

UNIVERSITY PARK NEWSLETTER

TOWN OF UNIVERSITY PARK, MARYLAND
OCTOBER 2025 OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER VOL. L, NO. 9

MAYOR'S COLUMN

Empathy.

Be Kind.

Have you seen these thought-provoking banners around the DC area? I saw one this morning on my way to work, and it made me reflect. The message highlights the power of empathy, the ability to understand and share the feelings, thoughts, and experiences of others. Everyone is struggling with something. Everyone is feeling some kind of stress. Let's try to approach each other with kindness and understanding.

Empathy is essential to building and maintaining a community. At its best, University Park puts empathy into action by caring for our neighbors and environment.



Service Day, Saturday, October 25, 9 am-Noon

Join us for University Park's first Service Day. There are a variety of projects for volunteers with different skill sets, so everyone can play a role. Activities include the annual community tree planting, pollinator meadow seeding, trash cleanup at Wells Run playground and UP Elementary School, and more. To participate, sign up at this QR Code or t.ly/RVwdY. Contact me at mayormorrissey@upmd.org or Dave Tully at tully.dave@gmail.com with questions.



Helping Hands UP

If you're a senior citizen in need of smoke-carbon monoxide detectors, stair or bathtub treads, please contact Helping Hands UP for installation help. Use the Contact Us button at www.helpinghandsup.org/ or this QR code.



Town Meetings & Special Dates

Town Council	October 6 & 20
Town Holiday	October 13
Recycling Event	October 18

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. Sign up for alerts at www.upmd.org/notifyme

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FROM THE MAYOR CONT.



Local Connections

In early September, I met with State Senator Alonzo Washington and six area mayors to discuss our municipalities' challenges and successes. One of my colleagues put it best when she said, "connection is key." On December 2, local municipal government officials will join Senator Washington and our delegates for the annual District 22 legislative dinner to share our 2026 funding priorities. This year, I will ask Senator Washington to secure additional state funds to help the Town pay for our new town hall building. Last year, our request resulted in \$400,000 in state funding for this project. We are lucky to have Sen. Washington representing our interests.



Traffic Safety and Solutions

On October 1, the Police, Traffic, and Public Safety Committee meets to review and discuss the report and traffic control recommendations from traffic engineering firm A. Morton Thomas.

Check out the PTPS Committee webpage for details about AMT's traffic study, including preliminary data and other Committee projects they're working on to make our streets safer for everyone. Progress has been slower than anticipated, but we are moving forward. All of us are affected by speeding, stop sign running, and cut through traffic and are eager for tangible solutions.

Warmly,

Laurie K. Morrissey

"Handle them carefully, for words have more power than atom bombs."

—Pearl Strachan Hurd

Notice of Introduction of Ordinance 25-O-05

On September 2, 2025, Ordinance 25-O-05 was introduced. This ordinance would enact §2-117, "Personnel Manual" of the Code of the Town of University Park, to authorize adoption and amendment of the Town personnel policies by Common Council resolution in lieu of by ordinance. The meeting set for October 6, 2025, 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.

Notice of Introduction of Ordinance 25-O-06

On September 15, 2025, Ordinance 25-O-06 was introduced. This ordinance would amend the FY 2026 Budget Ordinance, Legislative Resolution 25-O-03, to create new line items 7135-00 in Capital Projects Expenditures and 6522-05 in Public Works Capital Outlay, to fund the Clagett-Pineway SWM MOU—Engineering Services, \$175,000, and for In-Progress HVAC and Electrical Projects and Garage Roof Repairs, \$250,000, respectively, and to transfer funds from reserves to fund these line items. The meeting set for October 6, 2025, 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

The University Park Police Department would like to extend a huge thank you to all our residents and families for your cooperation during the start of the new school year. The first few weeks have gone smoothly, and your help in ensuring a safe and efficient drop-off process has been invaluable. Your child's safety is our highest priority, and we're dedicated to making school arrival a safe and happy experience for everyone. The primary purpose of the drop-off lane is to ensure student safety while keeping traffic moving efficiently. To accomplish this, students must be prepared to exit the car independently from the passenger side. For children who require a parent or guardian's help, or for families who prefer to walk their child to the school, please park in a designated parking spot and escort them to the school. Your cooperation helps us keep our drop-off process both safe and efficient.



Halloween Trick-or-Treating, 6 to 8:30 PM Safety Tips for Trick-or-Treaters and Parents

Halloween is an exciting time filled with costumes, candy and fun, but safety is our number one priority. As you and your family prepare for a night of trick-or-treating, the University Park Police Department reminds everyone to stay vigilant and follow essential safety guidelines.

