



# Sign the Captain's Petition!



Search

Subscriber Services **THE SUN** Login or register

Home > News > Letters to the Editor

Text size:



## Center sustains open space

August 9, 2008

We have encountered many questions about the Keswick Multi-Care Center's plans to develop a senior center on the Baltimore County Club land parcel.

More than four years ago, we set out to create an extraordinary new environment for the Baltimore senior community. Our goal is to create a special place in the form of a continuing care retirement community that incorporates green spaces and classic residential architecture within Baltimore.

In the run-up to the decision to purchase the Baltimore Country Club parcel, we considered and reviewed approximately 35 sites. The parcel of land at the Baltimore Country Club fit nearly every criterion outlined in our original vision and allowed us to emulate the residential scale and architectural character throughout Roland Park.

We are often asked how the proposal will preserve green space on the BCC parcel.

The proposed community would be built mainly on the site of the former BCC tennis facility and would not encroach upon the existing natural environment at the north end of the property.

Approximately 75 percent of the 33-acre property that includes the BCC property and the 17 acres under contract to Keswick will be retained as open space.

In addition, underground parking below the main structures permits Keswick to maximize the green space throughout the proposed community.

Our community alone will have more than five acres of landscaped space.

As good Roland Park neighbors for more than 80 years, Keswick was naturally concerned about the impact of the traffic our community could bring to the area. Indeed, in her column "Surprise sparked ire in land proposal" (July 4), Jean Marbella says the "sheer size of the project ... is enough to raise major concerns in this neighborhood of quiet, narrow and winding streets."

But according to a report from the Traffic Group Inc. the development will have no significant impact on the existing road system. The main access to the facility will be from Falls Road, reducing the potential for traffic cutting through the neighborhood.

Finally, multiple opinion pieces written by *The Sun* have erroneously stated that the land will need to be rezoned to achieve the density required for the proposed development. However, Keswick will not need to pursue a zoning change and will require only a conditional use ordinance under the existing R-1 zoning known as a planned unit development (PUD), a status similar to that of the developments of the Village of Cross Keys, Roland Springs and Roland Park Place.

Any project such as our proposed center involves a great deal of planning on many levels - market research, traffic studies, economic impact analysis, architectural design and much more. At this time, we are still in the early stages of what will be a lengthy and in-depth process.

But we are excited about sharing information that will prove that our proposal will benefit both the growing senior population in Baltimore and the Roland Park community.

Libby Bowerman

Baltimore

The writer is the CEO of the Keswick Multi-Care Center.

To Our Readers: The Sun welcomes letters from readers. All letters become the property of The Sun, which reserves the right to edit them. Letters should include your name and address, along with day and evening telephone numbers. E-mail us: [letters@baltsun.com](mailto:letters@baltsun.com); write us: Letters to the Editor, The Sun, P.O. Box 1377, Baltimore 21278-0001; fax us: 410-332-6977

### YOUR "TAKE

Share your opinion on controversial topics in the news and read what others have to say

• **New city arena proposal**

What do you think about the proposal to replace the 1st Mariner Arena in downtown Baltimore?

• **Police surveillance**

Should Baltimore police be able to spy on our neighbors within limits?

• **Proposed Keswick expansion**

What do you think about Keswick's plans to expand into the Baltimore Country Club's land in Roland Park?

• **Meet The Sun's editorial board**

• **Submit a letter to the Editor**

• **Contribute to the Commentary pages**

### Our People. Our Network.™



[Click here to learn more.](#)

#### Popular stories

[Most viewed](#) [Most e-mailed](#) [Hot topics](#)

[Prince George's raid prompts call for probe](#)

[Cabrera stymies Rangers in shutout win for O's](#)

[One family's ebb and flow](#)

[Reliever Olson: Playing for O's was 'dream'](#)

[Growth of Bowman on a par with star's](#)

[More most viewed](#)

E-mail   
 [Share](#)   
 Print   
 Reprint

**Related topic galleries:** [Architecture](#), [Clubs and Associations](#)
[All topics](#)

Get home delivery of The Sun and save over 50% off the newsstand price


Copyright © 2008, The Baltimore Sun

**Read 1 comment »**

Name

Comments

Type the numbers you see in the image on the right:



**Post Comment**

Please note by clicking on "Post Comment" you acknowledge that you have read the [Terms of Service](#) and the comment you are posting is in compliance with such terms. **Be polite.** Inappropriate posts may be removed by the moderator. [Send us your feedback.](#)

**LOCAL JOBS**  
from Careerbuilder

- [AUTO BODY TECHNICIAN](#)
- [DAYCARE AFTER SCHOOL DIRECTORS AND TEACHERS](#)
- [CUSTODIAL MANAGER](#)
- [HYDRAULIC CRANE OPERATOR](#)
- [ENGINEERING](#)

[View all Top Jobs](#)

---

amNY | Chicago Tribune | Daily Press | Hartford Courant | LA Times | Newsday | Orlando Sentinel | Sun-Sentinel | The Morning Call | The Virginia Gazette

---

[About baltimoresun.com](#) | [About The Baltimore Sun](#) | [Tribune](#) | [Sun Store](#) | [Get home delivery](#)

---

[Jobs](#) | [Autos](#) | [Homes](#) | [Apartments](#) | [ShopLocal.com](#) | [Discount Shopping](#) | [FSBO](#) | [Boodle Coupons](#) | [Open Houses](#) | [Houses for Rent](#)

[Privacy Policy](#) | [Terms of Service](#) | [Work for us](#) | [Feedback](#)