

UNIVERSITY PARK NEWSLETTER

TOWN OF UNIVERSITY PARK, MARYLAND
MARCH 2021 OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER VOL. XLVI, NO. 3

MAYOR'S COLUMN

The Town is reviewing future options for its bus services, which have been paused during the pandemic, through a Council-appointed Transit Task Force. The Town bus service began in 2002 as paratransit services provided to seniors and individuals with disabilities. It was funded by federal-county grant, which enabled the purchase of a small bus with a wheelchair lift. This service is known in the County as the "Call-A-Bus" program. Very quickly the Town Council envisioned broader possibilities for the bus, and the Town experimented with adding morning and afternoon shuttle service for residents commuting via the Prince George's Plaza Metro. The experiment was successful, and residents advocated for the shuttle to continue and in 2003 it became an established Town service. Both commuter and paratransit services were popular and grew in use. In 2015, the Town was forced to withdraw from the County Call-A-Bus system and began operating its own bus services with two larger 20-

passenger buses with wheelchair lifts. I promised we would consider future changes to make the bus more convenient or add value to our community.

In 2019, the last full year before the pandemic service suspension, the weekday shuttle to and from Metro served an average of 87 riders daily, 58 riders in the morning and 29 in the afternoon. The paratransit service averaged 19 riders monthly, largely a core of 4 to 5 senior residents who grocery shop weekly. I often heard from bus riders about the high-quality service, great care and how drivers were missed when absent. Residents noted additional benefits: individual cost savings, reduction in vehicle miles traveled, the community among regular bus riders, reduced carbon emissions and the ability to own fewer cars. Local real estate ads note the availability of the Town bus services-they add value to our homes and community's quality of life. These factors

Town Meetings & Special Dates

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------------|
| Town Council | March 1 & 15 |
| Electronics/Paint Recycling | April 24 |

Town meetings are at 7:30 PM and temporarily conducted by conference call and videoconference. See Council agendas at www.upmd.org/agendacenter. Town Hall is currently closed. Sign up for meeting and service information alerts at www.upmd.org/notifyme.

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FROM THE MAYOR CONT.

are important to why we live in University Park and how we get around. In FY2019, it cost the Town \$96,721 to operate this transit service, a reduction from previous years' costs.

Anticipating the Purple Line's eventual arrival, in 2019 I proposed the Town study changing the shuttle's routing and schedule to cover more of the Town and stop at Purple Line and Metro stations. In March 2020, I suspended the bus service for the safety of drivers and passengers through the COVID-19 pandemic and this year-long pause was an opportunity to consider the bus service. In July 2020, the Council established the Transit Task Force "to assess the current bus operation and make recommendations for the future of transit in University Park." The Council appointed Joe Thompson as chair and Kelly Hilovsky, Emily Ryan, David Tully, Carol Weese and Emily Alvarez as members. Town Clerk Andrea Marcavitch, who supervises the bus system, serves as staff liaison and I serve as an ex officio member.

Since August the Task Force has met monthly to examine the options. The Task Force is charged with considering the bus service and its future, analyzing its costs and benefits, the carbon footprint benefit of transit, related environmental issues, and program changes necessary when the Purple Line is in service. The Task Force reviewed bus options on February 9 at a well-attended virtual public forum and heard Town residents' perspectives. The public forum (and others) can be viewed through the Town website at www.upmd.org/publicforums. The Task Force presents its findings and recommendations at the March 15 Council meeting. I encourage you to attend and hear the report. If you wish to make comments or have questions for the Transit Task Force, contact Task Force Chair Joe Thompson at jdthomps20@gmail.com.

—Len Carey

*Do you agree or disagree? Did I miss something?
Let me know: mayorcarey@upmd.org*

**Please use University Park
as your address on your
Maryland tax forms.**



**Notice of Introduction of
Charter Resolution 21-CR-01**

On February 1, 2021, Charter Resolution 21-CR-01 was introduced. This Resolution would amend Article VI, "Finance", by repealing and re-enacting Section 602, "Budget", and Section 606, "Appropriations Lapse After One Year" and enacting new section 620 "Submission and Adoption of Capital Improvement Program" to make provision for a Capital Improvement Program as part of the Town budget that may continue from fiscal year to fiscal year.

The Mayor and Council will hold a public hearing to consider this Resolution for adoption on April 5, 2021, which is at least 21 days after publication of this notice. For more information or a copy of the proposed Charter Resolution, call Town Hall at 301-927-4262.

**Free Electronics
Recycling &
\$5 Paint Disposal
Event**



**for University Park Residents
Saturday, April 24, 9 AM-1 PM
UP Elementary School Bus Circle**

Bring your cans of old, leftover, wet paint. Paint will be processed for reuse. Only latex, acrylic, alkyd, water or oil-based paints in original containers. \$5 per quart, gallon or bucket—cash, check, charge accepted.

Recycle it! Bring your Driver's License for proof of residency. All electronic items collected will be reused, refurbished or recycled through Turtle Wings Inc., in accordance with local, state and federal regulations. Please check the Public Works page at upmd.org for a list of other reuse and salvage organizations.

Residents must arrange to bring acceptable items to the scheduled recycling events or dispose of them personally at the Prince George's County Landfill.

FROM THE CHIEF

Dating sites and apps are very popular in the United States with as many as three in ten adults having frequented them. Some people have found success on dating sites and apps and others have not been as fortunate. In fact, many dating sites and apps users have become victims of romance scams. This issue has grown tremendously and impacts adults of all ages and some older teens. Romance scammers go to where the money



is and look to prey on well-established adults that live alone. According to the Federal Trade Commission romance scams are the largest type of consumer fraud, with victims reporting losses of \$143 million in 2018. This figure does not account for all of the money stolen during romance scams. Often victims fail to report these frauds to the police because they feel ashamed and/or embarrassed. According to the FBI, romance scams have increased during the pandemic by 22%.

