

UNIVERSITY PARK NEWSLETTER

TOWN OF UNIVERSITY PARK, MARYLAND

MAY 2023

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

VOL. XLVIII, NO. 5

MAYOR'S COLUMN

THIS MESSAGE IS FOR YOU! Most Town residents have never attended a Council session. Perhaps that includes you? Now that we are in budget season your views are especially welcome, come and share your thoughts as the Council considers the budget I submitted on April 1st. The budget will be the main topic at Council meetings on Monday, May 1 and May 15, and a Special Session on May 8, and residents are traditionally afforded an opportunity to speak. All meetings begin at 7:30 PM via Zoom and phone dial-in. Links and dial-in information are included in the meeting agendas posted at www.upmd.org/agendacenter.

As I put this budget together, I was cognizant of the recent historically high inflation. Government must earn residents' trust to take hard-earned dollars in the form of taxes and, while some people can afford higher taxes, there are others who now struggle to make ends meet. I considered the cost of delivering the services you have come to appreciate and ensured that we are meeting those costs with cur-

rent-year revenues while also saving money for a rainy day.

This budget proposal is responsible. It includes a tax cut because additional revenue streams collectively exceed our annual operating budget costs. Here are some key budget facts:

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds infrastructure. ARPA provided our Town with approximately \$2.5 Million in federal funds to spend on a variety of programs. We are prohibited from using those funds on our daily operating needs. Consequently, I have recommended—and the Council will decide—using our remaining \$1.8 Million on infrastructure projects that our Town would otherwise not implement, including at least \$1 Million on stormwater management. ARPA is its own set of funds. It does not impact our budget, and it does not factor into our tax rates.

We can save money in our rainy day fund. The FY2024 budget proposal pays for itself with FY2024 revenues while

Town Meetings & Special Dates

Town Council, Special Session	May 1, 8 & 15
Election Day	May 9
Town Holiday	May 29

Town Hall is open Mon.- Fri., 9 AM to 5 PM. Residents must ring the call button for service. Council meetings are at 7:30 PM and currently conducted by video. Agendas are posted at www.upmd.org/agenda center. Please sign up for alerts at www.upmd.org/notifyme

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FROM THE MAYOR CONT.

also purposefully and thoughtfully adding to our reserve funds.

Maintains ability to fund future infrastructure projects. While I am a strong advocate for saving for unexpected expenses, it's important that we do so in a responsible manner. Poor budgetary planning leads to several undesirable outcomes: a town that is unnecessarily overtaxed, a government that overspends, or a combination of the two. Fortunately, we have \$2.5 Million in reserve funds; unfortunately, we have those reserves primarily because we overestimated the cost of running the town and overtaxed residents for projects that were never implemented. We need to do a better job of accurately forecasting operating expenses and saving for a rainy day.

The Government Finance Officers Association recommends that local governments maintain the equivalent of 16.7% of their daily operating budget in a reserve, rainy day account. Our Town Treasurer advised me that 25% is a reasonable amount to maintain in reserves. The budget that I proposed would give our Town a reserve balance equal to 36% of our Town's operating budget—the highest amount in reserves in a mayor's proposed budget since at least 2011. ARPA funds do not factor into this calculation. Additionally, the 36% figure represents only the approximately \$2 Million in reserve funds that have no designated purpose. An additional \$500 Thousand in our reserves is designated for future expenses, and if that amount were added to the calculation, the percentage would be much higher. It seems the experts would agree our reserve funds are more than sufficient.

Changes to the Constant Yield Tax Rate (CYTR). For most of the Town's history, the operating budget depended on two sources of revenue: personal property tax and income tax. There is additional modest revenue from permits and grants, but property tax is the one revenue stream within the Town's control. The State sets the income tax rate and the value of our properties. With the property values set, the Town assesses a tax rate for each \$100 in assessed value. For FY2023 (July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023) that tax rate is 51.67 cents for every \$100 in value. In the past, the Town sometimes raised the rate to pay for increased operating costs. Other times, it opted for a CYTR. The CYTR is simply an adjustment to the Town's tax rate that ensures that if you paid \$3,000 in Town property taxes last year, you would also pay \$3,000 in taxes this year, even if your property value increased. If we held to the CYTR in FY2024, the tax rate would be 49.59 cents per \$100 in assessed property value. New revenue streams now require us to examine more than the CYTR this year and in future years. My proposed budget balances revenue against expenses in a responsible manner.

