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Baltimore County Public Library

News Release

March 6, 2009

FOR RELEASE UPON RECEIPT

NEW PERRY HALL LIBRARY: TWICE AS NICE

Beginning Monday, March 9, residents of the Perry Hall area will obtain library service from a bigger and more up-to-date facility than its predecessor that provided service to the Perry Hall community for 46 years. Located nearby at 9685 Honeygo Boulevard, the spacious, new 25,000-square-foot “green” branch is more than twice the size of the overcrowded, 10,000-square-foot building it replaces.

New features of the enlarged, single level, handicapped-accessible library include BCPL’s first drive-up window, open during library hours, an adult reading room, two group study rooms, a special area for teens, and ample parking with 150 spaces. The new branch also provides an enlarged meeting room and public seating for 152 (formerly only 17), a meeting room that seats 126 (previously only 80), a greatly enlarged 3,200-square-foot children’s area (previously 400 square feet), 30 additional personal computers (previously only 7), and 120,000 items in the collection, more than double the previous number (50,000). It is BCPL’s first green library.

Costs include \$5.5 million for design/construction, \$923,000 for furniture/fixtures/equipment, and \$1.2 million for new items in the collection.

For its grand opening, the library is hosting a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Monday, March 23 at 2:30 p.m. that will include elected officials Baltimore County Executive Jim Smith, Councilman Vincent Gardina and State Sen. Katherine Klausmeier, as well as civic leaders and families.

To round off the week, a “Community Celebration Day” for the family is scheduled for Saturday, March 28 from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Activities and special events include performances by the Bubble Lady, Jessie & James Dog Act, Tom Lilly’s Balloon Art, crafts, gaming and singing by fifth grade students from Chapel Hill Elementary. At 3:30 p.m., Valley View’s Carrie Engel offers gardening tips for the adults.

For information, call 410-887-6196.