Town residents, please plan to start and finish your Halloween activities between 6 and 8:30 PM, as trick-or-treating will end at 8:30 PM in University Park for maximum safety. Additionally, please be aware of road closures in the following areas to ensure a safer environment for pedestrians:

- College Heights and Wells Parkway
- College Heights and Underwood Street
- Wells Parkway and College Heights
- Wells Parkway between Calverton Drive and Chansory Lane

TOWN NEWS

These roads will be closed to vehicle traffic during trick-or-treating hours to enhance pedestrian safety, so plan your route accordingly.

—Police Chief David Coleman

Notable Incidents

Theft Report On Saturday, August 16, UPPD received a station call for a theft. The victim stated that someone had taken 4 packs of 36 rolls of toilet paper out of their garage. They stated that their garage bay door was closed and the garage door was locked. The victim's cameras captured no usable images. Nothing else was stolen, misplaced, or damaged at the time of reporting.

Vandalism On August 22 at approximately 0830 hours UPPD responded to a report of vandalism to a vehicle. The victim reported that around 0415 hours an unknown suspect entered their unlocked vehicle, which was parked in the rear of the residence. The suspect rummaged through the interior and damaged the glove compartment. It is currently unknown if any property was stolen.



National Prescription Drug Take Back Day Saturday, October 25, 10 AM-2 PM

University Park Police Department is participating in the Drug Take Back initiative. Bring your unused or expired medications to the police department for safe disposal. Properly disposing of medications helps prevent misuse and protects our environment.

From the Dept. of Public Works

Our fall **Recycling & Paper Shredding Event** will take place Saturday, October 18, 9 AM-12 PM on the UPES bus turnaround, and you may recycle electronics, tires, paint, EPS (Styrofoam) and have paper shredded.

Fall pumpkins may be composted or included with yard waste for collection on Mondays beginning in October. And looking ahead to the holidays, Christmas trees will be collected every Monday through March 30. Please be sure trees are fully undorned.



TOWN NEWS



University Park Service Day Saturday, October 25, 8 AM-Noon

Please join us for the first University Park Service Day! This is a half-day service event open to all town residents. We have a variety of projects for volunteers with different skill sets available, so everyone can play a role in building community and fostering stewardship throughout our town. Volunteers are welcome to a breakfast starting at 8 AM at Town Hall, followed by volunteer activities from 9 AM-12 PM, all within town. To register and learn more about the available projects in town, visit t.ly/RVwdY. Contact Tully.Dave@gmail.com or mayor.

Sustainability Committee News Compost Bins Arrive!

They've arrived in University Park! Homes in Wards 1, 2, 4, 6 & 7 will receive new compost bins across the month of October. Look inside your bins for instructions and bags to get started. Neighbors in your ward that already compost, as well as pilot households from Wards 3 and 5, can be a helpful resource for tips on collecting your yard and household green waste. One thing that sets University Park apart is our commitment to good use of tax dollars and good care of our planet; expanding composting across town achieves both goals. Bins have wheels for ease of use and locks to prevent unsightly overflow. If you have questions about your bin or green waste collection on Mondays, please email Mickey Beall, the Director of Public Works at mbeall@upmd.org. For more information about the UP Compost Program please see upmd.org/169/Compost-Program or contact the Sustainability Committee chair, LK Klein at upsustainabilitycommittee@gmail.com.



Meadow Restoration

Saturday, October 18, 10 AM-12 PM

This month's focus: we will be removing Bindweed, Mugwort and Vetch and Bush Clover overgrowth. We will also plant native seeds and install milk jug tops. At the UP Town Meadow on Adelphi Rd across from Hyattsville Library. Rain date Sunday, October 19, 10AM-12PM.

Tree Committee News

You are invited! Each October the TPE committee hosts a volunteer event to add street trees to an area in town that has lower canopy cover or a cluster of tree vacancies. This year we are pleased that our October 25th annual town street tree planting will be part of the broader UP service day. Join all volunteers for 8am breakfast before meeting at 9am at the corner of Van Buren and 40th Ave. to help install 20+ street trees in Wards 6 and 7. We will be planting on the block bound by Van Buren, 40th, and Underwood this year. All helpers welcome!

The committee has also been working on language to clarify some aspects of the workflow of the Tree Ordinance and this new language will be introduced at upcoming council meetings. Your feedback is welcome.

Tree ordinance: Please remember that the town tree ordinance requires all residents to file a tree form before removing any trees from their property. A form must be submitted for all trees larger than 50 inches in circumference, equivalent to 15.9 inches in diameter, or about the size of a small telephone pole. If, after filing the form, you still choose to remove a large, healthy, noninvasive tree, the ordinance mandates that you replace it with a similar canopy species within a year or contribute to the town's Reforestation Fund. These funds will enable the town to plant additional trees in other areas to maintain a healthy tree canopy for residents. Additionally, please note that the town is responsible for trees in the town right-of-way, and residents cannot remove town trees without DPW consent. For more information, please visit the town's website.

