

# UNIVERSITY PARK NEWSLETTER

TOWN OF UNIVERSITY PARK, MARYLAND

JUNE 2018

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

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## MAYOR'S COLUMN

My congratulations and welcome to the work of the Town to David Brosch of Ward 1, Laurie Morrissey of Ward 3, and Roland Stephen of Ward 7. They were all newly elected on May 1 to the Council to represent their Wards. I was reelected as Mayor, representing all of University Park, and look forward to continuing to work with the Councilmembers.

Service on the Council is vital to the Town running well, so I also congratulate and thank departing Ward 1 Councilmember Joe Thompson, Ward 3 Councilmember Brad Hess, and Ward 7 Councilmember Roy Alvarez for their hard work. All three were heavily involved in an array of knotty, complex problems and big issues addressed by the Council during their terms and have worked assiduously to help move the Town forward. I

appreciate – and will miss – the many moments of counsel Mr. Thompson, Mr. Hess, and Mr. Alvarez have provided.

The Clerk of the Circuit Court for Prince George's County, or a representative from his office, will administer the oath of office to reelected Mayor and newly elected Councilmembers June 18 at 7:30 p.m., at the beginning of the Council meeting. Please come to observe and to welcome the new Council, as well as celebrate the service of the departing Councilmembers.

—*Len Carey*

*Do you agree or disagree? Did I miss something?*

*Let me know: [mayorcarey@upmd.org](mailto:mayorcarey@upmd.org)*

## Town Meetings & Special Dates

Town Council	June 4 & 18
Tree Committee	June 13
Helping Hands Committee	June 19
Development Overview Committee	June 20

Most Town Council meetings are at 7:30 at University Park Elementary School. Committee meetings are often at the Town Hall. Residents are encouraged to attend. Please request interpreting services 10 days in advance.

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## FROM THE CHIEF & CRIME REPORT

Social media has become a way of life. As children finish the school year and spend long summer days at home, staying connected is an activity that occupies hours of time. We all enjoy Facebook, instant information, news, activities, emails, tweets, and so on. This instant access has inherent dangers that come with it. When on a cell phone your connection, location and contacts are easily accessed using a variety of devices. As adults we hope to know better, but many are compromised by viruses, phishing and other e-related issues. Children tend to maneuver around a computer and phone much more proficiently than adults, but the judgment of those actions is skewed by their lack of life experience.

Children have the ability to compete against and chat with players around the world using internet-enabled gaming systems, or exchange messages, photos and videos at any time



with anyone. You cannot watch your kids constantly, but you should monitor their activities while allowing them to benefit from the internet and avoid its potential risks. If you start by explaining and exploring the internet with your kids from a young age, you greatly expand its capacity as an educational tool. Providing guidance and discussion along the way helps increase their online skills and confidence along with their ability to avoid potential risks. As with everyday issues, teach your kids that if they see any material which makes them feel scared, uncomfortable, confused or bullied to immediately tell you or another trusted adult.

Keeping our children safe is one of the most important jobs we have as a community. Whether a child is focused on an electronic device or outside playing with friends it is important to take responsibility for their development and safety and follow some safety precautions:

- Make sure you know where each of your children are at all times.
- Be involved in your children's activities at home, school, after school, in sports and while on vacation.
- Listen to your children, even when they are talking to others.
- Be sensitive to your children's behavior or attitude.
- Be sure to screen babysitters and caregivers.

- Practice basic safety skills with your children.
- Remember there is no substitute for your attention and supervision.
- In most cases, dangers to children come from a perpetrator known to the parent/guardian or the child, and that person may be in a position of trust or responsibility to the family.

The following are safety suggestions for your children:

- Always check first with you before they go anywhere or accept anything.
- Never walk up to or get into a car with a stranger, and never share personal or family information with a stranger or online regardless of their age.
- Always take a friend when you go places or play outside.
- It's okay to say no if someone makes you feel scared, uncomfortable or confused.
- Adults do not need help from children to locate lost puppies, get directions, etc.
- There will always be someone to help them.

Regularly check your child's phone history to verify where they've been and with whom they've been communicating. Continue to be vigilant in your home and throughout our community for the safety of everyone. As a community, we know it takes all of us to raise children. If you see a child doing something dangerous to themselves or others, do not hesitate to notify the parent or the police, if a parent is not around.