New revenue streams. The Town currently benefits from higher interest rates yielding approximately \$150 Thousand annually on our \$2.5 Million in reserves, and the speed cameras bring in over \$600 Thousand. Of note, the cameras collect over \$2 Million per year in fines. Under State law, we are not allowed to retain all this money, but speeding would need to drop by over 50% for there to be a noticeable impact to this revenue stream. Without these revenue streams, we would have to raise the tax rate for property owners by 15 cents for every \$100 in assessed value—nearly 30% or \$800 on average per household. We can adopt the proposed tax rate of 45.59 cents per \$100 in assessed value, or another amount under the CYTR, that pays for every service we have today and saves additional funds for a rainy day.

The minimal changes made to the budget do not impact Town services. One position that was not deemed critical was eliminated to fund pay raises, and public safety investments, including street sign purchases, sign maintenance, and police vehicle dashcams were budgeted. Additionally, over \$90 Thousand was devoted to the rainy day fund. Disagreements over the process of filling the Town Administrator position led to its elimination in draft form. I expect the Council will fund the position, and I will support them doing so, provided we agree on the process for selecting the new administrator. All of this is possible at a lower tax rate.

—Joel Biermann

*What do you think? Did I miss something?
Email me at mayorbiermann@upmd.org*

Notice of Introduction of Ordinance 23-O-03

On April 3, 2023, Ordinance 23-O-03 was introduced. This ordinance adopts and levies a tax rate of Forty-five and 59/100 cents (\$0.4559) per one hundred dollars (\$100.00) of full value assessment on all taxable real property located within the corporate limits of the Town of University Park, Maryland; a two dollars and twenty-five cents (\$2.25) per one hundred dollars (\$100.00) of full value assessment on all taxable personal property located within the corporate limits of the Town; and appropriates and adopts the Fiscal Year 2024 Budget.

The meeting set for May 8, 2023, is the first meeting at which the ordinance could be adopted. For more information or a copy of the proposed ordinance, call Town Hall at 301-927-4262.

FROM THE CHIEF

TikTok is a popular social media platform that began in 2017, and its popularity has increased and captured the attention of all ages. TikTok has over 1 billion users and is available in over 150 countries. It provides users with a virtual platform to create 60-second videos and the ability to share them. TikTok can be fun, entertaining and engaging. The videos are humorous, insightful and can hold a user's attention for hours. TikTok is very popular with all ages; however, the ages 10-19 are the greatest users of the platform.



The vast age range creates an opportunity for abuse and exploitation of young TikTok users. As a result, TikTok has developed some safeguards based on the age of the user. For example, under 16 user accounts are automatically set to private. For people over 16, TikTok accounts are automatically set to public, but everyone has the option to set their profiles and any posts they create to private.

While these safeguards are helpful, they are relatively new, and some users are unaware of them. The popularity of TikTok with children means parents and guardians should learn all they can about the platform. The University Park Police appreciates the popularity of TikTok and understands the risks it presents to young users and offers these basic tips to help keep children safe while using the app.

- Please talk to young users about cyberbullying. Other users can leave comments on videos posted by a child. Negative messages or feedback can escalate into cyberbullying.
- Be aware of TikTok challenges. Many are harmless, but some can become dangerous very quickly. Peer pressure

plays a key role in TikTok challenges going awry.

- Discuss the importance of keeping passwords and other personal information private.
- Set young users' TikTok accounts to private.
- TikTok has a time management feature. Use it to help with time management.
- Parental controls can limit access to content that may be inappropriate for the young.
- Review the TikTok app with young users to establish guidelines. Review TikTok community guidelines.
- Make sure young users are share aware. Be careful what they post and who it may be seen by, so they protect themselves.

Many of these helpful tips may apply to other popular apps as well.