-Karin Burghardt (TPE Chair)

TOWN NEWS

Helping Hands University Park New HHUP Program



Connection and socialization are important aspects of aging in place and staying independent. We are pleased to announce that HHUP has implemented a Chromebook Lending Program.

Our members can now borrow a computer and access the internet to check email, do online banking, keep telehealth appointments, and connect with friends and family. Contact us by email or phone for more information.

HHUP Calendar

Members Monthly Lunch Club, *Wednesday, October 15, 12-1 PM* In person. Members and volunteers social gathering. Location changes every month. Become a member and join us!

Executive Committee Meeting, *Wednesday, October 22, 5:30-6:30 PM* via Zoom. 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.

UP Service Day, *Saturday, October 25, 9 AM-12 PM* HHUP volunteers will be taking part.

Conversational Spanish, *Wednesdays, 3-4 PM* Members meet weekly to practice with instructor Edda Osborne. Skill level: intermediate and up. Contact us by phone or email for information.

HHUP Poetry Gathering, Sundays approximately every six weeks at 4 PM via Zoom. All UP residents are welcome, whether a poet, poetry lover, or just poetry curious. Contact Gerry Hendershot, ghendershot@earthlink.net; Loretta Saks, lorettahhup@gmail.com, or Deborah Rosenfelt, dsr@umd.edu.

Route 1 Corridor Conversations An online informative series cosponsored by HHUP to entertain, engage and educate. For more info on the next presentation and to watch previous events check online at hyattsville-aginginplace.org/programs-and-activities/corridor-conversations/

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

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

THE UPDATE



THE LATEST IN UNIVERSITY PARK

Stay Connected With University Park

Want Town news delivered straight to your inbox? Subscribe to the *Update*—our weekly e-newsletter highlighting upcoming events, reminders, and community resources. Visit <https://upmd.org/list.aspx> and sign up for the Mayor's List and News and Announcements to receive the Update. While you're there, explore the other subscription options to customize the updates you get from Town Hall.

Stay connected between newsletters by following us on social media:

Town of University Park

Facebook: [/townofuniversitypark](https://www.facebook.com/townofuniversitypark)

Instagram: [@university_park_md](https://www.instagram.com/university_park_md)

University Park Police Department

Facebook: [/universityparkpd](https://www.facebook.com/universityparkpd)

Be the first to know what's happening in University Park—from Council actions to community events—and help keep our neighborhood informed, engaged, and connected.

August 18 Council Meeting Highlights

Present via video and audio conference were Mayor Morrissey; Councilmembers Dubayah, Gathercole, Kelby, Mowery, Godfrey, Sweet. Excused: McGaughey. Staff present: Town Administrator Debi Sandlin; Town Attorney Suellen Ferguson; Town Clerk TC Hegeman; Town Treasurer Carrina Bucknor; Police Chief David Coleman; Todd Frankenfield, Alta CPA Group.

Public Comment

A resident discussed his concerns about the listserv.



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Treasurer Report

Todd Frankenfield presented the Treasurer's Report for the period ending July 2025, which marks the start of the fiscal year. It was expected that significant revenue receipts, including county property tax bills, would be received in September and notably by December 31, 2025. The financial activities in July mainly reflected operational expenditures.

Mayor, Council, and Committee Comments and Reports

Police, Traffic, and Public Safety Committee The committee met on August 6. A. Morton Thomas discussed traffic concerns. There was also a discussion about Fusus, an apparatus that attaches to the cameras and is connected to the police department to provide emergency alerts. It was requested that the information on the town's website be updated to reflect public safety data, information from A. Morton Thomas and the stop sign cameras.

Mayor Morrissey Created a QR code linking to the updated camera and traffic safety page for inclusion in the Mayor's column. This QR code is designed to encourage residents to access the latest safety data and updates.

Public Facilities and Services Committee CM Sweet reported that the committee will not meet in August, they will meet next month.

Sustainability Committee The Sustainability Committee held a planning meeting last Friday due to the lack of a quorum and it focused on the compost rollout. The newsletter has gone out, hangers, bins, and carts have been ordered with the carts expected by August. They are finalizing literature for production. The next meeting is scheduled for September.

Mayor Morrissey welcomed the new Treasurer, Carrina Bucknor.

New Business

Consideration of Process for Personnel Manual Changes

CM Godfrey discussed the existing procedure for amending the personnel policy manual was cumbersome, requiring the adoption of an ordinance, which involves three votes, newsletter publication and waiting periods, thereby delaying updates. The Town Administrator would present proposed changes to the Council, which could adopt them by resolution, thus reducing the process to a single vote. While the Town Administrator is

responsible for recommending changes, other Council members are also permitted to propose amendments.

