

# The Greater Timonium Community Council

Volume IX Issue IV

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

September 2007

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

### President's Message – Eric Rockel

#### Solidarity and Commitment in our Communities

Recently, I read an editorial page column by Clarence Page of the Chicago Tribune. Page's column dealt with the findings of Robert Putnam, a Harvard University political scientist. Professor Putnam authored *Bowling Alone: The Collapse and Revival of American Community* in 2000, which dealt with the phenomenon that Americans are withdrawing from civic engagement in recent decades. We see that lack of engagement in low voter turnout for elections, in fewer charitable organizations at the local level and even in the fact that it gets more difficult to recruit volunteers for community association activities.

Putnam concluded a new study based upon interviews with nearly 30,000 people from around our country. His findings indicate that at least in the short term this country's ethnic and racial diversity has led to less civic activity, fewer volunteers, less contributions to charities and an overall lessening of efforts on community projects.

Rather than bemoan the results of diversity, Professor Putnam looks it squarely in the eye and states that diversity is not only inevitable in modern societies but provides an important social asset. Yes in the short run diversity is problematic because it tends to inhibit "social capital", relationships that bond you to people who are like you, but in the medium to long run, societies create new forms of social solidarity by constructing "new, more encompassing identities."

Try bridging the diversity gap by welcoming those new comers who arrive in your community. Maybe you will find that you have more in common with the new comers than you ever imagined. Recently, I've found that some of the new comers in my community have a lot of ideas about how to help the community bond together and grow stronger. Putnam's research centered on peoples of different races and cultures, but the same can be said of new residents from younger age groups as well. So regardless of whether the newcomers are different in age, race or cultural background, try welcoming them into your neighborhood as a way of strengthening your community.

### Lutherville Volunteer Fire Company Kicks Off Capital Campaign – Frank Regan

The Lutherville Volunteer Fire Company has kicked off their capital campaign to raise funds to construct a new fire station on its Bellona Avenue site. One of our member associations, Pinewood-Valleywood Community Association, will be holding a Bull and Oyster roast in September to support the fire company. Check out the LVFC Flyer at the end of the Newsletter ! Please Contact [LVFCbullroast@comcast.net](mailto:LVFCbullroast@comcast.net) if you are interested in participating in this worthy event.

### GTCC Website - <http://www.gtccinc.com>

The Greater Timonium Community Council maintains a website to provide everyone information related to our organization and activities of Community interest. We invite all of you to 'surf' our site where you can even find a brief summary of neighborhood Code Enforcement Definitions for Baltimore County in the *Issues Section*.

**GTCC General Meeting – This Wednesday, September 12th, 2007**

The GTCC will hold their 'Next Meeting' on **September 12th, 2007 at the “Cockeysville Library” Meeting Room**, at 9833 Greenside Dr., Cockeysville beginning at 7:00PM. The Ridgely Middle School will be undergoing major renovations through 2006 and 2007. They have asked the GTCC to vacate our use of Room 103 effective February 10, 2006. Therefore, we have arranged to hold our meetings at the Cockeysville Library in their Meeting Room.

Please note the meeting changes and remember that our *meetings will STILL begin promptly at 7:00 PM*.

Subsequent meeting dates are posted on our web page “www.gtccinc.com” and are noted in this Newsletter below.

**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 2007**

**NOTICE !!!**

\*\*\*\*\* **Meeting Schedule** \*\*\*\*\*

**Board of Directors 7:00 pm – 9:00pm**

**General Membership 7:00 pm – 9pm**

February 14, 2007  
April 11, 2007  
June 13, 2007  
August – No Meeting  
October 10, 2007  
December 12, 2007

January 10, 2007  
March 14, 2007  
May 09, 2007  
July – No Meeting  
September 12, 2007  
November 14, 2007

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

**The GTCC’s “Newsletter” Emailed**– Frank Regan

We have received a lot of positive feedback on our Newly Formatted and now Emailed bi-monthly GTCC Newsletter. Many of our Associations like the new .PDF format as they can now easily forward the Newsletter to many of their Board and Community Members. This is really great news to hear and it’s nice to know that the advantages of this delivery method are working out so nicely. We will also begin to post the Newsletter as a link on our GTCC website, shortly.

