

County Connection

<http://ccgovernment.carr.org>

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Carroll County
*a great place to live
 a great place to work
 a great place to play*

Technology park breaks ground

Business leaders and state officials celebrated the start of construction at Carroll County's first high-tech business park in July.

The Westminster Technology Park, along the Route 97 corridor, offers 63 acres for development of technology businesses. Its first tenant will be General Dynamics Robotic Systems.

General Dynamics is consolidating several smaller locations around Carroll County into a 40,000-square-foot facility. Two existing General Dynamics buildings at nearby West Branch will remain open.

"This is exactly the vision we have had for the technology park," said County Commissioner Julia W. Gouge. "General Dynamics is an outstanding example of a growing technology company in the county."

Broadband Internet access and its location near the



Office of Public Information

Lt. Gov. Anthony Brown (center) assists County Commissioners Michael D. Zimmer (left) and Dean L. Minnich as they break ground for the new Westminster Technology Park.

Carroll County Regional Airport should help to draw targeted firms to the park. Covenants will ensure a high standard for aesthetics.

The Carroll County Industrial Development Authority partnered with the Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development to

purchase the property in 2001. Five years later, the IDA became sole owner of the property and began the development process in earnest.

For more information about the Westminster Technology Park, call Paige Sunderland at 410-386-2070.

Fiber lighting marks beginning of major project

More than 100 miles of fiber optic cables will connect 125 government and related buildings across Carroll County as part of a major project that will both expand services and save money.

The fibers will create a network joining government offices, schools, libraries, fire and police stations and the community college. Called the Carroll County Public Network, the



Commissioners patch in a high-speed fiber on July 18.

project will save taxpayers at least \$900,000 a year when fully implemented.

On July 18, officials marked the ceremonial lighting of the fibers. The first phase of installation is under way.

The project is a joint venture between Carroll County Government, Carroll County Public Schools, Carroll County Public Library and Carroll Community College.

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DID YOU KNOW?

- During the first week of August, residents are challenged to buy at least one item from a local farm every day.
- Tips on where to buy locally grown products (including which restaurants and butchers offer them) can be found at www.carrollag.org.
- Look for the 2008 Farmers' Market brochure at your local library or the tourism center.
- Take the pledge and look for The Buy Local Challenge signs in area restaurants.

Former salvage yard converted into park

Children played this week where junked cars once stood in Detour.

The Board of County Commissioners and Department of Recreation and Parks celebrated the official opening of Double Pipe Creek Park on July 29.

More than 40 people attended the celebration to mark the conversion of an automotive salvage yard into the park.

The land was purchased by the County in the mid-1990s. It is a short distance from the Monocacy Scenic River.

The new park features a playground, basketball court, 40-person picnic pavilion, picnic shelters and a boat ramp.

On hand to dedicate the park were County Commissioners Julia Gouge and Dean Minnich, former Commissioners Perry Jones and Donald Dell, members of the Recreation & Parks Advisory Board, the West Carroll Recreation Council and the Detour community.

The project cost \$109,000. Of that,



Photo by Department of Recreation and Parks

Children break in playground equipment at the new Double Pipe Creek Park in Detour.

\$98,000 came from Maryland Program Open Space.

For more information about the park or to

reserve the picnic pavilion, call 410-386-2103 or visit <http://ccgovernment.carr.org/recreation>.

Kayak classes to be offered at Piney Run Park

Kayak classes are being offered at Piney Run Park and Nature Center this month for children, adults and families.

For children between 8 and 11, classes are two hours long and cost \$20. Adult classes, for anyone 12 or older, are four hours long and \$30. Classes for families are available to anyone at least 8 years old. These classes are two hours long and cost \$20 per person.

Kayaks, paddles and life jackets are provided. Participants must be able to swim.

Upcoming lesson dates are:

- ◆ Saturday, Aug. 9, 10 a.m. to noon for children; 1 to 3 p.m. for children
- ◆ Sunday, Aug. 10, 10 a.m. to noon for families
- ◆ Saturday, Aug. 23, 1 to 3 p.m. for children
- ◆ Sunday, Aug. 24, noon to 4 p.m. for adults.

