

County Councilman David Marks Fifth District Newsletter

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MESSAGE FROM COUNCILMAN MARKS: 2018 MILESTONES INCLUDE SCHOOL, PARK, AND WATER IMPROVEMENTS

2018 will include numerous milestones in Baltimore County's Fifth District. In Towson, **Dumbarton Middle School's two-year renovation is finished.** After hearing from parents about classroom conditions, [our office worked to obtain funding to bring the 60-year-old campus up to modern standards.](#) With the completion of this \$28 million project, every public school in the Fifth District now has air conditioning.



Redevelopment will continue this year in Downtown Towson, with [improvements at the Hutzler's building](#)

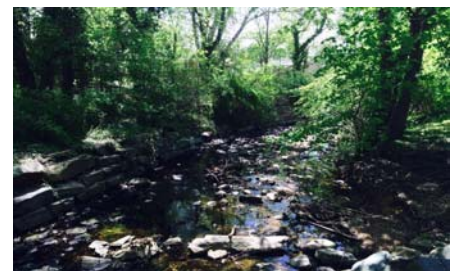
[and the construction of residential units north of Joppa Road.](#) Baltimore County will complete the conversion of Patriot Plaza into a new park, and improvements will begin at Radebaugh Neighborhood Park in eastern Towson. In Campus Hills, [new pipes will be laid to improve the neighborhood's water quality.](#)

Moving east, [Loch Raven Commons is expected to open at the former site of the Raytheon plant.](#) Baltimore County is replacing the water lines on Joppa Road between Old Harford Road and Drumwood Road, on Oakleigh Road between Joppa and White Oak Roads, and on Satyr Hill Road between Lowell Ridge and Harford Roads.

[Perry Hall's first new school in a quarter-century will open in September.](#) The new elementary school at Chapel and Joppa Roads is the first of three new schools that will reduce overcrowding in the northeast. Perry Hall, White Marsh, and Kingsville will also benefit from two new volunteer fire stations. I would like to thank my colleagues, as well as community leaders throughout the Fifth District, who worked with me on these projects.

GRANT FUNDS HERRING RUN IMPROVEMENTS

The Knollwood Association will receive a grant from the Chesapeake Bay Trust to begin planning and designing stormwater improvements along the Herring Run in eastern Towson. The \$115,571 grant will specifically look at improvements to the publicly-owned land near the Knollwood and Overbrook communities. This summer, [Councilman Marks appointed a task force to look at improvements along the Herring Run.](#)



REPORT FROZEN WATER LEAKS

Every winter, the Baltimore County Department of Public Works receives calls about water main leaks that freeze on county roads and create hazards for motorists and pedestrians. To report an icing issue from a water leak, constituents can call Baltimore County's Bureau of Utilities dispatch line at 410-887-5210. The Bureau of Utilities will send location information to the county shops which dispatch trucks to salt the roads, and the Bureau will contact the water maintenance division in Baltimore City which assigns crews to eventually fix the problem. The City schedules repairs based on a priority list.

PERRY HALL AARP TAX-AIDE SIGN UPS START JANUARY 2018

The AARP Tax-Aide Program is the nation's largest, volunteer-run tax preparation program to assist eligible taxpayers in electronically filing their taxes by providing free tax return preparation. The service is aimed at low to moderate income taxpayers with special attention to those aged 50 and older, but there is no age or income threshold.

The [Perry Hall Library](#) will once again be hosting Tax-Aide on Mondays beginning in February 2018. Appointments will be available on a first come-first serve basis and can be made beginning January 2, 2018. Tax Aide service at the Perry Hall Library is scheduled for Mondays from 9:30 am to 2:30 pm from February 5, 2018 through April 16, 2018. To reserve an appointment, contact the Perry Hall Library at (410) 887-5195, and press #4 for the Information Desk.

CHRISTMAS TREE COLLECTION BEGINS JANUARY 15

The collection of live Christmas trees for recycling in Baltimore County will take place over a two-week period, beginning Monday, January 15, 2018. Because Christmas tree collection dates will vary from place to place, residents must have trees set out no later than Saturday, January 20 to ensure collection.

New this year, residents should place trees out for pick-up at the same location where they would normally place trash and recycling for collection. Specifically, residents with alley collection are asked to place their Christmas trees in the alley, where they normally set out trash and recycling. This change is in response to requests from the community and it improves operational efficiency.

Baltimore County collectors will pick up Christmas trees in standard trash/recycling trucks, and deliver them to County facilities to be chipped and later used as mulch. Baltimore County residents who live in an apartment or condominium should follow their property manager's rules when recycling their Christmas trees.

KINGSVILLE TRAFFIC CIRCLE OPENS

[The \\$3.7 million project to build a new traffic circle at Harford and Mount Vista Roads is nearly complete](#), with traffic now able to use the intersection without interruption. Permanent resurfacing will occur when weather is warmer in the spring.

CAMPUS HILLS WATER PROJECT TO START IN SPRING 2018

Whenever Councilman Marks has attended meetings in the Campus Hills community, residents have asked about discoloration that sometimes occurs in their water. His office was able to secure funding in the most recent budget to replace the existing eight-inch water main, built in 1955, with a new system that should eliminate this problem.

The Department of Public Works is a month ahead of schedule. The design is 85 percent complete and DPW needs to acquire one more permit. DPW plans to advertise for construction in February and begin the work in May. Separately, DPW plans to rehabilitate the sewer pumping station on Southwick Court with new pumps. That project will be coordinated with the water main replacement.