In Order for this to be a continuing success: **WE NEED YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS !!!** Please forward me your email address if you have not submitted it already to: **regan87@comcast.net**. Otherwise, you may not be receiving future Newsletters.

We hope that you continue to find this form of our Newsletter delivery easy to use and as informative as always. Please feel free to forward this Newsletter to all those in your Association that you think might benefit from it.

**Agenda and Speakers - GTCC September 12th Meeting** - for our next meeting: Tentative Schedule...

1. Introductions
2. Treasurer's and Secretary's Reports
3. Update on Safety from the Cockeysville Precinct
4. Senator Jim Brochin
5. Global View Condo Project- Community Input Meeting And Beyond
6. New Tools for the Comprehensive Zoning Process
7. Springdale Board of Appeals Case
8. Zoning Violation Enforcement
9. New Business

**Annual GTCC Membership Dues** – Marge DiNardo

GTCC '2007' Membership dues of \$50 dollars for the year are due at this time. We had a great response from (48) Associations contributing their Annual Membership dues payment last year to date! Dues notices for 2007 have been mailed out so look for them in your mail boxes. Please send your 2007 dues payments, if you haven't sent them yet, 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!

**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:*

Last year we had noticed a substantial increase in the number of burglaries being reported that were attributed to unlocked doors or windows. Because of this, we began a multi-faceted effort to get the word out to residents to lock their doors and windows. Our Community Outreach Team attended meetings to spread the word, I sent emails out on the email tree and we even used the resources of the print media to get the facts out. After that, the "no-force" burglary rate and the overall burglary rate began to drop. Because of a teamwork strategy, the numbers started going the other way.

Unfortunately, we began to creep up again a few months ago to the point where nearly 30% of the entire precinct's reported burglaries involved an unlocked door or window that allowed easy entry. We sent the word out again – I hope many of you received the emails – and, coupled with some significant recent burglary arrests, the numbers are declining once again. That's good news but we can't stop there.

Please continue to be vigilant and aware because those are key issues to crime prevention of any type. Sometimes it is the most simple and least costly things that have the greatest effect in preventing crime. And so, while we are on a current downward streak of numbers, I am asking once again to take the extra minute to secure your houses – garages and sheds too – and make sure that the doors and windows are L-O-C-K-E-D. And please, while you're doing that, check your car doors and windows too. Remember that thieves and burglars will seek the target with the least resistance to carry out their acts. They don't want to make noise or bring attention to themselves. The old adage is that "if someone really wants to get in, they will." That isn't always the case when you take the time to make their job difficult...and noisy...and just not worth it.

So, make your home look occupied when you are away – leaving on a radio and/or TV inside, exterior lights, and a few interior lights serves that purpose well. Collect your mail and newspapers and ask a trusted neighbor to keep an eye on the house.

The communities have stepped up before to spread the word. Please keep getting that word out to everyone. As always, my officers and I thank you for your support.

## **The Councilman's Corner** – Kevin Kamenetz & Bryan McIntire

We have invited both of our 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> District County Councilmen, Kevin Kamenetz & Bryan McIntire, 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 Kevin & Bryan:

### **Councilman Kevin Kamenetz**

Thank you for affording me the opportunity to continue to update the Greater Timonium Community on local matters of interest.

The quadrennial Comprehensive Zoning Map Process (CZMP) begins on September 4, 2007 concluding with the County Council vote on each zoning issue in mid September 2008. The Baltimore County Code provides that, during the Open Filing Period (September 4-October 15), any person, association, corporation, county agency or other entity may, upon payment of the specified fee, file a petition for a zoning reclassification on any property in the county. Certain information must be filed with the petition, all of, which becomes a matter of public record identified by an Issue Number. Between October 1 and October 31, additional Issues can be raised, but only by members of the Baltimore County Planning Board. Between November 1 and November 30, Issues can be raised only by members of the Baltimore County Council.

