



# County Councilman David Marks Fifth District Newsletter

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## **MESSAGE FROM COUNCILMAN MARKS:** **CELEBRATE OUR STUDENTS, AND FIX OUR PROBLEMS**

The 2021-2022 academic year has drawn to a close, and I would like to thank all of our educators and parents for their support of Baltimore County's students. We have a lot to be proud of—check out <https://teambcps.exposure.co/categories/honors>—even as we work to fix some fundamental issues in Baltimore County Public Schools.

One of the biggest challenges is bus transportation. For years, we have been urging the school system to improve the punctuality of buses; that has gotten much worse, with some delayed by up to two hours at places like Perry Hall Middle School. [The Baltimore County Council recently denied a budget request from school system that would have diverted unspent transportation money to other purposes.](#) I asked Superintendent Williams to engage the County Council this summer as they work to recruit more drivers and increase efficiencies—he said he would, and we are looking forward to improvements.



Two other issues are critically important. First, as an educator myself, I know the importance of hiring and retaining staff. We need to do whatever we can to support our educators at all levels. Finally, I am looking forward to [implementation of the BCPS efficiency audit](#) so we can increase savings. Again, Baltimore County Public Schools needs to use the summer productively to plan for the future.

## **INVASIVE SPECIES REMOVAL UNDERWAY AT PERRY HALL'S NEWEST PARK SITE**



Baltimore County contractors have started to remove invasive species from the new 22-acre park on Gerst Road. Councilman Marks worked with the Department of Recreation and Parks and nearby residents to identify a buffer of undisturbed land. There is \$100,000 in the budget to begin planning for future improvements to the park; no uses are finalized. This will be Perry Hall's fifth new park since 2010.

## PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT PROPOSED AT BOSLEY MANSION

LCB Berkshire Senior Living Holdings III, LLC, has proposed a Planned Unit Development at the Bosley Mansion site in Southland Hills. The proposal includes a 107-bed assisted living and memory care facility that retains much of the open space along the property's front lawn. See the proposal here: [https://resources.baltimorecountymd.gov/Documents/CountyCouncil/PUD%20applications/PUD\\_Application\\_Residence\\_at\\_Southland\\_Hills.pdf](https://resources.baltimorecountymd.gov/Documents/CountyCouncil/PUD%20applications/PUD_Application_Residence_at_Southland_Hills.pdf)



The Presbyterian Home of Maryland announced plans to shut down operations here in 2016, and the site has been mostly unoccupied since then.

## ENJOY INDEPENDENCE DAY AND SUMMER ACTIVITIES

There is plenty to do in the Fifth District this summer.

- On the Fourth of July, enjoy parades in [Towson at 10:30 a.m.](#) and in [Kingsville at 11 a.m.](#) There is also a [family fun run in Towson](#) before the parade.
- Every Friday night at 6:30 p.m., take in the sounds of summer at [Feet on the Street](#), hosted by the Towson Chamber of Commerce.
- [The Avenue at Perry Hall](#) hosts free concerts every Friday and Saturday night at 6 p.m.

Here is a list of fireworks displays and rules:

<https://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/News/holidays/july-fourth>

## PARKVILLE PRECINCT HONORS OFFICER OF THE YEAR

The Parkville police precinct and the Community Relations Council have named Officer Annette Savoy as the Officer of the Year. Officer Savoy has helped arrest at least 30 individuals who were driving under the influence this year alone.



## PRIMARY ELECTION EARLY VOTING BEGINS ON JULY 7

Early voting occurs from Thursday, July 7, through Thursday, July 14. Early voting locations are open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. every day during this period, including weekends. There are 11 sites; the two within the Fifth District are at Carver Center for Arts and Technology and Perry Hall High School.

Visit the Board of Elections Web Site at [www.baltimorecountymd.gov/departments/elections/2022-election](http://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/departments/elections/2022-election) for more details. This Web Site includes information about voting by mail and on the primary election day.