Movie Night in the Park Friday, May 19, 6:30 PM

Bring the entire family, along with lawn chairs or blankets, to the UP soccer field and enjoy an outdoor showing of the movie *Sonic the Hedgehog 2*. Food vendors will be available. Sponsored in partnership with the MD National Capital Park Police and University Park Elementary School.

MOVIE NIGHT *In the park*
May 19th @ 6:30 PM at Town Field
Sonic the Hedgehog 2

Bring Lawn Chairs or Blankets

FOOD VENDORS
5:45 - 8:30 PM

UNIVERSITY PARK POLICE

THIS COMMUNITY ACTIVITY IS SPONSORED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH
MD NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK POLICE &
UNIVERSITY PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Theft On April 9 a resident in the 4000 block of Beechwood Road reported their catalytic converter was stolen from their parked vehicle. The theft occurred sometime between 04/07/23 and 04/08/23. There was no camera footage and no known suspects.

Sustainability Committee News

Invasives: A Closer Look

Spring is breaking out all over! As we look at our gardens and yards, there are some surprises—new vigorous plants growing. Sadly, these plants tend to be non-native invasives. Non-native plants do so well because local insects and critters (birds, mice, rabbits, squirrels, deer among others) have not adapted to eating them. As an example of this, walk along the Town Meadow and notice the native cherry trees buzzing with all kinds of bees gathering nectar and pollen. The Bradford pear trees right next to the cherry trees are silent—nothing benefits from their blossoms.

Not only are non-native plants food deserts for local species, but they crowd out beneficial plants. Hairy bittercress (*Cardamine hirsuta*) is busy flowering right now, on the way to creating numerous seeds that will spray out as much as 16 feet from the parent plant! It is readily pulled out of the ground, so if it is removed before scattering seed it cannot spread, since it is an annual plant. Common Ivy (*Hedera helix*) runs rampant through Wells Run, the stream that flows along Wells Parkway. This climbing vine impacts the maples and oaks in the median. The Ivy League focuses plenty of energy on removing this plant before it damages the trees that so many birds and insects depend on. The bright yellow flowers blanketing the banks of Wells Run and widely present in many backyards are Lesser Celandine (*Ficaria verna*). This is a pernicious invasive that is exceedingly difficult to remove. If you spot it in your yard, remove immediately in a plastic bag and please do not add to compost, trash only.

Another invasive plant present along Wells Run is



Leatherleaf Mahonia. This highly invasive started out as an exotic ornamental on sale at plant nurseries. Birds eat the berries and scatter the seeds causing serious environmental disruption. Prince George's County has removed Leatherleaf Mahonia from the county's Landscape Manual and it is no longer considered appropriate for planting.

In the UP Pollinator Meadow, Mugwort (*Artemisia vulgaris*) and Chinese Bushclover (*Lespedeza cuneata*) are widely present. Both plants can be mitigated by uprooting, which volunteers will accomplish monthly throughout the summer.

Join us Saturday, May 20 at 10 AM to learn more about invasives, how to remove them and for some quality time in the meadow.

Helping Hands University Park

HHUP Calendar—All events are via Zoom unless otherwise noted.

Members Monthly Lunch Club, Wednesday, May 17, 12:00 PM In person. Become a member and join us!



Helping Hands University Park

Executive Committee Meeting, Wednesday, May 24, 5:30-6:30 PM

HHUP is a committee of the Town Council, and all UP residents are welcome to attend. Contact us by phone or email for the Zoom link.

Conversational Spanish, Wednesdays, 3-4 PM Members meet weekly to practice with instructor Edda Osborne.

Route 1 Corridor Conversations An online informative series co-sponsored by HHUP to entertain, engage, and educate. Info online at: hyattsvilleaginginplace.org/programs-and-activities/corridor-conversations/

HHUP Poetry Gathering The poetry group meets roughly every six weeks on Sundays. All UP residents are welcome. Contact Gerry Hendershot, ghendershot@earthlink.net; Loretta Saks, lorettahup@gmail.com, or Deborah Rosenfelt, dsr@umd.edu.

HHUP Contact Info: hhuniversitypark@gmail.com; 301-892-6636; helpinghandsup.org; [facebook.com/HelpingHandsUP](https://www.facebook.com/HelpingHandsUP).