There will be two formal opportunities for public input during the CZMP. The Baltimore County Planning Board schedules a public hearing in each Councilmanic District during the month of March. Testimony is limited to those issues within the district for which the meeting is held. The County Council will then hold public hearings during the month of June in their respective districts following the same Planning Board format. The County Council has the sole authority to determine the final zoning on each property. The Council may accept, reject or modify the recommendations of the Planning Board. These options include retaining the existing zoning or applying to a property any zoning or combination of zones.

Informational material for the 2008 CZMP can be found on Baltimore County's web site at [www.baltimorecountymd.gov/go/czmp](http://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/go/czmp). A community planner is assigned to each of Baltimore County's seven council districts. They should be the first point of contact and can be reached by phone at 410-887-3480.

Please be mindful of our children's safety as they return to school and we settle back into our normal work schedules after an "always too short" summer.

### **Councilman Bryan McIntire**

A warm hello to all of my friends in the GTCC Community. I hope that you are enjoying the waning days of summer and for those of you with children returning to school, best wishes for a successful year.

The Comprehensive Zoning Map Process (CZMP) which takes place every four years begins on September 4, 2007. This is a one year review process looking at zoning throughout the entire county and applying it as a regional planning tool, as well as providing an opportunity for individuals to address specific zoning change requests on their personal property. Now is the time for individuals and community organizations to give thought to how you can use this zoning opportunity to shape your community. Our longstanding and well thought of Third District Planner, Bill Hughey, has just retired from Baltimore County. We will greatly miss Bill's thorough and thoughtful approach, his calm demeanor and warmth and caring toward all of our constituents. We are very lucky that joining our team as the new Third District Planner is Jessie Bialek who brings not only experience in planning but also excellent skills in GIS and mapping, a significant advantage for helping both county personnel and residents visualize proposed zoning changes. We welcome Jessie and encourage you to contact her at 410-887-3480 should you have any questions regarding the zoning process.

I look forward to seeing many of you as I travel throughout the beautiful Third District.

Please do not hesitate to contact me or my aides, Gail and Marcie, at any time that we can be of assistance to you at 410-887-3387.

## **The Legislator's Corner** – Senator James Brochin & Delegate Steve Lafferty

We have also invited our State Representatives to provide us with an article for our newsletter in the form of 'The Legislator's Corner' on any issue(s) that they feel might be of interest to our membership. The following articles this month are from the 42<sup>nd</sup> Legislative District from Jim & Steve:

### **Senator Jim Brochin**

The Myth about Raising Taxes: There are those in government who believe that the only way to cure a \$1.5 billion deficit is to raise the income tax, the sales tax, or a combination of both. After reviewing the budget thoroughly, I believe there is another way to address the deficit. We could freeze state workers salary for a year (that includes members of the Maryland General Assembly), cut the Sellinger Program by two-thirds (this is the State's aide to private colleges), and allow slots at Pimlico Race Course, Laurel Park and Rocky Gap Convention Center. The combination of these cuts along with slots would help us realize approximately \$1.5 billion in revenue that makes up our shortfall.

Government is instrumental in educating our citizens and providing for public safety. But we must be careful to ensure that we don't expand its role to other venues. Let's focus on the basics and not bankrupt our citizenry. Needless to say, I won't be supporting an income or sales tax increase during the next legislative session, and I am hopeful the Senate can block these proposed increases.

### **Delegate Steve Lafferty**

The summer is quickly fading but the issues that impact our communities continue. The largest issue, I believe, is the looming state budget. There are many potential combinations of ways to address the severe budget deficit. Reducing spending, raising various taxes and slots are all on the table. Due to various mandates for education and health care, particularly, it is impossible to cut across the board. We can probably find ways to cut spending, but that will not eliminate the total deficit. If there further cuts, where should they be? Regarding revenue, should we have slots at Timonium? What about shifting the teachers' pension obligations to the counties? A sales tax increase to 6%? A different income tax structure so those with the most income pay more (proportionately than those with smaller incomes)? I welcome your thoughts and suggestions on this tough issue.