***Breaking & Entering*** On April 6 between 7:30 AM and 5:20 PM in the of 6300 Block of Queens Chapel Rd., a suspect/s entered the residence by cutting the screen of an enclosed patio and entering through an unlocked patio door. The owner came home and found that the home had been ransacked and two MacBook Pro computers had been stolen. There was no one at home during this crime. The location was checked for fingerprints and the neighborhood was canvassed for witnesses. Prince George's County Police detectives were notified and will conduct the follow up investigation. No suspect/s was located. The investigation is ongoing.

***Theft from Auto*** Between April 9 8 PM and April 10 1:30 PM in the 6500 block of 41st Ave. a suspect/s entered a vehicle at the residence and stole a dark green canvas bag containing assorted tools and a small red air compressor. No suspect/s was located. The investigation is ongoing.

**Sexual Assault** On April 27 the UPPD was contacted by the PGPD for a report of a sexual assault that occurred on April 14 at 2 PM on the park trail near Adelphi Rd. The victim advised that while walking home to Riverdale from Northwestern High School a black male, 5'7" with a thin build, approximately 20 years of age, inappropriately touched the victim over the top of the clothing. The victim screamed and the suspect ran away. A canvas of the neighborhood was conducted. No suspect was located. The UPPD will continue with the investigation.

### Helping Hands University Park



What better way to welcome the fresh new season than by spending your free time outdoors in the sunshine with a neighbor or friends? Don't let Mother Nature have all of the fun-join her outside and try one of these fun springtime activities!

**Enjoy a picnic** Sunshine, green grass and warm temperatures are quite inviting, so why not take full advantage of spending your time outside during the day? Create a picnic and take it outdoors, whether it's in the park or the patio area. Pack the traditional foods such as sandwiches, coleslaw, potato salad and fruit cobbler and ask a friend to join so you can enjoy the warm weather together.

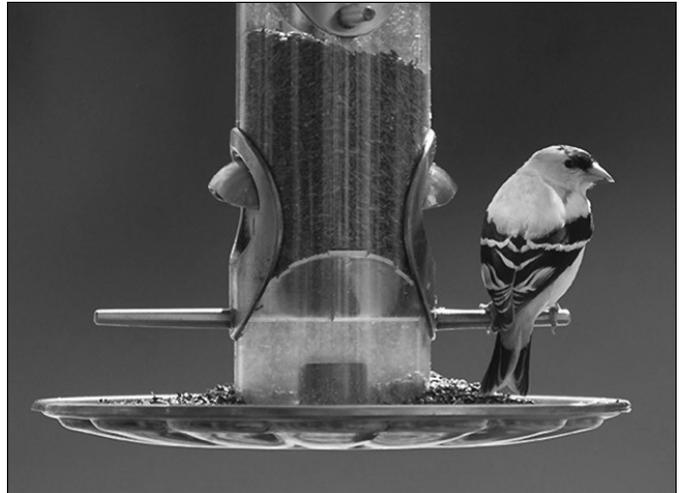
**Go for a walk** As an older adult, staying physically active is more important than ever, according to *Helpguide*. It can help boost your energy, maintain your independence and even combat symptoms of illnesses. Take advantage of the warm weather and go for a walk through the park. Not only can it count as your physical activity for the day, but the sights of springtime nature that you haven't seen since last year are bound to boost your mood as well. Don't feel comfortable going on your own? Call Helping Hands for walking companions.

**Get nostalgic** If your state of mobility allows it, go outside and do the activities you used to love as a kid! *Real Simple* magazine suggested flying a kite, searching for four leaf clovers and drawing pictures with sidewalk chalk. These are the perfect activities to do with your grandchildren, or a youthful minded friend.

**Plant in the garden** Have you ever considered how beneficial gardening is for your well-being? According to the Better Health Channel, it's a great form of exercise, can

reduce feelings of stress and can improve your overall strength and endurance. So, take advantage of the warm weather and head outside with the gardening club. Not only can you practice your planting skills, but you can make a friend or two as well!

**Do some spring cleaning** Spring is the perfect opportunity to get rid of the clutter in your home. Open up the windows, let the fresh air roll in and get to work. If you want a little extra help, call one of your children to come over and go through things with you-it could turn into a chance to share precious memories through the keepsakes and pictures you've found. Or call a like-minded neighbor and get two houses decluttered.



**Feed the birds** Once the birds start chirping, you know spring has arrived, and it also means they're hungry! To make the birds gathering outside your window happy, consider hanging a bird feeder. You can also turn it into a fun activity by creating your own homemade bird feeder. Call some of your creative friends and share a craft activity hour.