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

March 20 Council Meeting Highlights

Present (via video and audio conference) were Mayor Biermann; Councilmembers Dubayah, Gathercole, Morrissey, Morgan, McGaughey, Wells, Sweet.

Public Comment

- A resident suggested that Mayor and Council remember the ongoing needs of feeding the homeless by non-profits and use some of the ARPA funds. The resident also spoke about the Tot Lot opening that has been rescheduled to April 16 from March 26.
- Mayor Biermann stated that County Council Member Eric Olson plans to attend the Tot Lot ribbon cutting ceremony.

Mayor, Council, and Committee Comments and Reports

The Transit Task Force Committee The Committee met March 14, 2023. They approved the white paper (report), which will be forwarded to the Council. The Task Force is done, unless otherwise advised.

The Sustainability Committee

- Had a great meeting with Mike Hunninghake of Sustainable Maryland and learned about requirements and the scoring process.
- MarySue arranged a fantastic Meadow Day, there were a lot of people in attendance, and people are encouraged to attend the next event.

Public Facilities and Services Committee They were scheduled to meet last Thursday, but it was postponed until tomorrow. We will be reviewing the action items on the RK&K Report and will also discuss Town Hall.

Mayor Biermann

- Extended an open invitation to the Tot Lot ribbon cutting ceremony in April.
- Hopeful that the Town will get some funds this budget cycle from the County for storm water management and possibly some additional funds in the upcoming budget cycle.

Department Reports

Town Clerk TC Hegeman The paperwork for the approved building permits approved administratively are in the packet. 1 Dumpster permit and 0 POD permits.

Chief of Police Harvey Baker

Crime Report for March: 2 incidents.

April 22—DEA Drug Task Force from 10 AM to 2 PM at Town Hall.

April 22—Community Policing Forum from 2 to 3 PM at Word of God Baptist Church.

May 19—Movie Night in the Park from 6 to 9 PM featuring the movie Lightyear.

On March 7 and 14, we participated in the Pedestrian Safety and Traffic Enforcement initiative on Route 1 with the Maryland State Police and other municipal and county police departments.

Town Treasurer Dan Baden The Fiscal Year 24 budget will be presented to the Council on April 1. The February 2023 Treasurer's Report was distributed and discussed.

The meeting adjourned by consent at 8:12 PM.

April 3 Council Meeting Highlights

Present (via video and audio conference) were Mayor Biermann; Councilmembers Dubayah, Gathercole, Morgan, Wells, Sweet. Absent: Morrissey McGaughey.

A Resolution Honoring Ann and Harold Freeman

CM Morgan moved that we adopt the resolution to honor Ann and Harold Freeman for their service and their time in University Park. Motion approved 5 to 0.

Public Comment

- A resident thanked Chief Baker and staff for helping to find a missing person. He also stated that he was disappointed with the budget regarding the Town Administrator position and the park plan.
- A resident wished Ann and Harold Freeman the best. He also stated that the discussion of putting lights in the park is taking away money that can be spent on other things.
- A resident stated that her primary concern is with using ARPA funds to justify a tax decrease, etc.
- A resident supports further conversation regarding the lighting in the park.

Mayor, Council, and Committee Comments and Reports

Mayor Biermann

- ARPA spending did not factor in any way into the proposed tax cut, and it cannot in any way factor into a tax cut under the federal rules. In the budget, everything related to ARPA is an expenditure that the Town would otherwise not be making. The ARPA funds are not

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

funding the police force or the Department of Public Works. Remove ARPA from the equation, and our tax base is still funding Town operations. It's funding everything in Town operations and we can still fund Town operations through our tax base even with a tax cut—that's why I put it in there. For many of us in the workforce, we can attest that raises are not outpacing inflation, so this seems like the reasonable thing to do.

■With respect to the Town Administrator position, I am in support of having a capable person in this role. I made two nominations to this position that I thought would knock this role out of the park. I am also of the belief that at every level of government when a chief executive makes an appointment, there should be some deference to that appointment. People can disagree, but in general that's how America operates. I gave two names. One is off the market now. The other one who is a retired lieutenant colonel who was the chief of staff to a general officer, he's still available. He's a town manager in another state who recently reached out again to see if there was interest in hiring him, and he has impeccable qualities.

