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District 5 Newsletter

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Serving Bradshaw, Carney, Loch Raven, Parkville, Perry Hall, and Towson

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Message from the Councilman

Redistricting occurs after each U.S. Census count. Every state realigns its legislative and Congressional districts, and thousands of counties and municipalities make adjustments to legislative seats. This week, following three public hearings, the Baltimore County Council's redistricting commission recommended a map to realign Council districts for the next decade.

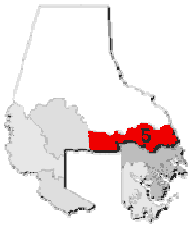
I am glad that in Baltimore County, the redistricting commission avoided the type of partisanship we have seen in other jurisdictions. In fact, the proposal includes relatively few adjustments.

Under the proposed map, the Fifth District will lose Hillendale, Villa Cresta, most of Loch Raven, and the Bird River area to the Sixth District, and a precinct at Pine Grove Middle School to the Third District. The Fifth District will gain southern Perry Hall, much of Carney, Oak Crest Village, and Fullerton from the Sixth District, and Kingsville from the Third District.

For the most part, these changes make sense. I am pleased that the Towson core will not be shattered among multiple districts; that Parkville is unified; that Carney goes from three to two Council districts; and that Kingsville is realigned with Perry Hall along the Belair Road corridor.

The realignment of districts will actually occur more than three years from now, for the 2014 elections. I have enjoyed representing my current district for the past seven months, and I will still be a visible presence in those neighborhoods that will no longer be in the Fifth District after 2014.

David Marks
Baltimore County Councilman, Fifth District



Tree Planting Projects Advance in Towson and Perry Hall

In June, Baltimore County planted 64 trees at Kenilworth Drive and Bosley Avenue, near the cemetery for Mount Olive Baptist Church. The trees will help shield the Morningside community from the glare of the Baltimore County detention center.

Councilman Marks brokered an arrangement in which the developers of the Towson Green project will donate $4,000 to the Burkleigh Square neighborhood for trees and improvements to the neighborhood park. Burkleigh Square lost many of its older trees due to a sidewalk project this spring.

Baltimore County has been consulting with the Perry Hall Improvement Association on a plan to install more than 60 trees along Honeygo Boulevard, from Joppa to Belair Roads.

Major Corridors Resurfaced in Perry Hall

Baltimore County is resurfacing several major corridors in Perry Hall in June, including Hines Road, Kilbride Road, East Joppa Road, and Honeygo Boulevard at Silver Spring Road. Additionally, the capital program includes funding to improve Cross and Forge Roads.

County Helps Rehabilitate Historic East Towson Lodge

Baltimore County will be awarding $4,080 to the Northeast Towson Improvement Association to replace the roof at the Improved Benevolent Order of Elks Lodge at 411 East Pennsylvania Avenue in Towson. The Elks Lodge has been an important meeting place for Towson's African American community since the 1920s, and this location is a meeting place in East Towson today. Councilman Marks worked with the Office of Community Conservation to acquire the funding.

Task Force to Solicit Input on School Board Reform

One of the most important issues facing local government is how to reform the School Board selection process. During the last legislative session, the Maryland General Assembly created a task force to evaluate options. That task force will meet on July 6 at the Reisterstown library at 6:30 p.m.; on July 7 at Essex library at 6:30 p.m.; and on July 25 at the Towson library at 6:30 p.m. Public comment is welcome at the meetings, or you can email testimony to Senator Kathy Klausmeier, co-chair of the task force, at *katherine.klausmeier@senate.state.md.us*.

Upcoming Events

There are numerous Fourth of July festivities throughout central and northeastern Baltimore County. All events are on Monday, July 4.

- The Towson Fourth of July Parade steps off at 10:30 a.m. at Bosley and Burke Avenues. Visit *www.towsonparade.org*.
- The Kingsville Fourth of July Parade steps off at 11 a.m. along Bradshaw Road. The route stretches past the Kingsville triangle, ending on Jerusalem Road.
- The 49th annual Fullerton Fireworks celebration starts at 9:15 p.m. at Fullerton Field, 4303 Fullerton Avenue. Music and a puppet show precede the fireworks. Visit *www.fullertonfireworks.com* for more details.
- Fireworks begin at dusk at Loch Raven Academy (8101 LaSalle Road).

The Perry Hall/White Marsh Town Fair will be held on Saturday, July 9 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on the grounds of the Honeygo Village Center, near Honeygo Boulevard and East Joppa Road. For more information, visit *www.perryhalltownfair.com.*

The Perry Hall Improvement Association and the Woman's Club of Perry Hall will present a free summer concert on Sunday, July 17 at 4 p.m. at St. Michael Lutheran Church (9534 Belair Road). The Chorus of the Chesapeake will perform.