

The Greater Timonium Community Council

Volume XIII Issue I

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

January 2011

President: Eric Rockel, 410-252-8439

VP: Jim Rogers, 410-667-6715 Treasurer: Frank Regan, 410-337-5070 Secretary: Joan Mahan, 410-252-3644 Membership: Frank Regan, 410-337-5070
Newsletter: Frank Regan, 410-337-5070

***** NEWSLETTER *****

President's Message – Eric Rockel

Are Baltimore County Public Schools Becoming Disconnected From the Communities They Serve?

From this writer's perspective, Baltimore County Public Schools are creating a divide between themselves and an important constituent, their surrounding neighborhoods. This divide is not a recent phenomenon; it has been a slow and creeping disconnect. This problem does not usually emanate from the teachers and principals of a given school. Rather it initiates at the administrative level of BCPS, in other words at Greenwood on Charles Street, and then filters down to the level that impacts the individual schools. Let me give you some examples of this trend.

The use of school facilities for community meetings after school hours has become more difficult over the years. About six or seven years ago the schools started requiring that community associations carry liability insurance naming BCPS as an additional insured in order to use school facilities. This dictate did not trouble me greatly because given that we are living in an increasingly litigious society, the measure seemed like a good business practice. Yet I did observe that most private facilities that did allow for community meetings did not request liability insurance before they would host a community event. What bothered me more about the BCPS requirement was that it would still take a month or more to receive approval to use their facilities after the required paper work had been submitted. More recently, I understand from one community association president that the school system now also requires that the community association submit a certificate in good standing from the Charter Division of the State Comptroller. Give me a break!! The certificate of good standing requirement exemplifies bureaucratic thinking at its worst level.

While neither of the above examples is inherently improper, they do foster a spirit of estrangement between the school system and its surrounding neighborhoods. Some other examples of this pattern are a little more sinister. Take for example how the Board of Education dealt with the school overcrowding situation in Towson. Their first solution, one that ultimately did not take place, was to recommend that a new school for special needs children be built in Mays Chapel. This approach was not the most practical from a budgetary perspective, and the Board of Education failed to engage the residents of Mays Chapel to solicit their opinions before the Board announced its initial plan to the public. So in that instance the community's opinion, which was strongly against such a plan, was totally marginalized by the education decision-makers. Parents of students at Hampton Elementary School, where enrollment is some 200 students over capacity, feel similarly mistreated when they were first promised that a school addition would start to be constructed in the summer of 2010, only to find out that the Board of Education had no authority to offer such a promise without getting the okay from the County Executive and County Budget Office first. We saw a similar attitude concerning the lack of air conditioning at Ridgely Middle School in that the school administrators failed to acknowledge that they made a mistake in not providing adequate ventilation for the school, and those same administrators tried to obfuscate their mistake by using the budget as a tool to hide their oversight.

The most recent example is even more mind blowing. In my opinion the most important constituency of BCPS is the individual Parent Teacher Associations. Individual PTAs work closely with their schools, raise thousands of dollars for the schools and generally maintain a vital level of communication with the schools on a variety of issues. Yet this past summer, BCPS issued a ruling that local PTAs could no longer hold Craft Fairs at the schools. Apparently, Rule 1300 states that "approved users may not sublease or rent BCPS facilities and grounds to any other parties." While the PTA is an approved user, the vendor who rents space from the PTA at a craft fair is not an approved user. The net result will be that thousands of dollars raised to help individual schools will be lost with this ban on craft fairs. This is but another slap in the face delivered by BCPS, and a slap at its most important constituency.

Hopefully BCPS can improve its public relations and governance in the future. Recently the Board of Education hired Robert Barrett to head its public outreach office. Mr. Barrett, who held important administrative positions under the past two County Executives, has always been a team builder and problem solver. Barrett will hopefully bring a fresh perspective. Another change that may be in the wind is a change to the appointed School Board. Delegate Steve Lafferty and Senators Jim Brochin and Bobby Zirkin have questioned the effectiveness of the appointed School Board. Either a partially or fully elected School Board would hopefully bring a much needed change in sensitivities to the BCPS.