People are home alone and spending more time on the internet. Romance scammers know this and look for ways to manipulate and lure victims with phony profiles and stolen pictures from social media to create an alluring and attractive fake persona. Under the guise of seeking a romantic relationship, scammers engage with their victim for days or even months, gaining their trust through interaction on social media, text messaging and cellphone. Often these scammers paint vivid pictures of their lives, families and professional experience but say they are unable to meet in person because they live or work out of state. They might claim to be an active-duty military member deployed overseas or an executive working for a large construction firm in another state. They will remain in constant communication with their unsuspected victim, patiently and persuasively anticipating the right moment to solicit financial assistance. The goal of romance scammers is to steal money from their victims.

The University Park Police recognizes and understands

romance scams are a huge problem and recommend the following tips to help keep you safe:

- Check out their story. When you meet someone online attempt to verify their profile and story.
- Do an image search. Check out the person's profile photo and run it through a reverse image search engine. If the photo is used by two different profiles, then one may be phony.
- Seek advice. If you meet someone online and they seem too good to be true, discuss them with a trusted family member or friend.
- Do not send compromising photos. Romance scammers have been known to extort or blackmail their victims for money.
- Do not send money. If someone you meet online requests money, just say no.

No crimes were reported in January 2021.

Helping Hands University Park

Lots of thank yous this month! Thank you to Julie Schejbal who spoke to over 60 people interested in avoiding the unnecessary and avoidable "drama of aging." A recording of her presentation is available on the HHUP website. Thank you to the 14 UPer (HHUP volunteers and others) who offered to shovel walks for our members, and thanks to all the kind neighbors who shoveled walks for their older neighbors. We extend a heartfelt thank you to Adena Fritz and her UP Rocks crew for painting stones and delivering them to our HHUP members for Valentine's Day. They were a huge hit with everyone!



- *HHUP Virtual Lunch Club, Wednesday, March 17, 12-1 PM* Receive the Zoom link by calling 301-892-6636 or emailing HHUniversityPark@gmail.com
- *HHUP Conversational Spanish class with Edda Osborne, Wednesday, March 17, 3PM* Call us at 301-892-6636 or email HHUniversityPark@gmail.com for further information.

Helping Hands University Park, Hyattsville Aging in Place, Neighbors Helping Neighbors-College Park and Explorations on Aging College Park have joined together

TOWN NEWS

to launch *Corridor Conversations*, a monthly online series to entertain, engage and educate attendees, especially our older residents residing along the Route 1 Corridor. Attendees can join via telephone or Zoom. Registration information is available on our website, helpinghand-sup.org. Events will continue to be added to those below:

- *Understanding the Power of Stories in Our Lives, Wednesday, March 31, 2–3:30 PM* Join author and educator Carol S. Pearson, Ph.D., to learn about how myths and universal patterns apply to contemporary life. Pearson has developed tools and methods to help people recognize invisible patterns that can inspire and influence your actions and others. Learn how you can better understand your story and chart a path through difficult decisions.
- *The Bard in April, Saturday, April 24, 2–3:30 PM* Celebrate Shakespeare's birthday with a look at what goes into producing a theatre classic. Join Hyattsvillian Janet Griffin, newly retired director of public programs and artistic producer for the Folger Theatre, to learn about the theater's 2008 production of *Macbeth*. We'll also view a video from the 2008 performance and hear from the directors.
- *The Great Caterpillar Factory & Backyard Birds, Saturday, May 22, 2–3:30 PM* It's May and the great caterpillar factories of eastern North America are in full production. For songbirds, this is the bounty that fuels mating, nest-building and parenting in our backyards. Join science writer and College Park resident Rick Borchelt for a look at some of the common birds that depend on these caterpillar factories in suburban landscapes.

Sustainability Committee News



What are rain barrels? Rain barrels are containers used to collect rainwater from the roof of a building via gutter and downspout. The downspout is cut to a height to permit flow into the barrel placed underneath it. The barrel should have a spigot and be placed up a bit from the ground for bucket collection. Why get a rain barrel? *It saves you money.* Use the rainwater on gardens, lawns or washing your car (not for consumption) and you will see your water bill go down. Also, this water can be used during a water restriction time period. *Reduce stormwater runoff.* By keeping rainwater on your property, you directly reduce the stormwater flow. This helps stabilize stream banks and lessens the number of pollutants carried directly to streams. *Collecting rainwater is good for biodiversity.* Support your backyard

garden habitat with water free from chlorine, fluoride and calcium often found in municipal water. Your pollinators will thrive! Just remember to place a mosquito dunk in each barrel monthly from April–November.

The Prince George's County Rain Check Rebate Program offers rebate incentives to homeowners, businesses and others to install practices that will improve stormwater runoff quality, reduce pollution and improve local stream and river health, including installing rain barrels. Go to cbtrust.org/grants/prince-georges-county-rain-check-rebate/ for more information.

Tree Committee News

It's March at last, time to sharpen tools, dream of the garden and pick-up sticks knocked down since November. What can we plant this year? What would fit? What would help? What legacy might we leave? Any time we plant a tree where it provides more benefit than not it is known as a legacy tree, since future owners of the property will derive its greatest environmental and economic benefits. "A society grows great when elders plant trees in whose shade they shall never sit"—Greek proverb. We benefit individually and collectively as a community from providing such legacies. Even those who do not enjoy gardening may plant a tree without spending a dime, without sharpening a shovel or lifting a finger—save filling out some forms and making some phone calls—through University Park's generous Tree Reimbursement Program. Visit upmd.org/169/Tree-Reimbursement-Compost-Programs or email TPE@TreeComm@UPMD.org.

