

NEWS

M E R C H A N D I S E R

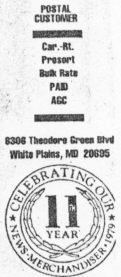
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Letters

TO THE EDITOR

On the Glymont Library

Part 1

Dear Mr. Trapani:

In response to your correspondence of July 17, 1991, I would like to set the record straight:

1. ... the Board of Library Trustees was authorized by the County Commissioners to plan for the construction of a new library facility to replace both the Glymont and Bryans Road Branch Libraries ... to cost no more than \$973,000.
2. At no time has the Board of Library Trustees had this money under its control.
3. The Board of Library Trustees hired an architect ... and ... proceeded through the design phase of the project.
4. In January of 1991, the project was to be bid with the target of January 1992 for occupancy of the new facility.
5. Because of the financial problems faced by the county ... the library building was placed on hold for at least one year and possibly longer. The library is a high priority on the County Commissioners construction plan once the economy turns around. The library will be built.

The Board of Library Trustees appreciates your concern over the decision to close the Glymont library—a decision that was only made after lengthy study of all the alternatives.

Richard Stone, President
 Charles County Board of Library Trustees

Part Two

Dear Mr. Trapani:

After great deliberation and lengthy study...the Board of Library Trustees made the decision to consolidate Glymont and Bryans Road libraries three months earlier than planned and a recent survey shows that over half of our Glymont customers also use Bryans Road library already.

1. The dollars saved will allow us to purchase more materials for all libraries by eliminating duplication in Bryans Road/Glymont.
2. All library customers will have equal access to computerized information.
3. We will be able to buy out the lease on the automation system, thus saving the county \$108,000.
4. We will be scheduling the Bookmobile stop in the Indian Head/

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THE NEWS-MERCHANDISER invites letters to the editor. To be considered for use, letters need signature(s), address and telephone number, for checking only. We may edit letters for clarity, libel or length.

NEWS

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Letters

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Glymont area for those people who cannot easily get to the Bryans Road branch.

Our purpose is to provide equal library service to everyone in the county and at present we are not doing that. I really believe you will receive better service from a consolidated library than we are able to provide in Glymont at this time.

As to some of your particular concerns:

The Bryans Road library is only 200 square feet smaller than Glymont and with a planned reorganization of space all patrons can be accommodated during the interim before the new library is constructed.

All materials owned by Glymont that are not already duplicated in the Bryans Road collection will be moved. Our library customers will actually have more materials available with the combined library than are presently available in Glymont.

Katharine D. Hurrey
 Director

Southern Maryland Regional
 Library Association

Part Three

Dear Ms. Hurrey & Mr. Stone et al.:

I have carefully read and evaluated both of your response letter(s), and have decided to answer both of your letter(s) in one...

We as a committee being the TRUE FRIENDS OF THE GLYMONT PUBLIC LIBRARY CITIZENS COMMITTEE GROUP, having to save the Glymont branch from extinction, nevertheless, resorted to extraordinary means, as citizens, to obtain relief from what your decisions have produced. Namely, our opposition in the form of a circulated citizens petition.

You have NOT demonstrated in either of your letters that you personally will see to it; that there will be to date, an extra effort to again make another attempt to help us save our library, without us imposing our efforts.

As far as we are concerned, you simply helped to rubber stamp a retroactive closing, without our knowledge of any kind, of public hearing before the citizens of Indian Head and surrounding areas. Meaning, no one ever asked us whether or not we minded if you just shut our Glymont library branch down...

Moreover, we found out that the cost of maintaining the Glymont branch ... to keep it open, is an estimated \$50,000.

Basic mathematics tells me that \$973,000 minus \$50,000 equals \$923,000. As I see it, we demand that our Glymont Branch stays open, and the \$50,000 out of \$973,000 is just a drop in the bucket. Therefore, shouldn't we have \$923,000 left over if we minus the \$50,000 we need to keep our li-

Wherefore, how can you have the gall to say that any new building relating to the Glymont Library, "... will be built" ... as you said in paragraph #5- Mr. Stone ...

We have enjoyed our Glymont Library since 1959. Our local taxes and/or support funds have helped our library since 1959. We therefore expect our library to be maintained and managed to include its assured continuance.

We as citizens pay public administrators public funds to operate our public services NOT shut them down! Respectively, of the two, we'd rather wish that you would shut down for true lack of consideration rather than our Glymont public library services.

Since a fight is what we are able to give, then a fight it is, and frankly either you are for us or against us! We will not rest until we get our demanded results and to state, just exactly why it is, that unless we apply petitionary pressure as a voice of the people, that nothing would ever be done, for our behalf to save our Glymont library branch.

On behalf of our signed petitioners and those in support of our cause,

Mark A. Trapani
 Chair In Charge Of Petitions,
 True Friends Of The Glymont
 Library

Part Four

Dear Honorable Commissioner Thomas Mac Middleton, President:

We as the True Friends of the Glymont Public Library Citizens' Committee Group, hereby request our presence before your committee, in oral hearing, on the issue of our Glymont branch library, and to continue its operation thereof.

Interests in this matter on the following:

Your official statements on the current remaining amount of funds for the building of the purported new library slated for Ruth B. Swann Park area.

Any transcripts of meetings to date to officiate that any matter was attempted to find extra or remaining funds to keep open the Glymont branch library until such time the new purported library building is to be completed...

Your official statements as to what the purported \$973,000 has been used for ...

Any other matter relating to the building, building costs, and maintenance fees/costs projected.

Any other matter relating to Glymont branch library costs and/or maintenance fees/costs projected, at its present location ...

These are some of the issues we as the citizens request and demand in the form of a hearing on or prior to August 15th (and) a response to this request of oral hearing ...

Respectfully Requested,

Mark A. Trapani
 Chair In Charge Of Petitions
 Ms. Ann Bowen
 Chairwoman of the Committee
 Harriette Peacock & et al