To register for lessons, call the Carroll County Department of Recreation and Parks at 410-386-2103. For questions regarding the lessons, call the Piney Run Nature Center at 410-795-6043. Piney Run Park and Nature Center is located at 30 Martz Road, Sykesville.

Legal Aid Bureau provides free legal advice to seniors

Carroll County residents who are at least 60 years old can get free legal assistance from the Legal Aid Bureau.

The Carroll County Bureau of Aging contracts with the Mid-Western Maryland Office of the Legal Aid Bureau to offer walk-in clinics. Upcoming clinics will run from 1 to 4

p.m. on the following Tuesdays:

- ◆ Aug. 5 at the Bureau of Aging, 125 Stoner Ave., Westminster. (410-386-3800)
- ◆ Aug. 19 at the North Carroll Senior & Community Center, 2328 Hanover Pike, Hampstead. (410-386-3900)
- ◆ Sept. 2, at the Bureau of Ag-

ing in Westminster.

- ◆ Sept. 16 at the South Carroll Senior & Community Center, 5745 Bartholow Road, Sykesville. (410-549-1357).

Call before arriving to confirm dates and times. Or contact the Legal Aid Bureau directly by calling toll free 1-800-679-8813.

Connection's online

If you would like to know when a new edition of Carroll County Government's monthly "County Connection" is posted online, sign up for our email notification service.

Each month, you will receive an email with a link to the latest edition.

This keeps you from having to deal with large attachments that can clog up your inbox. To subscribe to this free service, go to <http://ccgovernment.carr.org/ccg/pubinfo>.



Email your commissioners

Reach all three at one time by sending your message to: Commissioners@ccg.carr.org

Not sure who to contact?

Send your email to PublicComments@ccg.carr.org

Votes made, actions taken by the Board of County Commissioners during July

JULY 3

◆ Road resurfacing. Awarded 3-0 a \$351,890 contract to M. T. Laney Co. Inc. for the milling and resurfacing of three county roads.

◆ Landfill fencing and gate. Voted 3-0 to award a \$33,850 contract to Long Fence for the construction of approximately 1,000 feet of fencing and three gates at Northern Landfill.

◆ Saw Mill Bridge. On a 3-0 vote, awarded Acrow Corp. a contract for \$110,031 for the replacement of a 70' span single lane bridge for Saw Mill Road over Big Pipe Creek.

◆ Zoning maps. Agreed 3-0 to sign a resolution authorizing a change to County zoning maps to reflect annexation of the Crockett property into Hampstead. The 0.541 acre parcel is located along the west side of South Carroll Street, near the Hampstead Town Hall property. No zoning waiver was required.

JULY 10

◆ Aging and disability resources. Voted 2-0 (Commissioner Julia W. Gouge was absent) to approve an application for a Maryland Access Point (MAP)/Real Choices grant from the State Department of Aging. The funds would be used to hire a coordinator to complete the establishment of a MAP site in Carroll County and to hire a part-time coordinator to meet the State's requirement for a hospital discharge component. The request is for a total of \$213,000 over three years.

◆ Public safety grant. Accepted 2-0 an Emergency Management Performance Program grant of \$79,749 to pay salary and benefits of the emergency management coordinator and the emergency management specialist and a portion of the salaries and benefits of support staff. The grant requires a County match of \$88,769.27.

◆ Open Space projects. Approved 2-0 FY09 Program Open Space allocations of \$26,247.75 to each of the following municipalities: Manchester for an observation pavilion at Pine Valley Park; Hampstead for two tennis courts and a basketball court at Melvin Miller Memorial Park; Mount Airy for Rails-to-Trails Development; and Sykesville for Warfield Commerce and Cultural Center Park Phase II. The municipalities received a total of \$104,991, which is 25 percent of the County's total open space funds.