Community Mosquito Control Program

Fight the Bite without Pesticides



It's only March so why are we writing about mosquitoes? With Spring's increasing temps, it's time to start thinking about mosquito control. Adult mosquitoes can hibernate during the winter and mosquito eggs can survive by overwintering in water. When the temperature is consistently around 50 degrees, they will spring into action. Your first line of defense to keep mosquitoes at bay is to eliminate standing water where mosquitoes can breed. Tip or remove water that has collected as soon as possible. If you can't tip or remove the water, put mosquito dunks or sprinkle mosquito bits in the water to kill the larvae. Your next step is to

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locate and clean-up your GAT traps from last year for re-use this year. If you need new traps or replacement parts, place your order now. The UP Community Mosquito Control Program is beginning to recruit block captains for our 2021 season. The success of our program depends on the participation of block captains throughout UP. There are 92 block captain areas so please help our town by volunteering. If you can be a block captain this year, please send us an email at: upmosquitoc@gmail.com. For more information on how to remove mosquito habitat from your yard, visit upmd.org/DocumentCenter/View/1610/2020-05-17Yard-Cleanup. To order new or replacement parts for GAT traps, visit us-shop.biogents.com. You can find this information and much more at upmd.org/222/Community-Mosquito-Control. *UP Community Mosquito Control Program Coordinators: Julie Ainsworth, Lynne Davidson, Virginia Myers and Ed Wells.*



January 19 Council Meeting Highlights

Present (via video and audio conference) were Mayor Carey; Councilmembers (CM) Biermann, Schultz, Morrissey, Verrill, Caskey, Wells, Stephen.

Consent Agenda

Motion: *To approve the following consent agenda items.* Motion approved 7 to 0.

To replace 4' fence on the west side of the property at 4304 Sheridan Street.

To excavate and repair 2 drainage pipes, and to remove 4 sidewalk sections in front of the property where 2 drainage pipes will be extended to run under the Town sidewalk to connect outfall into the gutter at 6305 Queens Chapel Road. Note: Town's contractor will replace these sidewalk sections at the homeowner's expense.

Mayor's Report

■ Mayor Carey stated that, as was provided in the FY2020 and FY2021 approved budgets, the Mayor's proposed budget for FY2022 will include continuation of a part-time Town Administrator. This proposed FY2022 budget will come to the Council by April 1.

■ In reference to the COVID-19 vaccinations, the mu-

nicipal elected officials vaccinations are at the Cheverly Health Center as part of continuity of operations under Phase 1B. We are encouraged to get a vaccination as soon as we are eligible. The County is handling this, following State and CDC direction. Any new information on this matter will be passed on immediately.

■ Mr. Deutsch reported that the names and ages of the Public Works staff will be forwarded to the County to get in the queue for a COVID-19 vaccination.

Committee Reports and Council Comments

CM Verrill, Ward 4 A group of women in University Park are interested in learning to play pickleball. This may require funds from the Town to paint the required lines on the tennis courts. CM Verrill was encouraged to bring her request before the Public Facilities and Services Committee for consideration.

Public Facilities and Services Committee The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 21 at 7:30 PM. Discussion will include the plan for the Town parks and the future of the Public Works garage.

Policy, Rules, and Municipal Structure Committee

■ In reference to the draft statement of work that was emailed to Councilmembers, the committee is proposing revising/updating the Town History. Mayor Carey responded by saying that he will include funding for this project in his FY2022 budget proposal.

■ In reference to the draft statement emailed to Councilmembers on democracy and social justice, the Committee believes that it is important to take a stand and say something about what is going on at the national level and to address the January 6 attack on the Capitol. Following council discussion, committee co-chair Verrill agreed to revise the statement in committee and bring the revised statement back to the Council for further discussion and review at the February 1 meeting.

Police, Traffic and Public Safety Committee The January 20 meeting has been cancelled.

Sustainability Committee There's a new group of Capstone students from the University of Maryland who may do something interesting with the tree inventory.

CM Wells, Ward 6 CM Wells met again with the Pathways to Unity group. With the upcoming eviction crisis that will happen when the eviction ban expires, Ms.

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Wells has materials available on homelessness and evictions for those who are interested in getting involved.

New Business

Motion: To approve the introduction of the budget adjustments for fiscal year 2021 as recommended by the Town Treasurer in the January 15, 2021 memo to the Mayor and Council in the total amount of \$49,900.00, as reflected below.

| Account Name | Transfer from | Transfer to |
|---|---------------|-------------|
| General Government | | |
| Transit | 34,900.00 | |
| Insurance | | 3,100.00 |
| Administration Expense (Town Administrator) | | 8,300.00 |
| Payroll Taxes & Benefits - GG | | 11,500.00 |
| Elections | | 2,000.00 |
| Building Utilities | | 10,000.00 |
| Police | | |
| Police Supplies & Manuals | 2,000.00 | |
| Crossing Guards | 2,500.00 | |
| Travel, Meetings, Professional Dues | 1,000.00 | |
| Medical Exams | | 2,000.00 |
| Body Worn Cameras | | 3,500.00 |
| Public Works | | |
| Salaries | 7,000.00 | |
| Travel & Dues | 2,500.00 | |
| Fuel | | 2,000.00 |
| Composting | | 500.00 |
| Vehicle Maintenance | | 7,000.00 |

Prior Years Surplus

Increase by \$321,270 to agree with the FY2020 audit. Total Fund Balance at 7/1/20 is \$3,837,007.

The earliest this may be considered is at the February 1, 2021 Council meeting, as the total exceeds \$2,500.00.

Motion approved 7 to 0.

Infrastructure Project Update

The Director of Public Works provided a status report on the progress of the Infrastructure Project.

A detailed document of the project was included in the Council packet (document can be found with the agenda at www.upmd.org/agendacenter).