GTCC General Meeting & 'New' 2011 Meeting Calendar

The GTCC held their 'Last Meeting' on **Wednesday, January 12th, 2011 at the Cockeysville Library Meeting Room**, with meetings STILL beginning promptly at 7:00 PM. **Our next Meeting will be February 9th, 2011 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 !!!

***** 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 2011

NOTICE !!!

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

Board of Directors 7:00 pm – 9:00pm

General Membership 7:00 pm – 9pm

February 09, 2011
April 13, 2011
June 08, 2011
August – No Meeting
October 12, 2011
December 14, 2011

January 12, 2011
March 09, 2011
May 11, 2011
July – No Meeting
September 14, 2011
November 09, 2011

*All Meetings are **NOW** Scheduled at the "Cockeysville Library" on the DATES NOTED ABOVE !!! Please check or Website or Newsletter before each meeting !*

Agenda and Speakers - GTCC January 12th, Meeting

1. Introductions
2. Treasurer's Report
3. Public Safety Report from the Cockeysville Police Precinct
4. Featured Speaker: Allen Robertson, the Community Association Network
5. Old Business:
 - A. Return of the PUD at Pot Spring and Old Bosley
 - B. Support to include communities in the 42nd legislative district during redistricting
 - C. Administrative Law Office
6. New Business:
 - A. Baltimore County Public Schools Ban Craft Fairs
 - B. Support for Hampton Elementary School Addition
 - C. Development Proposal for York and Halesworth Roads

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:

This month I wanted to make you aware of a police department-sponsored program known as the "Citizens' Academy. This is a 16-week program that allows Baltimore County citizens to experience a brief, yet informative version of the training that Baltimore County Police Officers experience. The 30th Citizens' Academy is scheduled to begin on Tuesday evening, March 1, 2011 at 6:30 PM and will run one night or day a week up until Tuesday, June 14, 2011. The majority of the classes are held at the Public Safety Building (Police and Fire HQ) at 700 E. Joppa Road in Towson. Precinct 7 has sponsored numerous CA attendees over the past ten years. I can say that each of those who have attended thoroughly enjoyed the experience and learned a great deal about their police department and how it functions.

A *non-finalized* TENTATIVE schedule and agenda exists for the 2011 class. The schedule covers topics from an overview of how the individual precincts operate to traffic laws and crash investigations to criminal investigations to an overview of the court system that includes a trip to the county circuit court. You will tour the 911 center and will visit Martin State Airport for a class on our Support Operations Division. Attendees will also have the optional opportunity to experience live fire with the departmental service weapon at the Police Firearms Range in Timonium (you don't have to if you don't want to!) Most attendees also enjoy experiencing what we call a "call for service scenario" in which you will be assigned to handle a play-acted "routine" call for service.

I know this requires an investment of your time but I guarantee that you will enjoy the experience and come away with a better understanding of this agency from top to bottom. There are still openings for attendees for the March 1st class. In addition to the schedule you can obtain an Application/Nomination form for anyone interested in attending by contacting Detective Teresa Moudry below. Simply fill out the form and mail it to:

Detective Teresa Moudry
Youth and Community Resources Section, BCoPD
700 E. Joppa Road
Towson, MD. 21286

Detective Moudry can be contacted at 410-887-5901 or by email at: citizensacademy@baltimorecountymd.gov

You may use my name, "Captain Martin Lurz, Precinct 7" in the "nominated by" section of the form. Please know that a cursory background check must be conducted before attendance can be approved.

Please consider this worthwhile opportunity!Captain Martin Lurz – Precinct 7

The Councilman's Corner – Vicki Almond & Todd Huff

We have invited both of our 2nd & 3rd District County Councilwoman Vicki Almond & Councilman Todd Huff, 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 are from both Vicki & Todd:

2nd District - Councilwoman Vicki Almond

Councilwoman Vicki Almond is committed to the improvement and success of Northwest Baltimore County. As a member of the Reisterstown – Owings Mills – Glyndon Coordinating Council, the Rosewood Advisory Board, PTA President, Baltimore County Commission for Women and former Chief of Staff to Maryland State Senator Bobby Zirkin she has steadfastly worked to promote preservation and smart development. Her goals are to meet with all concerned constituents of the 2nd Council District, exceptional constituent service, and forge a strong partnership with state elected officials on issues of concern at the state and local level so that Baltimore County and the State of Maryland will benefit.