Motion: To direct the Town Attorney to draft an ordinance to provide for adoption of changes to the Personnel Manual by resolution instead of by ordinance and to authorize the Town Administrator to make recommendations to the Town's Personnel Policy Manual, but not necessarily as a law and it's not exclusive authorization. Motion was carried unanimously.

Consideration of Term Changes for Elected Officials

CM Godfrey discussed possibly changing the terms of elected officials. Mayor and Council discussed the advantages and disadvantages of changing the current 2-year term to a 4-year term. This significant change necessitates extensive public and council input before implementation. A decision was required within a few months to align with upcoming election cycles.

The discussion concluded with a consensus that more time is needed for Councilmembers and constituents to digest the proposals. No immediate decisions were made, and the topic will remain on future agendas for further consideration. The Council was encouraged to seek feedback from residents to gauge support or opposition before moving forward with drafting any amendments.

Motion: To approve the attached Resolution authorizing the Town to sign a vehicle lease agreement generally in the form attached for the purchase of a 2026 Kenworth T480 trash packer with 25-yard packer body, for an amount not to exceed \$258,900, funded by a 10-year lease in the amount of approximately \$32,456 per year, and to waive the bid process for the purchase with good cause being avoidance of continued operational disruption, subject to review and approval of the agreement for legal compliance by the Town Attorney. Motion was carried unanimously.

Department Reports

Each department report was included in the meeting package.

Chief of Police The orientation process for a new officer was discussed positively, noting the pairing with Officer Shepard and the shared academy background, which was seen as beneficial for integration and mentorship.

CM Gathercole Reminded everyone that Arts in the Park

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

is scheduled for Saturday, September 27, from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. CM Gathercole, who is on the Arts in the Park Committee, invited young and professional artists to display their work. The event details are to be included in the newsletter, possibly alongside a QR code for easier access. The event coincides with a Ward 1 block party suggesting a day of community activities.

The meeting adjourned by consent at 8:37 PM.

August 25 Council Emergency Meeting Minutes

Present via video and audio conference were Mayor Morrissey; Councilmembers Dubayah, Kelby, Mowery, McGaughey, Godfrey, Sweet. Excused: Gathercole. Staff present: Town Administrator Debi Sandlin; Town Attorney Suellen Ferguson; Town Clerk TC Hegeman; Police Chief David Coleman Police Captain Graddy; AXON Account Manager Noah Nickerson.

Approval of Renewal of Axon Contract

Captain Graddy sought approval to renew the existing Axon contract without going through the bidding process, as the department already possesses Axon body-worn cameras, and taser equipment.

A lengthy discussion ensued about the lack of advance notice regarding the contract renewal, the increased cost from \$30,000 in 2020 to \$112,000 in 2025, the anti-trust lawsuit against AXON and the reason for not sending this contract out for bid. There were also questions about the duration of the contract, whether new equipment would be delivered under the new contract, and the data retention period; specifically, whether data is stored for a period of five years.

Chief Coleman explained that the contract is designed to provide new equipment as it becomes available. He clarified that different retention schedules depend on the type of crime, and the data is stored on a website called evidence.com for accountability and evidence sharing.

Councilmembers inquired about accessing stored data in the event that the contract was to be terminated and questioned whether the Town still owns the data. Mr. Nickerson explained that the evidence could be recovered, but the details of integration and transfer need to be discussed with the engineering team.

Councilmembers questioned the increase in contract cost from \$30,000 in 2020 to \$112,000 in 2025 and a lengthy discussion ensued about the company, contract cost and terms and the ongoing federal anti-trust lawsuit for noncompetitive behavior. Mr. Nickerson explained that the price increase is due to the general rise in production costs, inflation and significant advancements in technology over the past five years. He also mentioned that a substantial portion of their revenue is reinvested into research and development to ensure they provide the latest and greatest technology.

Councilmembers expressed frustration because they were presented with the renewal five days before expiration and did not receive information in advance. They highlighted the need for a competitive bidding process to ensure fiduciary responsibility to taxpayers.

Councilmembers asked if there are competitive alternatives to Axon's products. Chief Coleman noted that while competitors exist, Axon's products are considered superior. Councilmembers acknowledged the potential disruption in service if the contract were to lapse but expressed a desire for more information before committing to a decision. They asked if equipment upgrades are part of the negotiated new contract. Mr. Nickerson confirmed that the Technology Assurance Plan (TAP) includes hardware upgrades at the two-and-a-half and five-year marks. CM Grant asked if the existing equipment is five years old or two-and-a-half years old. Chief Coleman clarified that the body cameras are two-and-a-half years old, and the Taser 7 models are five years old.