The Police Traffic and Public Safety Committee The next meeting is April 12. We will discuss the possibility of placing parking restrictions at Wells Parkway and lighting in the park.

The Development and Overview Committee
The next meeting is April 13.

■There will be a presentation by the developer of the 9 Pond/Dewey project.
■The floc tank appeared to have disengaged in the past week or so. There have been some issues with mud in the creek. DPE, Soil Conservation District (Environmental Protection) and County Councilman Eric Olson have been notified.

Public Facilities and Services Committee Will prioritize recommendations in RKK's Stormwater Management Report and begin talking about Town Hall. The next meeting is April 20.

New Business

Motion: To approve the appointment of Michelle Wedge as a Supervisor of Elections to fulfill the remainder of the two-year term vacated by Heidi Bulich that began on March 1, 2022. Motion approved 5 to 0.

Motion: To approve new General Order 306.8, Code Compliance officer job description. Motion approved 5 to 0.

Motion: To approve new General Order 321.0, Constitutional Policing. Motion approved 5 to 0.

Motion: To approve new General Order 1200.0, the handling of Complaints and Administrative Investigations. Motion approved 5 to 0.

Motion: To approve new General Order 1300.3, Physical Fitness. Motion approved 5 to 0.

Motion: To approve the introduction of Legislative Resolution 23-O-03: Fiscal Year 2024 Budget. Motion approved 5 to 0.

CM Gathercole read the comments below submitted by CM Morrissey as she was unable to attend the meeting.

This is Laurie Morrissey, Town resident since 2007 and Ward 3 Councilmember since 2018. I want to comment on two things. First, I want to thank former Mayor Harold Freeman for his years of service to our Town. I wish him and his wife much happiness in their new home. My second comment is about the Mayor's proposed budget. There are a number of alarming proposals in it that would be detrimental to the Town if enacted. The Mayor has decided to nullify his January 5 request for me to lead a search for a new Town Administrator and wasted considerable time and money in the process, not to mention my trust. CMs Gathercole and Morgan and I have worked hard to create a new draft advertisement for the posting and have met with the Mayor in good faith to find candidates who would suit his and the Town's needs. He has gone back on his word and blindsided me in the process. I am out of state for the next 6 days, but when I return, I will share his seemingly honest and heartfelt request to me on January 5 with the Council and others in order to document what has transpired. The Town desperately needs consistent professional management, and it has had none since mid-December. I tried my best to meet the Mayor's requirements in good faith. After meeting with him, Ms. Gathercole and Mr. Morgan on February 6, the Mayor agreed to move forward with that recruitment. The process was further delayed despite a unanimous Council vote on February 21 to proceed with this recruitment effort. This was all for naught. I am deeply disturbed and appalled to find

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out that Town funds and our time were wasted. But it is the residents of our Town who are harmed the most. Also, several weeks ago I tried to explain to the Mayor why lights in the town park are unnecessary and harmful, yet he proceeded with putting this expensive and wasteful expenditure in the budget anyway, while cutting funding for other functions in the Town. Regards, Laurie K. Morrissey

The meeting adjourned by consent at 9:14 PM.

UP Woman's Club Meeting

Monday, May 1, 11:30 AM

Please join the University Park Woman's Club as we welcome our guest speaker, Thomas Szymanski. An FBI agent, Mr. Szymanski will address his journey to the agency and talk specifically about his current assignment to cold cases in Prince George's County. The program will be in-person at the University Christian Church at the corner of Adelphi and Belcrest Roads in Hyattsville. Sign-in begins at 11:30. The program begins at noon. If you wish to attend, please RSVP to cmd9514@gmail.com