While talking with many, many Timonium residents, I get a mixed response to slots and to slots at Timonium. Do you think that slots should be legalized in Maryland? If so, should they be at Timonium? If they are at Timonium, what safeguards are needed? I truly welcome your feedback on this matter

While causing some consternation, it is good to see the York Road work getting underway. While this will not be a panacea, it should help reduce some of the congestion problems. At the same time, I have asked about the condition of our state roads' bridges and have been reassured, in light of the tragedy in Minneapolis, that those in our district are being redesigned to insure public safety.

It is great to see that our schools are getting the funds needed to fulfill basic needs. The Governor's commitment to providing \$400 million (Baltimore County received \$52 million of that) was huge. We cannot neglect our older schools while more pressure is being put on them to improve performance.

As your Delegate, I have been actively working on a number of issues. One is the devastating impacts of foreclosures on a huge number of homebuyers. People have been lured into believing they can afford more house than they can and have frequently been offered "deals" that are close to fraudulent. State action is needed to protect homebuyers, to ensure that there is adequate notice and opportunity to resolve poor credit situations and to protect legitimate lenders. Young buyers and new homeowners should not be left without an opportunity to correct their situations.

I welcome your comments and the chance to meet with your community and civic organizations. Feel free to contact me at [Stephen.Lafferty@house.state.md.us](mailto:Stephen.Lafferty@house.state.md.us) or 410-841-3487.

## **Loch Raven Community Council [LRCC] - Donna Spicer**

*We have also invited one of our Associate Community Council President's to provide us with an understanding of her organization and what their mission is along with some of their concerns and issues that they are dealing with now:*

The Loch Raven Community Council [LRCC] is an umbrella organization made up of membership of the 18 Community Associations representing over 12,000 homes in the Loch Raven area.

LRCC boundaries are: North - Providence Rd., South - City Line, East - Perring Parkway, West - Goucher Blvd.

The number one thing LRCC is concentrating on is organizing an Email Notification and Info Exchange List. LRCC members are trying to build communication and participation. To meet timelines for needed action based on resident feedback by organizing meetings, distributing Fliers and newsletters, getting print media to cover issues and then getting residents to read the material and attend those meetings in this fast paced world is getting harder and harder. We are working to establish better and easier ways to get info out to neighborhoods and residents concerning:

Multiple adjacent proposed developments of all types. [commercial, residential and institutional] Trying to preserve a little of what is left of our history by preventing a once threatened tear down of and securing the County Landmarks Historic Designation for our Loch Raven Elementary School. The school now serves as the location of our Recreation and Parks Program, Senior Center, Senior Gift Shop, Community meeting space, Pre-school programs and other valuable uses. The school also has a vacant 2nd floor [used for storage], space that could be used instead for many programs and uses to better serve our community.

Proposed State and County Legislation that can have a great impact on our quality of life and viability. Education of Existing Laws and Regulations that ignorance of, can and does lead to issues and concerns in our neighborhoods that could be prevented. Available resources and amenities in our area that new [and some existing] residents are not aware of. Assisting our and other groups in our area to get out the word of needs, desires, activities or just to crow about a bragging right.

We are working to open lines of communication between neighborhoods and residents to find: What are the concerns of our residents? What are the needs and desires of our fairly high percentage of Senior residents.

Past Wish Lists led to the Loch Raven Blvd. Enhancement Project [streetscape for prettier and improved safety for traffic and pedestrians], brought back our Loch Raven Library [closed by County budget cuts], a Police Athletic League building [much needed space and programs for youth activities], our Police Community Outreach Office and Resource Center [crime prevention programs and partnership], reestablishing our Senior Center [closed by County budget cuts], increased property values, increased home ownership rates, increased Pride and Spirit of Community, etc., etc., etc....

What are the items that should be on a Future Wish List for Loch Raven?