The Council asked if the contract could be terminated after the first year without incurring additional costs beyond the prorated hardware charges. They wanted reassurance that the Town would not be liable for more than the one-year costs. They raised concerns about understanding the total costs owed if the contract is terminated early, especially regarding amortized hardware expenses. Mr. Nickerson mentioned that the cost details could be consolidated and provided to the Council.

Ms. Ferguson briefly discussed the former contract and the fact that money was put in this budget for this item. She explained the three ways a contract can be approved: 1. A contract must be awarded over a certain amount by competitive bid; 2. We can ride a contract where some other government requirements are similar to ours, has gone out to bid and is offering the same pricing; or 3.

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Override the bid process for good cause. Approving funds in the budget isn't sufficient to issue a contract. She also discussed the anti-trust case against AXON and explained the process for those types of cases. She asked Mr. Nickerson questions about the difference between the previous contract and the renewal contract. Ms. Ferguson suggested provisions for the renewal, recommended options to prevent a lapse in service while the contract is reviewed, and confirmed with Mr. Nickerson that storage would not be cut off during the lapse.

Motion: To authorize the Mayor and Town staff to extend the agreement with Axon storage for up to \$2000 while we get more information on the renewal process. Staff would be able to, under extraordinary circumstances, suggest that more money might be needed with notice to us, only for the purpose of getting us through September 15. Postponing discussion of the contract until September 15. Motion was carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned by consent at 8:00 PM.

September 2 Council Meeting Highlights

Present via video and audio conference were Councilmembers Dubayah, Gathercole, Kelby, McGaughey, Godfrey, Sweet. Excused: Mayor Morrissey; Councilmember Mowery. Staff present: Town Administrator Debi Sandlin; Town Clerk TC Hegeman; Police Chief David Coleman.

Mayor, Council, and Committee Comments and Reports

Police, Traffic, and Public Safety Committee The committee will not meet tomorrow night; our next meeting will be the first Wednesday in October. We hope to have the final report from A. Morton Thomas.

Sustainability Committee The committee will meet on September 9 from 7:30-8:30. The compost cart rollout and lighting among other issues will be on the agenda.

DOC Committee The committee last met on August 14. The town attorney was present at that meeting and they discussed changes to the Maryland state policy regarding zoning and accessory dwelling units. Municipalities cannot restrict Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU) in single family home zoned areas for the entire state. CM McGaughey expressed concerns and recommended that Council have a meeting for the benefit of the public with Suellen present for questions.

Public Facilities and Services Committee The committee will meet on the 18th at 7:30 PM.

Continuing Business

Motion: To introduce Ordinance LR-25-O-05 to adopt Town Code §2-117, Personnel Manual, to authorize adoption and amendment of the Town Personnel Manual by resolution of the Common Council. Motion was carried unanimously.

Motion: To authorize the Town Administrator to recommend amendments to the Town Personnel Manual. Motion was carried unanimously.

New Business

Motion: To issue a permit allowing food truck sales on Queens Chapel Road near the Town Field in conjunction with Arts in the Park on Saturday, September 27, 2025, from 10:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. and to waive any applicable fees. Motion was carried unanimously.

CM Dubayah discussed the various occupations and qualifications of Stacy Aguilera-Peterson and how fortunate they are to have her join the Sustainability Committee.

Motion: To approve the nomination of Stacy Aguilera-Peterson to the Sustainability Committee. Motion was carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned by consent at 7:49 PM.



UP Helping Paws Please make sure dogs use the right of way, avoiding private front lawn property. Pick up after your dog and dispose of waste in public trash cans or your own trash can. Please sign your animal(s) up for the UP Pet database at <https://tinyurl.com/UPPet>. This database is for residents and helps reunite lost pets with their owners.



UNIVERSITY PARK WOMAN'S CLUB

Celebrating over 80 years of service

UP Woman's Club Meeting Monday, October 6, 11:30 AM

As summer exits and fall begins, we invite all to join the University Park Woman's Club for a fun Introduction and Getting To Know You meeting at University Christian Church. We welcome women from UP and all neighboring communities to join our members in this relaxed and friendly environment.

Come see who we are and what we do. Our monthly meetings from October to May feature extremely interesting topical presentations. UPWC is invested in our community and proud of our long history of engagement in charitable activities. Our primary support goes to annual scholarships awarded to graduating high school seniors at our June scholarship luncheon, after thoughtful review by our scholarship committee. For more information about our club, see our website at upwomensclub.org/. University Christian Church, corner of Adelphi and Belcrest Roads.