Senior Council Assistant – Jonathan Schwartz

Mr. Schwartz was the legislative director to Delegate Jon Cardin of Northwest Baltimore County from 2008-2010 before joining Councilwoman Almond's office. He graduated from Haverford College with a B.A. in Political Science and a Masters degree from the University of Pennsylvania in Internal Relations. He is currently the First Vice-President of the Reisterstown – Owings Mills – Glyndon Coordinating Council and a former Area Vice-President of the Baltimore County PTA.

Legislative Aide – Steven Heintz

Mr. Heintz was the legislative director to Delegate Dana Stein of Northwest Baltimore County from 2007-2010 before joining Councilwoman Almond's office. He graduated from the University of Baltimore with a B.A. in Jurisprudence in 2007 and currently attends the University of Baltimore - School of Law as a third year evening student. Mr. Heintz will be working on a variety of issues in the council office including constituent service and legislation.

Legislative Aide – Sarah Sawyer

Ms. Sawyer served as a co-campaign manager on Councilwoman Almond's campaign and enjoys helping others succeed. She will graduate from Stevenson University in May of 2011. As an active member of the student body, she serves as President of the Justice Society and participates in numerous extracurricular activities that help students at Stevenson University gain a more beneficial experience.

3rd District - Councilman Todd Huff

I am very honored that you invited me to be a guest columnist for the GTCC January Newsletter. Let me begin by saying that it is quite a privilege to be the newly inaugurated Third District Councilman. I am a lifelong resident of Baltimore County and to have earned the confidence of the voters to serve this beautiful district is extremely meaningful.

During the last three years on the campaign trail I had the opportunity to meet many new people who are members of the Greater Timonium Community Council. I also have attended many of your meetings, as my own home community association, Dulaney Valley Improvement Association, of which I am the immediate past president, is proud to fall under the GTCC umbrella. We have a great community and so many of you are proactive in taking on leadership roles. Strong and safe neighborhoods are built around the concept of looking out for one another and keeping open lines of communication with your elected officials. To that end, please feel free to call upon me or my staff at any time that we can be of assistance to you. My Senior Council Aide is Marcie Goodman and my Legislative Aides are CR Hogendorp and Robin Troy. My office can be reached at 410-887-3387 or via e-mail at council3@baltimorecountymd.gov.

I understand many of the issues that are important to you - from schools to traffic to code enforcement complaints - to name but a few. Please rest assured that I will do all that I can to work with you and all of the stakeholders to ensure the best possible outcome for all of your concerns.

Thank you for the confidence you have placed in me. My family and staff join me in wishing each of you and your families a happy and healthy New Year.

Annual 2011 GTCC Membership Dues – Frank Regan

GTCC '2011' 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 2011 will be mailed out in January so if you don't receive one or if you need a copy, please don't hesitate to let us know. . Please send your 2011 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!

A Fresh Way to Solve Disputes – Eric Rockel

If you missed the last GTCC meeting, I wanted to make you aware of the services offered by the Conflict Resolution Center of Baltimore County. The CRC is a private, non-profit organization that mediates disputes among individuals, communities and organizations. Has a disagreement with a neighbor over a pet or a child's behavior created tensions or a few harsh words? Well then, maybe an attempt to mediate the issue is worth exploring. Have teen and parent communications reached a level where the discourse is starting to get a little bit unhealthy? The Conflict Resolution Center volunteers can help with that too.

