



- - [Blogs](#)
    - [Cheryl's Place](#)
  - [Calendar](#)
    - [Bus Trips](#)
    - [Senior Trips](#)
  - [Commentary](#)
    - [Letters to the Editor](#)
  - [Community](#)
  - [Life & Leisure](#)
    - [Dining Out](#)
    - [Theater](#)
  - [News](#)
    - [Crime Report](#)
- - [Classifieds](#)
- [About](#)

---

« [Meetings](#) Previous Article

Next article [Crowd steamed over school issues](#) »

## News briefs

### **Closed for renovations**

The children's area of the Baltimore County Public Library's Towson branch will be closed temporarily for approximately two weeks from Monday, April 2 through Tuesday, April 17 while renovations and improvements take place.

Beginning Wednesday, March 28, when the process gets underway, access to children's materials is being limited.

### **Interested in hosting a student?**

Foreign high school students are scheduled to arrive soon for academic semester and year homestay programs, and the sponsoring organization needs a few more local host families. The students are anxiously awaiting news of their new families. This is the final push for the chance of these young ambassadors to fulfill their life-long dreams.

Baltimore County area families interested in learning more about student exchange or arranging for a meeting with a community representative may call the Pacific Intercultural Exchange toll-free, at 1-866-546-1402.

The agency also has travel/study program opportunities available for American high school students as well as possibilities for community volunteers to work with area host families, students and schools.

### **National Nutrition Month!**

Now is the perfect time for the whole family to start eating healthy and be more active. Not only can eating right and being active help you to feel better, but it can improve your health and prevent disease as well. The University of Maryland, College Park and Maryland Cooperative Extension have created an online resource for families in Maryland called Eat Smart, Be Fit, Maryland! Get online and go to: [www.eatsmart.umd.edu](http://www.eatsmart.umd.edu). All services on the site are free.

### **Fitness for seniors**

Parkville is among the communities that will receive the award-winning senior fitness program currently offered at other senior centers in the county.

Staffed by the Towson University's School of Health Professions, these fitness centers have been touted as exemplifying "best practices in promoting physical activity and has a significant impact on the target population," according to the State Advisory Council on Physical Fitness.

Each fitness center has "state of the art" exercise equipment, including airdyne bicycles, treadmills, steppers, free weights and a universal gym.

The Department of Aging has fitness centers in the Towson, Cockeysville, Liberty, Dundalk and Catonsville areas. Two additional centers will open this year in Parkville and Pikesville.

For more information about joining a fitness center, call (410) 887-2320.

### **Call Uncle Sam**

Whenever you've got a government-related question, 1 (800) FED-INFO is there to help. You can speak with an information specialist in English or Spanish Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Eastern Time. For pre-recorded answers to the most popular questions in both languages, call 1 (800) FED-INFO 24 hours a day. On the web, visit [answers.usa.gov](http://answers.usa.gov) at any time to access the same "Frequently Asked Questions" database the information specialists use. Or, try their newest service -live chat! Go to [answers.usa.gov](http://answers.usa.gov), and use the "Live Help - Web Chat" tab to type your question in English and get a real-time answer. The chat service is available from Monday through Friday, noon to 8 p.m. Eastern Time.

### **Mappers coming around**

Project Map Check, a yearlong effort to verify the addresses and location of every residential, commercial and institutional structure in Baltimore County, has reached its midway point.

The Baltimore County Office of Information Technology began Project Map Check last August to update the County's computerized mapping, or geographic information systems, which support many local government services.

To date, authorized Project Map Check contractors have visited and validated the addresses and locations of structures throughout the County's western portions.

The project will continue through this spring, with teams working in Loch Raven, Perry Hall, White Marsh, Rosedale, Middle River, North Point, and northern Baltimore County.

Citizens may see authorized county contractors driving and walking through neighborhoods or local business districts, checking addresses and building use information.

Project Map Check crew members will carry Baltimore County contractor identification cards, and vehicles involved in the study are clearly marked with signs on the sides and rear of the vehicle. In commercial areas, crews will generally be deployed on foot to gather the required information.

For more information about Project Map Check, please check the County's web site, or call the project information line at 410-773-4799. Calls to the information line will be returned within 24 hours, or by the next business day.

### **Free trees for Arbor Day**

Ten free white flowering dogwood trees will be given to each person who joins The National Arbor Day Foundation during March 2007.

The free trees are part of the nonprofit foundation's trees for America campaign.

The trees will be shipped postpaid at the right time for planting between March 1 and May 31 with enclosed planting instructions. The six to twelve inch trees are guaranteed to grow or they will be replaced free of charge.

Members also receive a subscription to Arbor Day, the foundation's monthly publication, and The Tree Book with information about tree planting and care.

To become a member of the foundation and receive the free trees, send a \$10 contribution to TEN FREE DOGWOOD TREES, National Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Avenue, Nebraska City, NE 68410, by March 31. Or join online at [www.arborday.org](http://www.arborday.org).

### **LEPC to meet**

The annual meeting of the Baltimore County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) is scheduled for Tuesday, March 27.

The meeting – open to the public – will be held at 9:30 a.m. at Johns Hopkins Greenspring, Pavilion II, Suite 125A, 10753 Falls Rd., Lutherville. The meeting will last about one hour.

### **Colon checkups offered**

The Baltimore County Department of Health offers free colonoscopies to Baltimore County residents aged 50 and older who are uninsured or underinsured and meet income eligibility guidelines. Those with a family history of colon cancer or polyps may qualify before age 50.

For more information on colon cancer or to find out if you are eligible to receive a free colonoscopy, contact the Baltimore County Department of Health at 1-866-MD-COLON (632-6566).

For more information about National Colon-Rectal Cancer Awareness Month, read the column on page 15.

This entry was posted on Friday, March 23rd, 2007 at 5:29 pm and is filed under [News](#). You can follow any responses to this entry through the [RSS 2.0](#) feed. You can skip to the end and leave a response. Pinging is currently not allowed.

### **Leave a Reply**

Comments that include profanity or personal attacks or other inappropriate comments or material will be removed from the site. Additionally, entries that are unsigned or contain "signatures" by someone other than the actual author will be removed. Finally, we will take steps to block users who violate any of our posting standards, terms of use or privacy policies or any other policies governing this site. Please review the [full rules](#) governing commentaries and

discussions. You are fully responsible for the content that you post.

\_\_\_\_\_ Name (required)

\_\_\_\_\_ Mail (will not be published) (required)

\_\_\_\_\_ Website



---

**A [Baltimore Guide](#) publication**  
**Serving Northeast Baltimore County and Baltimore City**  
©2007 R&B Publishing Company. All Rights Reserved.  
8846 Belair Road • Baltimore, Maryland 21236 • 410-529-1006