- Phase 1 of the project is completed.
- Phase 2 (Queens Chapel Road) has begun.
- The concrete that has gone down on Queens Chapel Road is nearly double the strength that's required by County standard.
- Due to permitting and cost issues, a mulch over gravel path will be used along the pollinator meadow. Mr. Beall learned that WSSC has a sewer project scheduled for 2022 and this will include fourteen streets in Town.

Administrator and Department Reports

Town Administrator David Deutsch In reference to the COVID-19, the Town is working on getting employees vaccinated and getting word out through Helping Hands (HHUP) to inform senior residents about the vaccination.

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Town Clerk Andrea Marcavitch

- Summary of permits issued in the month of January: 4 building; 1 dumpster and 0 vendor.
- The Council was reminded that Ethics forms are due by April 30—Disclosure of Gifts and Financial Disclosure forms. Both forms are required for Council to complete. Resident committee members are only required to submit the Disclosure of Gifts form.
- The Transit Task Force Public Forum is scheduled for February 9 at 7:30 PM. More information can be found in the February newsletter and on the Town website at www.upmd.org/news.
- Scheduling of the next election date and hours will take place at the February 1 Council meeting.
- During the next month or so, Ms. Marcavitch will be working with General Code to update the Town Code to include all of the legislation that was adopted in the last year.

Chief of Police Harvey Baker

- Crime Report from December 21, 2020—January 19, 2021; one incident in Ward 1.
- On January 4, PFC Albert Bell, Jr. was hired and is currently on field training.
- On January 11, the COVID-19 vaccine was given to those officers who wanted to receive it.
- On January 14, a sergeant's exam was given and as a result, Corporal John Morris will be promoted to Sergeant on January 21.
- The advertisement for the Captain position will close this week. Several applications are currently being reviewed.
- There is one officer position that still needs to be filled.
- PFC Officer Bell will be assigned to Ward 4 as a community liaison.
- A Town Hall Forum is scheduled for Monday, January 25 at 7 PM with resident Melinda Moore as the moderator. Discussion will include the police departments annual report for 2020 and provide an opportunity for residents to ask questions related to law enforcement in University Park.
- Training: PFC Officer Bell completed his Firearms qualification on January 11. The following courses were completed through the online portal PoliceOne Academy: Active Shooter Recognition and Basic Response; Domestic Violence Intervention for Dispatchers; Dispatcher Ethics and Public Service; and Traffic Stops and Safety One.

Town Treasurer Dan Baden The December 2020 Treasurer's Report was distributed.

Director of Public Works Michael Beall Mr. Beall responded to a question about tree trimming on 40th Avenue by saying that the Bartlett Pear trees are being trimmed to reduce the canopy spread which helps prevent the trees from splitting.

The meeting adjourned by consent at 9:20 PM.

February 1 Council Meeting Highlights

Present (via video and audio conference) were Mayor Carey; councilmembers (CM) Biermann, Schultz, Morrissey, Verrill, Caskey, Wells, Stephen.

Consent Agenda

Motion: To approve the following consent agenda items. Motion approved 7 to 0.

To widen existing 41'x 9'8" driveway to match the new driveway apron width of 10' and to replace the driveway with permeable pavers at 4103 Van Buren Street.

To enlarge exterior rear door, install new windows according to approved County plans, and to replace rear stoop at 4209 Tuckerman Street.

Permits

WMATA (Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority) representatives will describe a fan shaft maintenance project that will occur in University Park from February to December 2021.

Motion: To approve Special Utility Permit SP 2021-02 for the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority for a maintenance project on WMATA ventilation shafts from February to December 2021 with the condition that the Town be added as an additional insured. Motion approved 7 to 0. *Note:* The Town Attorney said that based on the amount of work that is going to be happening on town land and crossing town land and also involving areas where the public will be coming and going that she is going to have to ask that the Town be an additional insured on the insurance, as part of the permit.

Public Comment

▪ A resident questioned how much of the Mayor's time will it take to volunteer on the State Legislative Committee and what is the direct benefit for the Town.

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

- A resident commented on the proposed Democracy and Social Justice Statement.

Mayor's Report

- Mayor Carey responded to the public comment question that he is on the Maryland Municipal League's Legislative Committee, which requires about two hours a week when the legislature is in session, and this position has brought the Town a great deal of benefit.
- Mayor Carey clarified that his proposed budget for fiscal year 2022 will include funds for a part-time Town Administrator.
- A letter was received asking Mayor Carey to support a solicitation of corporate donors for Route 1 Communities Cares. Council agreed with Mayor Carey in endorsing a letter of support for soliciting corporate donations for local restaurants and feeding those in need.
- On February 9, the Transit Task Force will hold a Town Hall Forum to discuss options and to receive feedback from residents. More information can be found on the Town website.
- Mayor Carey responded to a question from a Councilmember about when the next Council retreat will be held by stating that due to COVID-19 it will not be scheduled before June. On urging by Councilmembers, Mayor Carey asked Mr. Deutsch to look into the possibilities of a virtual retreat before June and report back to Council.

Committee Reports and Council Comments

Sustainability Committee

- CM Schultz asked for some guidance from the Mayor and the Town Attorney about the next steps in installing electric vehicle charging stations.
- Following Council discussion, Mayor Carey asked CM Schultz and the Committee to come back to Council with a specific proposal.

CM Biermann, Ward 1

- CM Biermann expressed concern about County vaccination rates. He asked that important COVID-19 information be inserted in the newsletter for those residents who do not have access to a computer.
- Mr. Deutsch reported that Mayor Carey recently informed the County that University Park would be willing to host a vaccination site.
- Mayor Carey encouraged Councilmembers to respond to the link that was recently emailed and to sign up for the vaccination.

Development Overview Committee

- The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 11.
- CM Wells received a notice that the parking lot at the upper end of University Town Center just received approval to develop the property for retail and residential. The Committee will need to take a look at this in the near future.
- The Committee needs to look at the sector plan for the intersection of Adelphi Road and University Boulevard and the Purple Line Station.