## **Are You Tired?** – Lou Miller

The population of this country is 220 million, 84 million over 60 years of age, which leaves 116 million to do the work. People under 20 years of age total 95 million, which leaves 41 million left to do the work. There are 22 million who are employed by the government, which leaves 19 million to do the work. Four million are in the Armed Forces, which leaves 15 million to do the work. Deduct 14.8 million, the number in State and City offices, leaving 200,000 to do the work. There are 188,000 in hospitals, insane asylums, etc., so that leaves 12,000 to do the work. Now it may interest you to know that there are 11,998 people in jail, so that leaves just 2 people to carry the load. *That's you and me – and brother I'm getting tired to doing everything myself!* (Some figures may be out of date but the thought still applies)

It's not so much how busy you are, but why you are busy. The bee is praised. The mosquito is swatted. At one time in his life, Victor Borge started a chicken farm. "Do you know anything about breeding chickens?" a friend asked. "No," replied Borge, "but the chickens do."

Youth lives in the future..... Old people tend to live in the past..... Wise people enjoy the present.

## 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 (49) active dues paying Associations within its umbrella that represents over 60,000+ residents within our thriving neighborhoods. It is through the hard work and participation by each member Community Group that helps to enhance and protect the quality of residential life within our area.

Please find a list of participating Community Associations below:

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

## This & That – Regular and New Helpful Items

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

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

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

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

Council District 3 at: [http://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/MeetingsandEvents/pdm\\_d3.html](http://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/MeetingsandEvents/pdm_d3.html)

Council District 2 at: [http://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/MeetingsandEvents/pdm\\_d2.html](http://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/MeetingsandEvents/pdm_d2.html)

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

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

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

## **Loch Raven Cleanup – Marge Dinardo**

This year the Loch Raven Clean-up event will be held on Sunday, October 14th. Registration at Warren Elementary 11:00 a.m. Clean-up Volunteers needed! Transportation will be arranged for participants to get to the Loch Raven sites.

At 3:00 p.m. that day, there will be a special tree planted in honor of Jo Owen, a Community Environmental activist, who had dedicated herself to the improvement of watershed quality efforts. This tree will be overlooking the Loch Raven Dam. All are welcome to attend this special memorial in honor of Jo.

## **GTCC Trivia – Did You Know?**

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

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

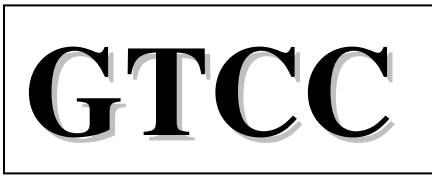
1. The first country day school in the United States opened in Baltimore County in 1897. What was its name?
2. The first deed in Baltimore County was filed in 1664. Where was the property?
3. What is “Towson’s Light-House”?
4. What year was the Baltimore County Police Department established?

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 Country Day School for Boys was opened in 1897. It is now known as the Gilman School. In 1897, the area was considered to be in the County until an annexation in 1918 by Baltimore City.



2. In 1664, the property of Captain Thomas Todd, known as “Todd’s Inheritance” was recorded. The original house on old North Point Road was burned by the British during the War of 1812. This structure was supposedly built of English brick that had served as ballast on tobacco ships that came directly to the plantation to load. For several years after the War, the Todd family lived in a granary on the property until a new brick house was finished in 1816. This structure can be seen today.
3. A genuine hero of the War of 1812 was native son General Nathan Towson who had a 40 year career in the army and was considered to be the “ablest artillery officer” in the United States. He was born in Towson in 1794 and was primarily a farmer until he joined the Baltimore militia when the British attacked the frigate Chesapeake in 1807. During the War of 1812 he fought in the Lake Erie theater and rose quickly through the ranks. His battery unit won the day in two important engagements in 1814 and became known as Towson’s Light-House from their constant flashes of rapid fire.
4. On April 11, 1874, the Maryland Legislature authorized the Baltimore County Commissioners “to appoint such number of policemen as they may deem necessary...the number not to exceed thirty at any one time...” A second provision said that “the pay of each policeman shall be two dollars per day, except such police as may be mounted; and mounted policemen shall furnish their own horses, trappings, equipments and forage for horses and the pay....shall be three dollars per day.