After Eight Book Group

Tuesday, October 21, 8-10 PM

October's title is *The Paris Novel* by Ruth Reichl. November's book is *Watermark* by Vanitha Sankaran. Those interested in attending should contact Laura Donnelly at 301-927-6550.



We're actively seeking new members. Open invitation to join the After Eight book group! Members have lively and wide-ranging discussions on the book and a variety of town and local subjects. We read books in all categories, both current and prize-winning. All are welcome and we appreciate residents' suggestions for what we should read.



University Park Service Day

Saturday, October 25, 8 AM-Noon

Please join us for the first University Park Service Day! This is a half-day service event open to all town residents. We have a variety of projects for volunteers with different skill sets available, so everyone can play a role in building community and fostering stewardship throughout our town. Volunteers are welcome to a breakfast starting at 8 AM at Town Hall, followed by volunteer activities from 9 AM-12 PM, all within town. To register and learn more about the available projects in town, visit t.ly/RVwdY. Contact Tully.Dave@gmail.com'



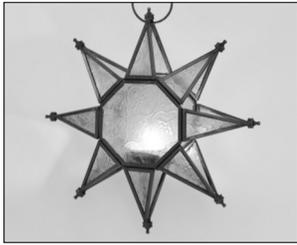
UPCA Chili Cook-Off

Sunday, October 26, 2-5 PM

Save the date and start tuning up your recipe for this neighborhood favorite. You can compete in the following categories: Mild, Medium, 5 Alarm Hot, Vegetarian, Kids and Scary (ingredients or presentation). You supply a large pot of chili and UPCA will provide the rest. If you are new to the neighborhood, this is a great way to meet folks. Everyone tastes, everyone votes, winners and trophies will be awarded. Get ready and do not miss this community event on the town soccer field. Please email dawnandjoe@verizon.net for more info or to volunteer.

TOWN NEWS & EVENTS

Annual Sharing Fair Saturday, November 1, 9:30 AM-3 PM



Browse the pop-up shops and nonprofit booths including 10,000 Villages jewelry, gifts and home decor for gifts and information about their missions. Sample baked goods and famous Binkert's sausages as well as vegetarian options.

Please join us at University Park Church of the Brethren, 4113 Tuckerman Street.

St. Mark's Food Pantry

You have many worthwhile charities to choose from, but please consider one within walking distance from your home right on Adelphi Road. The St. Mark's Food Pantry has been in operation since 1991 with an all-volunteer team. We provide food at no cost or without any obligation to the homeless, poor, unemployed, senior citizens, immigrants, children and anyone else in need.

We need your help to feed the poor and less fortunate. Sadly, our food lines are getting longer and the need is growing. Our neighbors simply need help. Please donate if you can. They depend on us, and we depend on you. 100 percent of funds donated will be used only to purchase food to those we serve and are typically 100 percent tax deductible to the extent possible under the law.

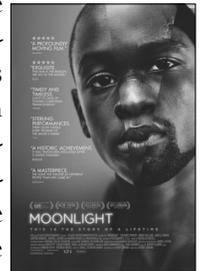
Please go to [gofundme.com](https://www.gofundme.com) and search "St. Mark's Food Pantry" to donate. Checks are also welcome and may be payable to the St. Mark's Food Pantry. Please mail to:

St. Mark's Food Pantry
7501 Adelphi Road
Hyattsville, MD 20783

10th Annual Hyattsville Zombie Run, Saturday, October 18 As fall sets in, the temperatures drop, the leaves begin to turn, but most importantly, the Zombies wake from their summer slumber. Thousands of Zombies and over 100 local volunteers will gather in Driskell Park for the 1K, 1 mile and 5K races to raise money for local schools. More information and ways to get involved in the race can be found at runsignup.com/Race/MD/Hyattsville/HyattsvilleZombieRun.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Hyattsville Library Film Series, *Moonlight*, Monday, October 20, 6:30-9 PM *Moonlight* is the tender, heart-breaking story of a young man's struggle to find himself, told across three defining chapters in his life as he experiences the ecstasy, pain and beauty of falling in love, while grappling with his own sexuality. Guest speaker Dr. Randy Ontiveros, UMD professor, brings experience teaching the film while serving in the areas of Latinx and American media, history and politics. Hyattsville Library, 6530 Adelphi Road.



Classical Concert, Friday, October 24, 7:30 PM Classical pianist Steffin Johnson will be performing pieces by Prokofiev, Scarlatti, Ravel, Liszt and Debussy. All are welcome! Old Parish House, 4711 Knox Rd, College Park.

College Park Aviation Museum

1985 Corporal Frank Scott Drive, College Park; 301-864-6029; Collegeparkaviation@Pgparks.com



Herbert Jones Jr. (left) and Hiram Haywood (right) at Columbia Air Center, 1948.