JULY 17

◆ Juvenile group therapy program. Approved 2-0 (Commissioner Michael D. Zimmer was absent) the second year of a Byrne Justice Assistance award of \$56,250 to operate the Interactive Group Therapy Program. The program provides treatment for juveniles who are under the supervision of or are at-risk of Department of Juvenile Services' involvement. The Carroll County Youth Services Bureau provides the program and additional funding of \$29,266.

◆ Agricultural land preservation. Voted 2-0 to approve 20 applications to be sent for consideration by the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation, and one application for a county-held easement.

JULY 24

◆ Parking space requirements. By consensus, agreed to leave the public record open for 10 business days on proposed changes to the parking space requirements.

◆ Builders for the Bay. On a 3-0 vote, accepted the Builders for the Bay roundtable report. The yearlong partnership with the Center for Watershed Protection and the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay looked at changes to the county code that would encourage development while recognizing sensitive environmental

features. Commissioners Julia W. Gouge and Dean L. Minnich also signed the report.

◆ Conservation easement. Voted 3-0 to exercise the County's option to purchase a county-held conservation easement for 234 acres along Dennings Road in New Windsor for \$2 million. The easement includes a water recharge element. Prior to the purchase, the land had the potential to house 34 building lots.

◆ Board of Education fund balance. Approved 3-0 a memorandum of understanding with the Board of Education that will allow the school system to accumulate unspent funds for future use. Similar arrangements exist with Carroll Community College and the Carroll County Public Library. Up to 5 percent of the Board of Education's budget could be retained. Commissioners must approve how the funds would be spent.

◆ Domestic violence. With a 3-0 vote, approved an application for a \$49,889 grant from the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention to help fund the Sheriff's Office's Domestic Violence Unit. The County must match the grant with \$1,878 in cash and \$54,580 in in-kind services.

◆ Domestic violence. On a separate 3-0 vote, approved an application for a similar grant for the State's Attorney's Office's domestic violence prosecutor. The \$108,395 grant would cover the prosecutor's salary and 30 percent of benefits. The County covers the remaining cost of benefits as well as salary and benefits for the unit coordinator, for a total cost to the County of \$54,138.

◆ Safety training. Approved 3-0 an application for a \$1,782.75 grant to send the County's compliance specialist to a training seminar sponsored by the Local Government Insurance Trust. The cost of the seminar, lodging,

travel and meals would be entirely covered by the grant.

◆ Assisted-living program. Voted 3-0 to approve an application for a state grant of \$108,452 to subsidize low-income seniors with costs associated with assisted-living programs. The program, which last year served 19 people in Carroll, helps to pay for shelter, meals, housekeeping, personal care services and 24-hour supervision for eligible individuals.

◆ Bonds. On a 3-0 vote, executed a resolution declaring the County's intent to reimburse capital expenses with debt proceeds (from the sale of bonds). The resolution covers the \$45,208,742 of projected bond funding in the adopted fiscal year 2009 Community Investment Plan.

◆ Transfer station repairs. Voted 3-0 to award Ace Services of Laurel a contract to repair the transfer station at the Northern Landfill, at a cost of \$118,433.

JULY 29

◆ Cable television. Agreed 3-0 to take to public hearing proposed ordinance changes affecting cable television contracts, as recommended by the Carroll County Cable Regulatory Commission. The ordinances include management of rights-of-way; consumer protection; and rules governing the granting of cable franchises and regulating cable operators.

◆ Precision Approach Path Indicators (PAPI). On a 3-0 vote, approved the transfer of \$21,253.04 from the obstruction study account to the PAPI account to cover the expenses associated with reforestation efforts required for the installation of the PAPI light system.