UPCA Town Yard Sale

Saturday, May 6, 9 AM-2 PM

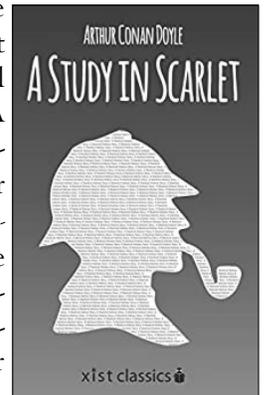
Sign up today! To be listed on the yard sale map please fill out this form and be sure to join the UP Civic Association for 2023 sign up here-<https://bit.ly/UPyardsale2023> Bill's Backyard BBQ will be serving lunch at the UPES bus circle. That's right, the pitmaster behind Cinder BBQ will be back with his smoker at the University Park Elementary School from 10 AM to 2 PM. Also, The Pirovic Team from Long and Foster Real

Estate will be handing out free ice cream at the bus circle. Thanks to everyone who has joined so far 2023. To join, visit upcamd.com.

After Eight Book Group

Tuesday, May 16, 8-10 PM

The After Eight Book group will be meeting in person. Attendees must be fully vaccinated. In May we will read Arthur Conan Doyle's "A Study in Scarlet" and "The Adventure of the Speckled Band." For June, we are reading *West With Giraffes* by Lynda Rutledge. Those interested in attending should contact Laura Donnelly at 301-927-6550. Please come and bring your suggestions for future reading.

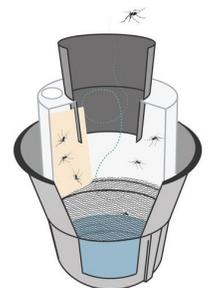


UP Community Mosquito Control Program

May has arrived and with it more pleasant weather, warmer temperatures, and more mosquitoes. What do mosquitoes carry? Zika, West Nile, Dengue, Chikungunya, and Heartworm in cats and dogs. Help fight the bite by participating in our program. We hope you've removed mosquito habitat from your yard and deployed your traps. Here is a list of reminders:

- Dump, drain. If it holds standing water for longer than a few days, flip it over or drain it out.
- Dunk. If you can't dump it or drain it (birdbaths, fishponds, persistent puddles) put mosquito dunks or mosquito bits in the water. They kill the mosquito larvae and do no harm to other species.
- Screen. Corrugated drainpipe is mosquito paradise! Replace it with straight sided pipe if you can. Otherwise, screen it. Tie stretchable nylon (pantyhose) around the aboveground joints. Put screen or mesh in or around the ends of the pipes.
- Deploy. Make sure your traps are clean and set them up in your yard. The traps provide the habitat that attracts the mosquitoes and traps them so they can't escape, eliminating the adult and future generations.

Mosquito control works only if we work together as a community. Talk to your neighbors about removing standing water, putting their traps out, or getting traps. If you have new



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neighbors, let them know about our program and how they can participate. The committee strives to give you up-to-date relevant mosquito information. Check out this link to our web page on the University Park website: upmd.org/222/Community-Mosquito-Control.

Need to order traps or replacement parts? Go to the Biogents US website: us-shop.biogents.com/ to order the BG GAT Double Set, which is what we recommend, as well as sticky cards and replacement nets. If you don't see the replacement part you're looking for, send an email to Biogents webshop@biogents-usa.com and ask them to create a special order for you. Contact the UP CMC by email, upcmosquitoc@gmail.com if you have questions or comments about our program. We'll get back to you ASAP.—UP Community Mosquito Control Coordinators



Attention: Teen Workers

A Town Teen Worker List is published twice a year in the Newsletter. University Park teens aged 13-19 with services to offer Town residents (raking, shoveling, car washing, pet care, etc.) should email their name, age, phone number, street name, email address and type of service(s) to univparknews@gmail.com before May 6 for publication in the June Newsletter.

City of College Park Parade, Saturday, May 6, 9AM-1PM Join the City of College Park to celebrate our community. Spectators can line up along Rhode Island Avenue to see local groups, organizations, entertainers, performers, and more.