Continuing Business

Motion: *To approve the budget adjustments for fiscal year 2021 as recommended by the Town Treasurer in the January 15, 2021 memo to the Mayor and Council in the total amount of \$49,900.00, as reflected below.*

Note: Please see page 6 for account names and transfer details.

Prior Years Surplus

Increase by \$321,270 to agree with the FY2020 audit. Total Fund Balance at 7/1/20 is \$3,837,007.

Motion approved 7 to 0.

New Business

Motion: *Per Section 504(a) of the Town Charter, to set a May 4, 2021 date for General Election in the Town of University Park for the Office of Councilmember for wards 2, 4, 5, and 6; to approve a vote-by-mail election where all ballots must be received by 8 PM on Election Day to be counted; and to approve the poll hours of operation from 1 PM to 8 PM at Town Hall located at 6724 Baltimore Avenue in University Park.*

Motion approved 7 to 0.

Motion: *To approve the introduction of Charter Resolution 21-CR-01 to repeal and re-enact Article VI, "Finance", Section 602, "Budget", and Section 606, "Appropriations Lapse After One Year", and to enact Section 620, "Submission of Capital Improvement Program" to make provision for a Capital Improvement Program as part of the Town budget that may continue from fiscal year to fiscal year.* Motion approved 7 to 0. The earliest date this motion may be considered for passage is April 5, 2021.

Motion: *To adopt Resolution 2021-R-02, adopting a statement on democracy and social justice in response*

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to the January 6, 2021 attack on the U.S. Capitol.

Motion: *To amend Resolution 2021-R-01 by eliminating the third Whereas.* Motion approved 4 to 2 (Verrill & Morrissey opposed).

Motion: *To amend Resolution 2021-R-02 by substituting the word "invasion" for the word "storming" in the second Whereas.* Motion approved 7 to 0.

Motion: *To keep the last "Be It Further Resolved" as is.* Motion approved 7 to 0.

Motion: *To approve Resolution 2021-R-02 as amended, adopting a statement on democracy and social justice in response to the January 6, 2021 attack on the U.S. Capitol and to allow the Town Clerk to make conforming edits.* Motion approved 7 to 0.

Town Administrator's Report

The IT provider recently installed a spam filter program that does a very good job with keeping junk out of town email, though there has been an issue with specific reports of removed emails which are sent by the program to Councilmembers. This complaint will soon be resolved by limiting who the reports are sent to. There should be no negative impacts.

The meeting adjourned by consent at 9:46 PM.

Help Fight Food Insecurity

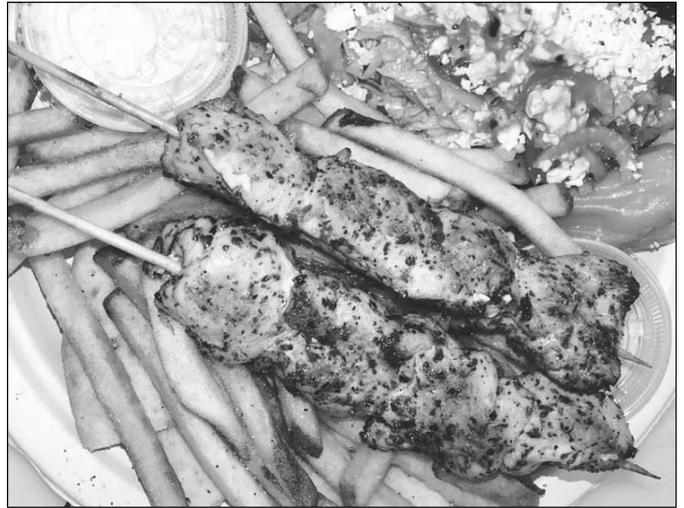
St. Mark's Food Pantry

The St. Mark's Food Pantry has been operating since 1991. Food is provided at no cost and without any obligation to the homeless, poor, unemployed, senior citizens and children in need. Before the COVID-19 pandemic the pantry was serving about 80 families per week. They are now serving over 400 families per week and demand continues to grow. If you need help, the St. Mark's Food Pantry located at 7501 Adelphi Road is open every Tuesday at 10 AM until the food runs out. If you would like to help the pantry continue its fight against hunger in our community, please donate at www.gofundme.com/stmarksfoodpantry.

Route One Communities Care

University Park residents, Route 1 neighbors and Central Kenilworth Avenue Revitalization CDC are supporting our local restaurants and feeding families in need.

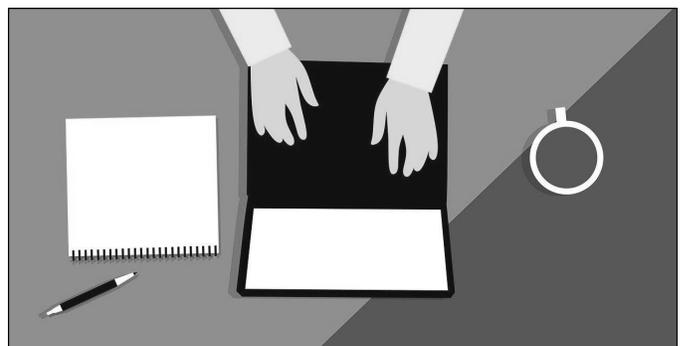
TOWN NEWS & EVENTS



Some of these restaurants could be forced to close or layoff many of their employees. Well over 120,000 County residents were food insecure pre-pandemic, the highest number in the DC metro area and the number of County unemployed has risen dramatically. Restaurants include Dumm's Pizza and Subs, Denizen's Brewing Co., Krazi Kebab, 2Fifty Texas BBQ and Shortcake Bakery. Donate at <https://www.gofundme.com/f/gofundmecomgreater-riverdale-cares/donate>. Contributing monthly would be particularly helpful. A tip is not required. For more information call David Brosch at 240-888-1225 or Deborah Rosenfelt at 301-801-8732.