◆ Public Works fund transfers. Voted 3-0 to closed out finished projects and transfer remaining balances to other projects. Closed

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Unless noted otherwise, meetings will be held in the County Office Building at 225 North Center Street, Westminster. All times are subject to change. Check the County's Web site closer to the date of the meeting, or call 410-386-2400.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 5

2:30 p.m. Board of County Commissioners – Room 311

THURSDAY, AUGUST 7

9:30 a.m. Open community discussion with Commissioners – Room 311
10 a.m. Board of County Commissioners – Room 311
6:30 p.m. Carroll County Agricultural Land Preservation Advisory Board – Room 007

MONDAY, AUGUST 11

1 p.m. Carroll County Farm Museum Board of Governors – George Grier Meeting Room, Carroll County Farm Museum, 500 S Center St., Westminster

TUESDAY, AUGUST 12

9 a.m. Board of License Commissioners (liquor board) – Room 003
1:30 p.m. Ten Year Planning Committee: Circle of Caring/Homeless Board – Citizen Services Conference Room, 10 Distillery Drive, Westminster
3 p.m. Environmental Advisory Council – Room 003
4 p.m. Behavioral Health and Addictions Council – Room 153, Carroll County Health Department, 290 S. Center St., Westminster



WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 13

10:30 a.m. Commission on Aging – Bureau of Aging Administrative Conference Room, 125 Stoner Ave., Westminster
6:30 p.m. Historic Preservation Commission – Room 003

THURSDAY, AUGUST 14

7:30 a.m. Economic Development Commission Executive Committee – Room 105
9 a.m. Design and Architectural Review Committee – Room 205

TUESDAY, AUGUST 19

8 a.m. Department of Social Services Board, DSS Conference Room, 10 Distillery Drive, Westminster
9 a.m. Planning and Zoning Commission – Room 003

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20

8 a.m. Electrical Board, Baugher's Country Restaurant, 289 W. Main St., Westminster
8:30 a.m. Board of Zoning Appeals – Room 113

THURSDAY, AUGUST 21

9:30 a.m. Board of Zoning Appeals – Room 003
9:30 a.m. Open community discussion with Commissioners – Room 311
10 a.m. Board of County Commissioners – Room 311

MONDAY, AUGUST 25

9 a.m. Technical Review Committee – Room 003
6 p.m. Planning and Zoning Commission – Room 003

TUESDAY, AUGUST 26

9:30 a.m. Board of Zoning Appeals – Room 003

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 27

7:30 a.m. Industrial Development Authority – Room 105
9:30 a.m. Board of Zoning Appeals – Room 003
1 p.m. Joint meeting of Board of Education and County Commissioners – Board of Education Offices, 125 North Court St., Westminster
7 p.m. Detour/Keymar community meeting with Board of County Commissioners – Keymar Evangelical Wesleyan Church, 1011 FSK Highway, Keymar

THURSDAY, AUGUST 28

8 a.m. Economic Development Commission – Room 105
10 a.m. Roundtable discussion with Cabinet and allied agencies – Room 003
1:30 p.m. Board of County Commissioners – Room 311

Votes (continued from Page 3)

accounts and the amount transferred out were: FY03 overlays, \$319,087.12; FY05 overlays, \$223,035.96; FY07 overlays, \$655,921.87; Monroe Avenue Phase II, \$426,000; and unallocated, \$810,611.22. Projects receiving funding are: FY09 overlays, \$694,087.12; Saw Mill Bridge, \$90,000; Hughes Shop Bridge, \$36,400; and Maple Grove Road, \$1,303,557.83.

◆ Water recharge credits. Approved 3-0 proceeding with a draft memorandum of understanding between the County and the City of Taneytown regarding water recharge credits. Once both entities sign the MOU, the city may request any required permits from the Maryland Department of the Environment.

Vision

Carroll County offers a safe environment in which all its residents may live, work, and play. The rural character of our county is preserved through measures that protect our natural and cultural resources, minimize future residential sprawl, and save farmland. Carroll County is enriched by sustainable agriculture and agribusiness as well as responsible, productive business and industry that offer family-wage jobs and employ the county's skilled workforce.

Mission statement

The mission of Carroll County Government is to provide excellent, efficient service to our residents in a courteous, friendly manner. We conduct business openly. We encourage each resident to play a role in keeping Carroll County a great place to live, to work, and to play.



CARROLL COUNTY

a great place to live, a great place to work, a great place to play