F. Regan, GTCC Executive Committee.)

**York & Ridgely Roads:** The former Lincoln/Mercury dealership has been converted to a Walgreen Drug Store and pad site. The pad site recently received approval for the proposed building to be enlarged by approximately one third. (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)

**Timonium Fairgrounds:** Both the GTCC and adjoining neighborhood associations hope that the next Councilman will rectify the rezoning error in which 60 acres of this property were zoned for commercial usage during the Comprehensive Rezoning Process of 2008. During the open filing period for the 2012 CZMP, the GTCC requested that these 60 acres be returned to the prior zoning, MR-IM.

### **COMPLETED ISSUES**

**11311 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. This case ultimately went to the Circuit Court, where the Judge ruled that the signage variance was not appropriate, and the tenant will have to remove certain signage on the building...(E. Rockel)

**10 Aylesbury Road:** A special hearing recently granted permission to open a commercial recreational facility in the space formerly occupied by LAX World. The operator informs that this facility will exclusively serve children age 13 & under, accompanied by an adult, for recreational activities and children's parties. Look for the business to open later this summer. (E. Rockel)

**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. Over the Summer of 2011 the developer started the rough grading and utility construction for the subdivision. (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. 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)

**302 North Avenue, Lutherville:** The property owner was given a side yard variance in order to subdivide this parcel and construct a second house on a newly created second lot. The creation of the second lot will allow the owner to afford to rehabilitate the existing Victorian dwelling on the initial lot. (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 )

**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. The owner ultimately dropped the appeal, and only residents of the property will be able to work in the home office.( E. Rockel, Valley Crest C.A., Dulaney Forest C.A. & Valley Garth CA)

**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. At a Hearing on January 15<sup>th</sup>, Deputy Zoning Commissioner Thomas Bostwick approved the amendment of the previous PUD plan ( E.Rockel, J. Rogers & People’s Counsel)

**1734 York Road ( Ridgely Plaza Shopping Center):** Neighboring businesses report that Mercy Medical will occupy the vacant space previously used by Giant Foods. A zoning hearing was held on March 3, 2011 to allow Mercy Medical to increase the size of the building by approximately 3,000 sq. feet. As of April 30<sup>th</sup>, this medical facility is opened. (E. Rockel)

**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 has 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 has 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. Don Rascoe, Deputy Director of Permits & Development Management recently reported that the owner has corrected the parking violations and that the owner has now complied with the Board of Appeals order to correct the problem (E. Rockel, and GTCC Executive Committee)

**Timonium Fairgrounds:** Assistant General Manager Andy Cashman informed us that a multi-purpose maintenance building will be constructed on the north end of the Fairgrounds in the coming months. This maintenance building is one story, and it backs up to the Turf Inn Office building. Cashman also informed us that they plan to replace the existing “event” sign due to its functional obsolescence.

**YorkRidge Shopping Center, York & Ridgely Roads:** Owners of the property seek a variance from the parking requirements in order to add a free-standing pad site at the shopping center. The pad site associated with this variance is estimated to be two to three years away from any development. Additionally, long range plans call for re-development of the service station site at the corner of York and Ridgely. The variance hearing on the parking is scheduled for mid November. The owners received the parking variance, but no immediate plans are in store for building the pad site. ( E. Rockel)

**Hunt Valley Crossing, 11119 McCormick Road:** This existing Verizon-owned warehouse property is being proposed to be redeveloped as a 262 unit apartment complex under the Planned Unit Development guidelines. The project’s architectural design attractively fits into the Hunt Valley Business Community landscape. A community input meeting to learn about the project produced no objections to the project from nearby residential communities. However, nearby businesses did raise some objections. In response to the concerns expressed by nearby manufacturing businesses, Councilman Todd Huff has reached a compromise wherein the developers of the parcel will not proceed with an apartment use for the property.( GTCC Executive Committee)