University Park Listserv

The University Park listserv was started many years ago as a virtual backyard fence for residents of the Town of University Park and the adjacent neighborhood of College Heights Estates. It is meant to be a friendly neighbor-to-neighbor exchange of information of interest to our neighborhood. Only residents of UP or CHE are eligible for membership. The listserv currently has almost 1,400 members and is moderated and supported by a group of volunteers.



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Visit the new UP listserv website at tinyurl.com/univparklist for information on how to join the group, edit your subscription and view the guidelines for posting. Members should follow all the guidelines and know that repeated violations can lead to strict moderation of their posts or being permanently banned from the group. The most important guidelines are that all posts must be respectful, and members can post only for themselves. This ensures that the listserv remains a friendly place for neighbors to share content that is relevant to our neighborhood. Please don't call people out publicly, use the list to accuse a neighbor of wrongdoing, or engage in name calling or insults. Remember, keep the list focused on our neighborhood. Don't post about a house on the market, items for sale/free, or services wanted/available that are owned or offered by someone who lives outside of UP or CHE. We don't want our backyard fence to morph into another Nextdoor or Craigslist. If you have questions or need help, send an email to uplistmods@gmail.com and put the reason for your query in the subject line of your email. Write Problem Post for an issue with a particular post, Guidelines for guidelines clarification, or Tech Support if experiencing technical difficulties.

Senatorial Scholarship

Are you or one of your children expecting to attend a Maryland college or university next year? Are you interested in financial assistance to help with tuition? If you live in the 22nd district—the communities of Berwyn Heights, Edmonston, Greenbelt, Hyattsville, Lanham, New Carrollton, Riverdale Park, Seabrook, or University Park—you can apply to Senator Paul Pinsky's scholarship committee for a Senatorial Scholarship. These scholarships usually range from \$500 to \$2,000 for each of four years. The application is available at senatorpinsky.org. Applications are due by April 1, 2021. The scholarship committee, made up entirely of citizen volunteers from the 22nd legislative district, will be selecting the scholarship winners.



2021 University Park Woman's Club

Scholarships The Woman's Club will again be awarding scholarships in 2021. The scholarship application is now on the club's website, womensclubUP.com/scholarships. The applicant may complete the form

online and either mail or email the form. Directions are on the forms. We are also working with the local high school counselors to develop a process for obtaining and completing the application. The application deadline is April 5. The two scholarships are:

Doris McPhee Memorial Scholarship This one-time financial need-based award of \$1500 is available to a graduating senior of Northwestern High School. The student must have a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 and demonstrated leadership and service.

University Park Woman's Club Scholarship This one-time merit-based need-blind \$1500 award is available to a graduating high school senior who is a resident of University Park, MD. Applications will also be accepted from children and grandchildren of current UP Woman's Club members. All student applicants must live in Maryland. The applicant must have a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 and demonstrated leadership and service.



GENERAL FEDERATION of WOMEN'S CLUBS

University Park Woman's Club's 80th Anniversary!

The oldest continuously functioning club in University Park is the University Park Woman's Club (UPWC). This month, the club celebrates its 80th anniversary and its connection to the General Federation of Women's Clubs which was founded in 1890. Since 1941, members have focused on promoting civic betterment, social welfare and issues affecting women, children and education.

Currently, UPWC provides food on the second Tuesday of each month for those in need at the Prince George's Day Center. The club also sponsors a coin collection called the Penny Project to raise money for local charities. UPWC might best be known for its scholarship program. Scholarships are awarded each June to two students, one from Northwestern H.S. and one from the community or a relative of a club member. Before the pandemic, the club hosted the Holiday House Tour in December and sold White House ornaments to raise money for the scholarships.

Past club projects include purchasing equipment for Prince George's Hospital, planting trees in the UP park, buying flags for UP Elementary, raising funds for the

TOWN NEWS & EVENTS

Women's Military Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery, and holding a bond drive during WWII resulting in a bomber being named after the club. The club has also had a choral group called Silver Bells, sponsored middle school dances (The Cotillion), and hosted a yarn-crafting group. The careers and talents of the members are varied and fascinating. We invite all women—young, old, or in the middle—to join us in this anniversary year.

The annual dues are only \$35. UPWC is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. For an application, email Jeanne Washburn at UPWCpresident@gmail.com or Mary Dancy, Membership chair, at mdancy63@gmail.com

Woman's Club Zoom Meeting

Monday, March 1, 11:45 AM

Please join UPWC's Zoom meeting for presentations from four talented members who will share the process and products of their special crafts: collage, block linocut printmaking, embellished wet felting and photography.

■Mary Dancy will present examples of her work in Collage, a technique that involves cutting and pasting paper, photos, fabric and other objects onto a supporting surface. According to Mary, the best thing about collage is that it is relatively inexpensive, working with items you already have on hand.



■Sharon Garrison will present examples of her work in Block Linocut Printmaking. This technique involves creating and applying a design onto a linoleum covered wood block, carving the design, then applying ink to the block. Finally, the block is used to print an impression of the carved surface.

■Terry Fitzpatrick has always been interested in the Fiber Arts such as sewing, weaving and embroidery. She says, "I enjoy the discipline needed to try a new technique with natural products in the case of wet felting with wool. Once you learn the basics the rest is left to your imagination."

■When Rene McDonald celebrated her 13th birthday, her mother gave her a Brownie box camera. She was hooked. For years she loved using a Minolta SRL, with

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various lenses that could magnify and telephoto. But that was then. Today, Rene relies on one small compact piece of equipment: her smartphone. She will share some amazing shots.