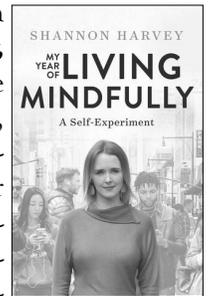
Free Drive-Up Pet Vaccinations, Monday, May 8, 10AM-3PM DoE's Animal Services Division (ASD), in partnership with the Prince George's County Health Department, is sponsoring a free Drive-Up Dog and Cat Vaccination Clinic at the Wayne K. Curry Sports and Learning Complex, 8001 Sheriff Road, Landover. The clinic will provide free rabies and distemper vaccinations and micro-chipping for dogs and cats owned by Prince

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

George's County residents. Free pet licenses will also be offered. Proof of residency is required. While supplies last. To register for the free services, go to pgcpetvaccineclinicmay2023.eventbrite.com. For more information, contact Marilyn Perez at 301-780-7200.

Hyattsville Library Independent Film Series, *My Year of Living Mindfully*, Monday, May 8 7-9:00 PM

In the midst of a global mental health crisis, millions of people have turned to mindfulness. But does it make us happier and healthier? In this world-first experiment, journalist Shannon Harvey recruited a team of scientists to put mindfulness to the test. What begins as a year-long self-experiment soon becomes a life-changing experience.



Friday Night Live! Friday, May 12, 6:30-8:30 PM

The City of College Park hosts a series of concerts over the summer and you are invited! Join us on the plaza at the City Hall building on select Fridays for Friday Night LIVE! The events will feature a variety of musical genres and performers and will include something for everyone, music, food, beer and entertainment. There will be children's performers, a bounce house, kids' activities and arts and crafts. All concerts will be held at City Hall Plaza (7401 Baltimore Avenue) May - September. Parking will be offered for free at the Downtown College Park parking garage at the corner of Yale and Knox. Local food and beer will be available for purchase during the event!

Hyattsville Arts & Ales Festival Exhibitor's Applications Exhibitor's Applications for the Downtown Hyattsville Arts Festival will be open Wednesday, May 1. The Festival will be held Saturday, September 23, from 12-6 PM and is organized by the Hyattsville Community Development Corporation. This is a juried festival. Only original artwork, photography, handmade jewelry, handmade crafts and creative literary arts are allowed. No commercial merchandise will be accepted unless it is incredibly unique and environmentally friendly in nature. Visit <http://hyattsvillearts.com>

COMMUNITY CALENDAR



College Park Arts Exchange
Jazz Concert with Rachel Franklin & Friends, *Wednesday, May 3, 7:30 PM*
Old Parish House, 4711 Knox Road.

Trolley Trail Day, Saturday, June 10
Fun activities along the trail, with College Park Arts Exchange, along with EducArte Brazilian dancing and drumming!

Pen and Ink, Watercolor Workshop, with Mary Ann Lipovsky, May 19, 9-11 AM Old Parish House, \$10, rsvp required.

Learn more about CPAE programs by visiting www.cpae.org, like College Park Arts Exchange on Facebook, or email info@cpae.org.



Riversdale

Riversdale House Museum

4811 Riverdale Road; 301-864-0420; TTY 301-699-2544;
riversdale@pgparks.com

Riversdale Chamber Music Society Concert, Mother's Day, May 14, 2-3 PM Celebrate mom, grandma, or another special lady at our free Chamber Music Society Concert!

Riversdale Mother's Day Tours, Sunday, May 14, 12-2 PM Celebrate mom, grandma, or another special lady with a free tour of the historic home. Hear about some of the mothers who lived and labored at Riversdale and take a stroll through the garden. Free for mothers.



UP Helping Paws

Please make sure dogs use the right of way, avoiding private front lawn property. Please remember to pick up after your dog and dispose of waste in public trash cans Sign up your animal(s) in the UP Pet database at <https://tinyurl.com/UPPet>.

UP Helping Paws



Shopping Locally for Fresh Food: 2023 Farmers Markets

You can eat locally grown produce year-round by shopping at these markets within a 5-mile radius. Note: Markets have adjusted due to the pandemic and information is subject to change. Please check farmers market websites and social media pages for updates.

Riverdale Park Farmers Market
4650 Queensbury Road
Riverdale Park, Maryland 20737
Thursday 3-7 PM

College Park Farmers Market
5211 Paint Branch Pkwy.
College Park, Maryland 20740
Saturday 8 AM-Noon

Farmers Market at Maryland
University of Maryland Tawes Plaza Garden
3900 Campus Drive, College Park, MD 20742
www.farmersmarket.umd.edu
Virtual/online ordering only due to pandemic.