Columbia Air Center—Determined to Fly Opening Weekend, Friday-Sunday, October 10-12, 10 AM-4 PM Celebrate the opening of the museum's newest exhibition and discover the untold story of Columbia Air Center, the nation's first licensed Black-owned airport. Through vivid storytelling, holograms and digital interactives, explore this overlooked chapter in Maryland's aviation history. Free with museum admission, \$5/adult, \$4/senior, \$2/student.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Cub Corner: Halloween At The Museum, Saturday, October 18, 1:30-2:30 PM Join us on College Park Day for some early Halloween fun! After reading *Stellaluna* by Janell Canon, participants will get to color their own bat to fly in our wind tunnel. Ideal for learners ages 4-8. Free during College Park Day



College Park Day, Saturday, October 18, 12-6 PM Celebrate all things College Park and community during this annual city event! Enjoy free admission to the museum plus entertainment, music, activities, food, vendors and more across the aviation campus. Visit collegeparkday.org for more information. Free!

Saturday Steam Hour, Saturday, October 25, 10:30-11:30 AM Ideal for ages 6-12 and perfect for budding engineers, this interactive program lets visitors design and build their own creations. Whether you're constructing airplanes, airports, or inventing something entirely new, you can dream big and bring your ideas to life. Drop in anytime during the hour to explore the wonders of aviation through play. No registration required.

Family Frights & Flights: Trick Or Treat At The Museum, Saturday, October 25, 5:30-7:30 PM Set your Halloween spirits soaring at Flights and Frights! Join us for an evening filled with trick-or-treating in the gallery, and spook-tacular games and crafts. Come dressed in your favorite costumes and get ready for a high-flying Halloween adventure. To register: bit.ly.com/CPAMsignup. Registration required by October 18. \$5 Resident; \$7 Nonresident.



College Park Arts Exchange

All events take place at the Old Parish House, 4711 Knox Road, College Park, unless otherwise noted. Learn more about CPAE programs by visiting cpae.org. Subscribe to our weekly email newsletter for program updates and check out our full calendar at cpae.org/arts/full-calendar.



Plein Air painting at Lake Artemesia, Saturday, October 4, 9:30 AM-12:30 PM with Racquel Keller. RSVP to info@cpae.org.



Beginner Crochet Workshop, Saturdays, October 11 and November 8, 2:30-4 PM with Fairy Ring Fibres. Learn the basics and progress to fun projects! October 11: Making a water bottle holder; November 8: DIY crochet collars for clothing. RSVP to info@cpae.org. Fee.

Tai Chi with Maureen Stone and Mark Grisar, Wednesdays, 10 AM Tai Chi is an ancient martial art consisting of slow and controlled movements, which improve balance, muscle tone and control, and encourage a meditative state of mind. This introductory class is practiced in a standing position wearing comfortable clothes, offered in conjunction with Age-Friendly College Park. Instructors Maureen Stone and Mark Grisar have been practicing Lao Yang Family Style Tai Chi for over 15 years. \$45 for 6-week session, or \$10 drop-in fee.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR



Jessie's Soul Line Dancing, Fridays, 10 AM Jessie's Soul Line Dancers (JSLD) is a professional line dance organization established over 25 years ago by Jessie Barnes. JSLD instructors provide step-by-step instruction, and students then perform the dance to soul, gospel or pop music. JSLD offers a variety of classes for all ages and skill levels. The organization places heavy emphasis on the fun of line dancing in support of a healthy lifestyle. Contact info@cpae.org for zoom link.

Riversdale House Museum

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

Hispanic Heritage Month Free Tours, Saturday, October 4, 12 & 2 PM Enjoy a one-hour guided tour in Spanish for Hispanic Heritage Month! We interpret the history of the people who lived and worked on this former plantation, from the construction of the house in 1801 to Emancipation in 1864. Visitors will enjoy a facilitated dialogue with tour guides as they are guided through the rooms of the historic house and dependency building. Arrive at the Visitor Center 5-10 minutes ahead of time to register.

Screen on the Green: The Book of Life, Saturday, October 4, 7-9 PM Join us for a special movie event showcasing Hispanic culture's rich and vibrant stories. Bring your friends and family for a night of unforgettable film and cultural appreciation. Free admission and snacks are provided!

Storytime & Art Workshop, Saturday, October 11, 11 AM-12:30 PM Look, listen, and learn! Families are invited to an interactive story time featuring a children's book celebrating Hispanic culture. Children will have the opportunity to create an art craft that will deepen their understanding of the Hispanic community depicted in the book. Join us for this engaging experience!