If you would like the link to these presentations, please email Jeanne Washburn at UPWCpresident@gmail.com Also, to see recordings of past presentations, go to www.womensclubUP.com

After Eight Book Group

Tuesday, March 16, 8-10 PM

The After Eight Book Group is now meeting virtually. The March title is *Homegoing* by Yaa Gyasi. The book for April is *Before We Were Yours* by Lisa Wingate. Those interested in joining should contact Laura Donnelly at 301-927-6550.



Prince George's County Climate Action Plan Presentation

Thursday, March 4, 6:30-8:30 PM

Learn about our County's Climate Action Plan and share what you think should guide the drafting of this Plan. We will be presenting climate action topics, taking questions and having critical discussions about the state of Prince George's County. We will engage in discussion about Prince George's climate action planning process, important climate change topics and public ideas and input for the plan. Your input helps us make an impact! To register, go to eventbrite.com/e/community-meeting-1-cac-tickets-140920012551?



Riversdale

Riversdale

The Riversdale House Museum is launching two new virtual activity series this spring to bring history into your home. HiSTORY Time gives little historians and their

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caregivers the opportunity to sit back, relax and engage with an interactive story and activity about life in the past. The History at Home: Investigating Riversdale series transforms homeschoolers into history detectives. Their mission: use their critical skills to investigate Riversdale while meeting multiple state standards.

- **HiSTORY Time (Ages 2-6)**, March 17 & 24, 11-11:30 AM; register Feb. 16-March 11
- **History at Home: Investigating Riversdale (Ages 7-11)**, April 22 & 29, 1-2 PM; register March 15-April 15
Pre-registration is required via www.pgparksdirect.com. Both series cost \$6 for County residents and include an activity kit for pick up.

College Park Arts Exchange

Explore a variety of online arts experiences during the pandemic. **Draw Like**, taught by Racquel Keller, encourages participants to copy works by great artists using the materials they have on hand. **Explore Creative Writing** with Melissa Sites encourages writing as self-expression during this strange long season of quarantine. Dance classes including **Soul Line Dancing** with Karen Stewart, **Introduction to Tap** with Elizabeth Gardner, and **Goddess Dancing** with Samantha Fitschen, allow dancers of all ages and ability levels to move their bodies and have fun from the comfort of home. **Book Club** features different nonfiction books by woman writers every month. For more new events and details, see our online calendar at www.cpae.org, email us at info@cpae.org, or like us on Facebook.



Meals on Wheels Volunteers Needed

Meals on Wheels of College Park (which also serves Hyattsville) is in need of volunteers to help deliver and prepare meals to seniors and people with disabilities in nearby areas. Drivers typically deliver one day a week and two to four times a month between 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM on weekdays. Kitchen volunteers, who help prepare and assemble meals, are needed for one or more days a week, between 7 AM and noon on weekdays. If you are interested in volunteering, visit mealsonwheelsofcollegepark.org/ and complete the volunteer form.



UP Helping Paws

The UP Pet Database is maintained by Helping Paws, a group to better support issues around lost and found pets, wildlife encounters, and pet resources in general. Visit our website for resources at uphelpingpaws.home.blog or email UPHelpingPaws@gmail.com.

Winter Weeds

New things growing now are very likely broadleaf annual weeds. These seeds, frequently introduced from Europe or Asia, germinate from late summer through fall, then overwinter and continue to grow in early spring. Hand pulling or using a tool is the best method to control these weeds at the beginning of an infestation and when young. Weeding when the soil is moist makes the task easier. Chickweed, Deadnettle, Hairy bittercress, Henbit, and Knawel/German Moss or Knotgrass appear below (photos from BONAP and UMD Extension).





NOTICE OF ELECTION

The Town of University Park
will hold an election for

The Offices of
Councilmember Ward 2
Councilmember Ward 4
Councilmember Ward 5
Councilmember Ward 6

on

TUESDAY, MAY 4, 2021

**Poll hours will be conducted from 1-8 p.m. at Town Hall (6724 Baltimore Avenue).
Voters will be required to wear a face mask and stay at least 6 feet away from others.
For safety reasons, we urge voters to vote by drop box or mail.**

Due to the ongoing pandemic, ballot packets will be mailed to every registered Town voter in wards 2, 4, 5 and 6 with instructions. Ballots can be returned during poll hours, or by mail, or by drop box – an exterior, locked drop box will be located at Town Hall. If you do not receive a ballot, lose your ballot, or need help, visit Town Hall during poll hours on Election Day, or contact the Town Clerk before Election Day for assistance. **Votes must be received by 8 p.m. on Election Day to be counted.**

REGISTER TO VOTE:

Residents may register to vote the following ways:

Register to vote online at: https://elections.maryland.gov/voter_registration/application.html

OR

Call the Prince George's County Board of Elections at 301-341-7300; Location: 1100 Mercantile Lane Suite 115A, Largo, MD 20774; Business hours: Monday – Friday, 8 a.m.4:30 p.m.

Residents wishing to vote in the upcoming election must be:

1. A citizen of the United States,
2. 18 years of age or older on the date of election day,
3. A resident of University Park, and
4. Registered to vote at least 29 days prior to election day.

CANDIDATES:

Candidate packets (Candidate Petition and Financial Disclosure Statement) must be completed and returned to the Town Clerk by April 5, 2021 by 5 p.m. Packets are available on the Town's website at www.upmd.org/candidateinfo.

DEADLINES:

Monday, April 5, 2021: last day to register to vote.

Monday, April 5, 2021 by 5 p.m.: last day to file as a candidate.

Thursday, April 29, 2021 by 5 p.m.: last day to file as a qualified write-in candidate.

If residents have any questions, contact Town Clerk Andrea Marcavitch.