Crossroads Farmers Market
Anne Street at University Blvd. East
Takoma Park, Maryland 20912
Wednesday 11 AM-2:30 PM

Hollywood Farmers Market
9801 Rhode Island Ave.
College Park, Maryland 20740
Saturday 9 AM-1 PM

USDA Beltsville Farmers Market
5601 Sunnyside Ave., Parking Lot B



NOTICE OF TOWN ELECTION

The Town of University Park
will hold an election for

**Offices of Councilmember for
Wards 2, 4, 5, and 6
on
TUESDAY, MAY 9**

Poll hours will be conducted from 1-8 p.m. at Town Hall (6724 Baltimore Avenue).
Voters are encouraged to vote by mail or drop box but may vote in person on Election Day.

Ballot packets have been mailed to every registered Town voter with instructions. Ballots can be returned by mail, or by drop box – an exterior, locked drop box located at Town Hall. **Votes must be received by 8 p.m. on May 9 (Election Day) to be counted.**

The following candidates have qualified to run for the office of:

COUNCILMEMBER – WARD 2

Mary F. Gathercole

COUNCILMEMBER – WARD 4

Nathaniel I. Morgan

COUNCILMEMBER – WARD 5

David M. McGaughey

COUNCILMEMBER – WARD 6

Grant D. Godfrey

WRITE-IN CANDIDATES: A Candidate Petition and Financial Disclosure Statement form must be filed with the Town Clerk no later than 5 PM on Thursday, May 4 to qualify for the Town election. All forms are available on the Town's website at www.upmd.org/184/Town-Elections.

TC Hegeman
Town Clerk
townhall@upmd.org
(301) 927-4262 ext. 101

Stephanie Herold & Michelle Wedge
Supervisors of Elections
elections@upmd.org

May 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Yard Waste UPWC Meeting, 11:30 AM, Town Council, 7:30 PM	2 Trash, Bulk Trash Sustainability Committee, 7:30 PM via Zoom	3	4 Policy, Rules and Municipal Structure Committee, 7 PM via Zoom	5 Recycling	6 UPCA Town Yard Sale, 9 AM-2 PM 
7	8 Yard Waste <i>If needed:</i> Town Council FY 2024 Budget Meeting, 7:30 PM	9 Election Day: Wards 2, 4, 5, and 6 Trash, Bulk Trash	10 Trees Committee, 6:30 PM, Hyattsville Library & online, Police, Traffic & Public Safety, 7:30 PM via Zoom	11 Development Overview Committee, 7:30 PM via Zoom	12 Recycling	13
14	15 Yard Waste Town Council, 7:30 PM	16 Trash, Bulk Trash After Eight Book Group Tuesday, 8-10 PM	17	18 Public Facilities & Services, 7:30 PM via Zoom	19 Recycling Movie Night in the Park, 6:30 PM	20 Meadow Restoration, 10 am
21	22 Yard Waste	23 Trash, Bulk Trash	24 Helping Hands University Park, 5:30 via Zoom	25	26 Recycling	27
28	29 Town Holiday	30 Trash, Bulk Trash	31 Yard Waste			



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
 Mayor Joel Biermann mayorbiermann@upmd.org
 Cell Phone 301-351-0553
 Town Clerk TC Hegeman thegeman@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	Ralph Dubayah	301-458-0128
2	Mary Gathercole	301-325-9415
3	Laurie Morrissey	301-906-0276
4	Nathaniel Morgan	301-850-4249
5	David McGaughey	301-664-4030
6	Martha Wells	301-864-1735
7	William Sweet	301-541-7642

NEWSLETTER

The June newsletter deadline is Saturday, May 6. 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. 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/newsletter. Editors Todd Stewart & Bridget Warren univparknews@gmail.com 301-209-7341

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Email

rdubayah@upmd.org
 mgathercole@upmd.org
 lmorrissey@upmd.org
 nmorgan@upmd.org
 dmcgaughey@upmd.org
 mwells@upmd.org
 wsweet@upmd.org