# The Greater Timonium Community Council

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*The Next GTCC General Meeting is scheduled for September 12th, 2007 at 7:00 PM at the “Cockeysville Library”.*

## CURRENT ISSUES

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

**York Rd.-Timonium Condo Proposal** – A & A Global Industries and Keelty Company are proposing a two tower Condo and mixed use on York Rd across from the north end of the Fair Grounds. Meetings were held 9/21/05, 10/27/05, 1/10/06, 3/08/06, 5/24/06 concerning adopting the site plan to minimize sight lines from Stratford Community at top of the hill. What started with 14 stories and one underground and two above ground parking stories is now reduced to two underground parking and one above is now 10 stories of 216 Condo's. Movement into the hill is now approximately 35 feet. Councilman will not grant a PUD going forward until the residential communities are satisfied with the plan. Concerns remain about the scale of these Condo towers and the precedent for future development on York Road. A meeting before Christmas produced a compromise. Keelty's architect reduced the towers to eight stories of residential units and one above-ground level of parking. The scale of the cupolas were also reduced. The Stratford Community Association's Board of Directors and GTCC have recently agreed not to oppose the Planned Unit Development (PUD) with respect to height and size. The Planning Board has approved the conceptual plan for this site We will continue to monitor the project with regard to specifics, such as landscaping, lighting, signage and the like. A Community Input meeting was held Aug. 27, 2007. Several issues were brought to the attention of the developers. Next step is Planning Board hearing on the proposal. (E. Rockel, L. Miller, GTCC Executive Committee & Stratford Community)

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

**Frankel Property (Old AAI north property) – Super Wal-Mart** – Comprehensive Zoning Cycle changed the zoning from ML to BM. Land was sold by AAI to Frankel. Statement made he planned to build a 260,000 sq. ft. retail center. Early May 2006 it was understood Wal-Mart would occupy that site. Construction began in the fall of 2006 with an expectation that the site would open in late 2007. E. Rockel attended a zoning hearing for variance requests concerning signage. Signs will be affixed to the building. No signage will be installed on York Road. (E. Rockel, L. Miller, GTCC Executive Committee)

**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. The owner will make a revised plan to address leaving Southfork Road closed. (E. Rockel)

## ON-GOING ISSUES

**Texas Station** – Jacoby Properties sold property to Peter Angelos. Zoning changed in 2004 Comprehensive Zoning Cycle from ML-IM to BM (Business Major). No further plans presented to occupy the property. GTCC continues to monitor this property. (E. Rockel, L. Miller, F. Regan, GTCC Executive Committee.)

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

**York Rd. Widening, Seminar to Ridgely Rd.** – York Road is a Md. State road. Funding approved of \$5.5 million from Md. State and \$875 thousand from Baltimore County to widen and provide for a third middle lane. Utility relocation activity started in August. Estimates of two years of construction were previously given for the entire project, including utility pole relocations, water main replacement and road work. From the Fall of 2006 to Fall 2007 expect water main construction, and road reconstruction to take place from Fall 2007 to Fall 2008. Construction has started on the east side of York Road (E. Rockel, GTCC Executive Committee)

**Becker Property** - Developers to modify their plans to comply with limitations set by the hearing officer on the project. While their modifications are scaled back from 20 homes on 89 acres. Hearing Officer's Hearing to take place in November 2007. (B. Moore & FRCA)

**Francis X. Gallagher Center**- The development Review Committee of Baltimore County approved the construction of a thirty foot wide by forty foot long pavilion, which will be constructed near the existing greenhouses on the property. This pavilion will support the existing functions on the property, including the greenhouses. The pavilion's style is reportedly similar to the pavilions at Oregon Ridge. (E. Rockel, M. DiNardo)

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

**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, Pinewood/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. Longford North is appealing the forest buffer variance requested for the development. (Falls Rd. Community Association)

## COMPLETED ISSUES

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

**Francis Burns Property, Falls Rd.** - A (19) new home project. Traffic, water table and environmental concerns. Hearing decision appealed. FRCA and neighbors recently reached agreement with the developer on developing the property. (B. Moore & FRCA)

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

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