Town Clerk
301-927-4262 ext. 101
townhall@upmd.org
www.upmd.org/2021townelection

Stephanie Herold
Supervisor of Elections
elections@upmd.org

Improve How Your Mask Protects You

Correct and consistent mask use is a critical step everyone can take to prevent getting and spreading COVID-19. Masks work best when everyone wears them, but not all masks provide the same protection. When choosing a mask, look at how well it fits, how well it filters the air, and how many layers it has.



Two important ways to make sure your mask works the best it can

- **Make sure your mask fits snugly against your face.** Gaps can let air with respiratory droplets leak in and out around the edges of the mask
- **Pick a mask with layers to keep your respiratory droplets in and others' out.** A mask with layers will stop more respiratory droplets getting inside your mask or escaping from your mask if you are sick.



Choose a mask with a **Nose Wire**

- A nose wire is a metal strip along the top of the mask
- Nose wires prevent air from leaking out of the top of the mask.
- Bend the nose wire over your nose to fit close to your face.



Use a **Mask Fitter or Brace**

- Use a mask fitter or brace over a disposable mask or a cloth mask to prevent air from leaking around the edges of the mask.



Check that it **Fits Snugly** over your nose, mouth, and chin

- Check for gaps by cupping your hands around the outside edges of the mask.
- Make sure no air is flowing from the area near your eyes or from the sides of the mask.
- If the mask has a good fit, you will feel warm air come through the front of the mask and may be able to see the mask material move in and out with each breath.



Add **Layers** of material, 2 ways to layer

- Use a cloth mask that has multiple layers of fabric.
- Wear one disposable mask underneath a cloth mask.
- The second mask should push the edges of the inner mask against your face.

Make sure you can see and breathe easily

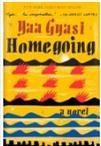


Knot and Tuck ear loops of a 3-ply mask

- Knot the ear loops of a 3-ply face mask where they join the edge of the mask
- Fold and tuck the unneeded material under the edges
- For video instructions, see: <https://youtu.be/UANi8Cc71A0>external icon.

From <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/effective-masks.html#print>

March 2021

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|---|---|--|--|-----------------|---|
|  | 1 Yard Waste UP Woman's Club Meeting, Town Council | 2 Trash, Bulk Trash | 3 Sustainability Committee, 7:30 PM Via Zoom | 4 Policy, Rules and Municipal Structure Committee, 7 PM Via Zoom | 5 Recycling | 6 |
| 7 | 8 Yard Waste | 9 Trash, Bulk Trash Transit Task Force, 7:30 PM Via Zoom | 10 Trees, Parks, and Environment Committee, 7PM Via Zoom | 11 Development Overview Committee, 7:30 PM Via Zoom | 12 Recycling | 13 |
| 14  | 15 Yard Waste, Town Council | 16 Trash, Bulk Trash  After Eight Book Group | 17 Police, Traffic and Public Safety Committee, 7:30 PM Via Zoom | 18 Public Facilities and Services, 7:30 PM Via Zoom | 19 Recycling | 20  |
| 21 | 22 Yard Waste | 23 Trash, Bulk Trash Helping Hands University Park, 5:30 Via Zoom | 24 | 25 | 26 Recycling | 27 |
| 28 | 29 Yard Waste | 30 Trash, Bulk Trash | 31 | | |  |



TOWN OF UNIVERSITY PARK
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TOWN DIRECTORY

Town Hall

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| Office Hours M-F 9 AM-5 PM | 301-927-4262 |
| Fax | 301-277-4548 |
| TDD | 800-735-2258 |
| Website | www.upmd.org |
| Town Field Status | 240-297-8277 |
| Town Bus Status Recording | 240-297-8287 |
| Mayor Lenford C. Carey | mayorcarey@upmd.org |
| Cell Phone | 240-338-2826 |
| Town Admin. David Deutsch | ddeutsch@upmd.org |
| Cell Phone | 301-343-6033 |
| Town Clerk Andrea Marcavitch | amarcavitch@upmd.org |
| Public Works Dir. Mickey Beall | mbeall@upmd.org |
| Chief Harvey Baker | hbaker@upmd.org |
| Cell Phone | 301-789-8475 |

Police

| | |
|---------------------|--------------|
| Emergency | 911 |
| Non-Emergency | 301-352-1200 |
| Police Dept. Direct | 301-277-0050 |
| Chief Harvey Baker | 301-277-0051 |

Town Council

| Ward | Council Member | Phone |
|------|------------------|--------------|
| 1 | Joel Biermann | 202-431-2689 |
| 2 | Joe Schultz | 301-892-6314 |
| 3 | Laurie Morrissey | 301-906-0276 |
| 4 | Linda Verrill | 301-927-6743 |
| 5 | David Caskey | 301-699-8785 |
| 6 | Martha Wells | 301-864-1735 |
| 7 | Roland Stephen | 919-522-5589 |

NEWSLETTER

The April newsletter deadline is Friday, March 5. The *University Park Newsletter* is published monthly, except for a combined July-August issue. Newsletter submissions, questions and comments may be emailed to univparknews@gmail.com or sent via www.upmd.org > Communications > Contact. The *Newsletter* publishes the milestones of current and former UP families (births, weddings, obituaries, graduations, awards, etc.) plus events of interest to residents. Political or commercial advertising is not accepted. Please send letters of opinion or Town suggestions to Town Hall. The *Newsletter* is online at www.upmd.org > Documents.

Subscriptions Former residents may subscribe for \$15/year by contacting Town Hall. Subscribers must renew each year before the month that their subscription ends. No reminders are sent. The address label indicates your renewal date.

Editors Todd Stewart & Bridget Warren
univparknews@gmail.com 301-209-7341

Email

| |
|--|
| jbiermann@upmd.org |
| jschultz@upmd.org |
| lmorrissey@upmd.org |
| lverrill@upmd.org |
| dcaskey@upmd.org |
| mwells@upmd.org |
| rstephen@upmd.org |

