

County Councilman David Marks Fifth District Newsletter

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Proudly Serving Carney, Kingsville, Loch Raven, Parkville, Perry Hall, and Towson

MESSAGE FROM COUNCILMAN MARKS: NEW PARKS ADVANCE IN PERRY HALL AND LOCH RAVEN

One of my priorities has been to preserve open space and build more parks in the Fifth District. Working with the County Executive and our state legislators, I am very pleased that four new public parks are advancing in Perry Hall over the next two years. Additionally, we have arranged for a fifth park to be built in the Loch Raven area that will be owned by NeighborSpace of Baltimore County.

Groundbreaking for the new arena at **Soukup Park** is on Saturday, March 29 at 10 a.m. The park is located west of Honeygo Boulevard at Joppa Road. The Perry Hall Recreation Council contributed \$1.5 million toward the cost of this facility, which is named in honor of longtime recreation volunteers.

The next Saturday, April 5, we will have the ribbon-cutting for the **Perry Paw Dog Park** at Honeygo Park. The ceremony starts at 10:30 a.m. Our office worked to get the dog park designated two years ago, and we helped raise private sector money to advance the project. You can learn more at <http://perrypawdogpark.com>.

Two other Perry Hall parks are advancing. **Gough Park** is located east of Honeygo Boulevard and Joppa Road. This

complex is under construction, with a completion date of fall 2014. Another project, **Angel Park**, will be a creative playground and amphitheatre next to the Perry Hall public library. Planning has just started for this project.



Finally, **Ridgely Manor Park** will open this spring, the first park along the Loch Raven Boulevard in more than a half-century. The park will be a great amenity for the Ridgely Manor community, which worked with our office, NeighborSpace, and the Hess Corporation over the past year.

COUNTY DIGITIZES CODE ENFORCEMENT

Baltimore County has digitized its code enforcement process. The new system allows code enforcement officials to spend more time in the field, where they can automatically access complaints on an electronic tablet, take a photograph, and issue a citation. Residents and community associations can access the Web Site directly at the following address: <http://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/codecomplaint>.



TOWSON

Burke Avenue Public Safety Task Force Continues Work

Last fall, Councilman Marks created a task force to improve public safety along Towson's Burke Avenue, site of several criminal incidents. There is a lot of progress to report as the Police Department, the County Executive's office, Towson University, and other stakeholders enhance this area. The county has upgraded lighting throughout Downtown Towson, including along York Road. A Downtown Towson Citizens on Patrol program has been created, and the County Council passed legislation that should reduce the incidence of crime that targets cell phones and small electronics.

County Acquires Additional Property for Fire Station

Baltimore County has released a rendering of the proposed Towson fire station, which is pictured below. The county will purchase a privately-owned parcel at 204 Courtland Avenue, reducing the amount of grading required to construct the new facility. Councilman Marks appointed a task force of community representatives to review issues associated with the fire station move.



Tigerfest Scheduled for April 25 and 26

Towson University has expanded Tigerfest to a two-day event—Friday, April 25 and Saturday, April 26. The event has had fewer issues in recent years, and Councilman Marks appreciates the work of Towson University's administration and police in maintaining tougher security standards. Because the festival will now extend to two days, Councilman Marks requested that Towson University increase its security grant to the Baltimore County Police Department, and the university has agreed to do so.

Project Clean Stream Focuses on Loch Raven Reservoir

The Gunpowder Valley Conservancy, Mid-Atlantic Offroad Enthusiasts, and the Baltimore City Department of Public Works will hold a clean-up of the Loch Raven Reservoir on Saturday, April 5 from 8:30 a.m. to noon at Warren

Elementary School (900 Bosley Road). This is an excellent opportunity for students to earn service hours.

LOCH RAVEN

Loch Raven Village Qualifies for Traffic Calming

Glen Keith Boulevard in Loch Raven Village has qualified for traffic calming. The county has developed a plan for six brick raised bumps to be spaced 550 feet apart along Glen Keith Boulevard starting at Loch Raven Boulevard and moving toward the school. The proposal needs local support. Please contact karenw.lrv@gmail.com if you live on Glen Keith Boulevard in the affected area.



PERRY HALL

\$10,000 Grant for Downtown Perry Hall Beautification

Baltimore County has awarded \$10,000 to the Perry Hall/White Marsh Business Association to once again plant landscaping and change the street banners near Perry Hall Elementary School. At the other end of the Perry Hall commercial district, Councilman Marks continues to work to have the unsightly Register Square Shopping Center at 8833 Belair Road demolished and redeveloped.

WHITE MARSH

White Marsh Fire Company Holds Craft Fair

The White Marsh Volunteer Fire Company will hold a craft fair on May 17 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Vendor spaces are available by contacting Al Vaughn at vpl@wmvfc.org or 410-335-5112.