This service is voluntary. So both sides in any disagreement must be willing to attempt to reach a compromise. Plus, the service is offered at no cost to individuals. So it is not expensive like the services offered by professional mediators that you may have encountered in certain business applications. What the CRC does ask of participants is that they help CRC find acceptable mediation sites, such as a community center, a church hall etc., to conduct the actual resolution sessions. If you need these services or would like to learn more, please call 410-663-7070.

The Librarian's Corner – Mollie Fine

We have also invited our Cockeysville Library Manager, Mollie Fine, 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:

The Year of the E-Book

Did you receive a Kindle, Nook, I-Pad or Sony Reader for the holidays? If so, you are one of thousands of Baltimore County residents that received some type of e-Book Reader or audio book listening device this year; as a result, questions about E-books have been pouring into our Information Desk. For those who don't have an e-Reader it is interesting to discover that technology now gives library customers a wealth of ways to enjoy their favorite authors by downloading, for free, audio books and e-Books. BCPL has contracted with three companies in order to offer a broad range of titles. The library has easy-to-understand instructions from our library homepage, (www.bcpl.info) simply click on the 'Books and More' link and follow instructions; for more directions stop by the Cockeysville Library for a flyer on downloadable audio and/or e-Books.

Post-Renovation Improvements

Since the completion of the renovation in July the library has been busy with finishing touches. On your next library visit look for additional lighting, improved parking and new book displays. For a personal tour, stop at the Information Desk and ask for the Branch Manager, (Mollie Fein) or call me at the library. It would be my pleasure to point out what is new and let you know about upcoming improvements.

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.

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	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			

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.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?

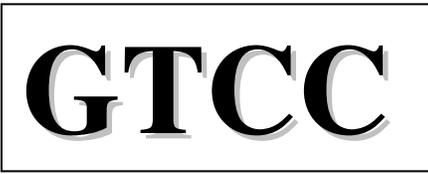
There is so much history and tradition here in both the greater GTCC and the Baltimore County areas that books could easily be written and filled with all the information. However, from time to time we will provide a source for the lighter and interesting sides of our many Communities.

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

1. Who was the County's second County Executive?
2. A manufacturing firm located on Chesapeake Avenue, east of Delaware Avenue in Towson became very busy at Christmas time years ago. What did it produce?
3. Which community in Baltimore County was the first to incorporate?

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. Christian H. Kahl (D) 1958-1962.
2. Harry Heim's Christmas Tree Ornament and Glass Blowing Works was located on the site of the Towson Library Parking Garage.
3. Lutherville, Incorporated in 1868.



The Greater Timonium Community Council

The Next GTCC General Meeting is scheduled for January 12th at the Cockeyville 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 & Business Park Drive. Residential, commercial & office uses 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. (E. Rockel & GTCC Executive Committee)

1734 York Road (Ridgely Plaza Shopping Center): Neighboring businesses report that Mercy Medical will occupy the vacant space previously used by Giant Foods. Additionally, a proposed “stealth cell phone tower” is being proposed for a space on the southern side of the property, but County officials informed the owner that a hearing would be required before permission is granted. (E. Rockel)

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. (E. Rockel, Dulaney Gate HOA, Springlake HOA, Timberline Park HOA)

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. (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). 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. (E. Rockel, Pine Valley and All)

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)

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)

2340-2342 York Road: Request to expand a dentist offices, which necessitates variances to setbacks and driveway widths. Construction expected to begin in June 2010.(W. Timonium Heights)

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. It has come to our attention that the original developer is trying to sell the property to a third party to develop. (E.Rockel, Longford North)

Hampton Manor: This property is located on the east side of Scott Adam Road and is an existing multifamily residential development that will be adding more units. Concept Plan Conference scheduled for 11/6/2006 at 10:00 am in Room 123 County Office Building. Community Input Meeting will be scheduled thereafter. The community input meeting demonstrated several objections to the plan. The most common objection was a proposal to connect Southfork Road with the existing roads in the apartment complex. Residents on Southfork are concerned about additional "cut thru" traffic. 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 15th, Deputy Zoning Commissioner Thomas Bostwick approved the amendment of the previous PUD plan (E. Rockel, J. Rogers & People's Counsel)