Learn about Microscopy, Wednesday, October 15, 11 AM-1 PM Riversdale House Museum and Mount Rainier Nature Center are partnering to bring you a program on the fascinating world of microscopy. Learn basic techniques by heading outside and collecting your own samples of study from an outdoor walk. View Latin American herbs through a microscope lens. Get an exclusive microscopic look at a mushroom grown in the mountains in Puerto Rico!



Shop Locally at Farmers Markets

You can eat locally grown produce year-round by shopping at these markets within a 5-mile radius. 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

Greenbelt Farmers Market
25 Crescent Rd.
Greenbelt MD 20770
Sunday 10AM-2PM

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

ELECTRONICS, TIRE, PAINT & EPS (STYROFOAM) RECYCLING AND PAPER SHREDDING

Saturday, October 18, 9 AM-Noon

**for University Park Residents
UP Elementary School Bus Circle**

Bring your electronics to be recycled. Please see the list below for acceptable and prohibited items. Also offered is onsite paper shredding, tire recycling (no rims) and \$5 paint recycling.

Recycle it! Bring your Driver's License as proof of residency. All electronic items collected will be reused, refurbished or recycled through Electronics Value Recovery, 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.



Acceptable Electronics Items

Desktops
Laptops
Cell phones
Tablets
MP3 players
DVD players
Hard Drives
Servers & Server racks
Flat screen monitors
CRTs
LCD and plasma televisions
Keyboards and mice
Speakers
Cables (including power supplies)
Networking supplies
Circuit boards
Printers, copiers and fax equipment
Video cameras and security equipment

AV equipment
UPS / Battery Backup
Plotters
Batteries
Toner Cartridges

What items are not acceptable?

Trash
Furniture
Ammunition
Liquids
Combustible Materials
Medical Waste
Hazardous Materials
Items Containing Radiological Material
Christmas Lights
Fluorescent Light Bulbs



University Park Service Day Saturday, October 25, 8 AM-Noon

Please join us for the first University Park Service Day!

This is a half-day service event open to all town residents. We have a variety of projects for volunteers with different skill sets available, so everyone can play a role in building community and fostering stewardship throughout our town.

Volunteers are welcome to a breakfast starting at 8 AM at Town Hall, followed by volunteer activities from 9 AM-12 PM, all within town.

***To register and learn more about the available projects, visit t.ly/RVwdY.
Questions? Contact Tully.Dave@gmail.com or mayormorrissey@upmd.org.***

October 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	<i>Town committees meet regularly, check the town website for current details.</i>		1	2	3 Recycling	4
5	6 Yard Waste & Compost UP Woman's Club Meeting, 11:30 AM Town Council, 7:30 PM	7 Trash, Bulk Trash	8	9	10 Recycling	11
12	13 Town Holiday	14 Trash, Bulk Trash	15 Yard Waste & Compost	16	17 Recycling	18 Recycling, Shredding & More Event, 9 AM-Noon Meadow Restoration, 10 AM-12 PM
19	20 Yard Waste & Compost Town Council, 7:30 PM	21 Trash, Bulk Trash After Eight Book Group, 8-10 PM	22	23	24 Recycling	25 Service Day 8 AM-Noon, Tree Planting, 9-Noon, Drug Take Back Day, 10 AM-2 PM
26 UPCA Chili Cook-Off, 2-5 PM	27 Yard Waste & Compost	28 Trash, Bulk Trash	29	30	31 Recycling Halloween Trick-or-Treating, 6-8:30 PM	November 1 Annual Sharing Fair Saturday, 9:30 AM-3 PM



TOWN OF UNIVERSITY PARK
6724 Baltimore Ave.
University Park MD 20782

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TOWN DIRECTORY

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Mayor Laurie K. Morrissey mayormorrissey@upmd.org
Cell Phone 240-688-9534
Town Administrator Debi Sandlin
dsandlin@upmd.org
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Town Clerk TC Hegeman thegeman@upmd.org
Public Works Dir. Mickey Beall mbeall@upmd.org
Town Treasurer Carrina Bucknor cbucknor@upmd.org
Code Compliance Officer John Rogers
jrogers@upmd.org

Police 8 AM-4PM
Emergency 911
Non-Emergency 301-352-1200
Department phone number 301-277-0050
Chief David Coleman dcoleman@upmd.org
Cell Phone 240-723-7869

Town Council

Ward	Council Member	Phone
1	Ralph Dubayah	301-458-0128
2	Mary Gathercole	301-325-9415
3	Casey Kelby	443-718-0625
4	Cynthia Mowery	301-237-2120
5	David McGaughey	301-664-4030
6	Grant Godfrey	202-486-2436
7	William Sweet	301-541-7642

NEWSLETTER

The November newsletter deadline is Monday, October 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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