**Go to the farmers market** Our area offers several local farmers markets close by on different days of the week, so consider stopping by to check one out. Simply strolling around is a great activity, and buying fresh fruits and vegetables is an added bonus. Who knows, maybe you'll find all of the ingredients you need to make that new spring vegetable soup recipe you've been wanting to try out! Ask two or three friends to join you and have a pot luck dinner with your purchases. See the May UP Newsletter for a listing of area markets.

## TOWN NEWS

### Tree Committee News

#### Summer Husbandry

June signals us to shift our tree and shrub activities from planting to maintenance. No further planting of woody plants should be undertaken until mid-October. Be attentive to the weather and water when necessary. A good soaking once every week or ten days, either by rain or by hose, is the standard for most established woodies. When in doubt of moisture needs, check the soil around your plants. If you are not able to easily penetrate the ground 3-4" with a garden trowel, your plants need water. Apply water slowly to the soil allowing it to penetrate deeply.

#### Ivy League, Saturday, June 9, 9-11 AM

The Ivy League is a two-hour volunteer activity to tend to the town's trees by removing ivy from their trunks. It requires zero experience and results are achieved by patience more than expertise. The only tools required are a garden clipper and a small prying instrument—large screwdrivers or dandelion weeders work well. Please meet near the 9/11 Memorial, at the terminus of Wells Parkway.

-Chris Aubry, on behalf of the Committee on Trees, Parks, and Environment [TreeComm@UPMD.org](mailto:TreeComm@UPMD.org)

### Community Mosquito Control Program

Mosquito season is starting now, especially after these rainy days. Mosquitoes start showing up in the spring with the warm weather and their population peaks in the summer. We encourage you to help the UP Mosquito Control Program reduce the mosquito population in our town by checking your backyard for mosquito breeding habitats where water can collect in corrugated pipes, plant saucers, buckets, toys, plastic pools, etc. We recommend that you cover or empty water from these containers as frequently as possible. Also, if you have GAT traps, please deploy them. For a free inspection of your backyard please email [mosquito@upmd.org](mailto:mosquito@upmd.org) or call at 301-852-1889.

The Mosquito Control team is still on the lookout for additional neighbors to serve as block captains in our efforts to reduce the mosquito population in UP! Serve as a liaison between your neighbors and the committee, educate your neighbors on mosquito trapping and learn how to conduct surveys. Please contact Lynne Davidson, [Davidson.lynmarie@gmail.com](mailto:Davidson.lynmarie@gmail.com) if you are interested and able to help!

## TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

### April 9 Council Meeting Highlights

Present were Mayor Carey; Councilmembers (CM) Thompson, Schultz, Hess, Verrill, Caskey, Wells, Alvarez.

#### Presentations

Anacostia Trails Heritage Area (ATHA/Maryland Milestones) Executive Director Aaron Marcavitch gave an annual update on the Anacostia Trails Heritage Area.

- Funding for the program across the state has gone from 3 million to 5.1 million.
- The mini-grants program will be changing this year. Larger amounts will be available, with a rolling type of application.
- An Airmail Centennial event is scheduled for August 11-12, 2018 at the College Park Aviation Museum. An original "Jenny" airplane will be flown in to recreate the first airmail trip to New York.
- In addition to the month of May being the Rivers to Rockets weekends, it is also Bike Month and Preservation Month.
- Mr. Marcavitch gave Town Hall a copy of the book, *The History of US Route 1 between Baltimore and DC*.

Helping Hands University Park Committee Chair Loretta Vitale Saks gave an update of the Committee's accomplishments and their plans for the future. Mayor Carey said that the Town has budgeted \$5,000 towards Helping Hands University Park to ensure that the Committee has adequate funding for the next fiscal year.

#### Consent Agenda

*Motion to approve the following consent agenda item.*  
Motion approved 7 to 0.

Building permit application to replace damaged section of existing 4' fence located at 4218 Woodberry Street.

#### Public Comment

A resident said that after much thought regarding the proposed Town Manager, the question that is foremost in his mind is, "is there a need for a Manager?" The current staff is doing a very good job and he does not see how a Town Manager can improve what has been done and will continue to do. This problem should be addressed by the people paying the bill; put it on a Town wide vote.

A resident expressed his disappointment regarding the

## TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Van Buren bridge. There is a lot of talk about making University Park a pedestrian and bicycle friendly Town, it is ironic to have that bridge gone for more than two years. He hopes that the Town changes their priorities and see to it that the bridge is required and put in place. Mayor Carey responded by saying that replacing the bridge has always been a high priority, but it happens to be in the flood plain which requires lengthy permitting.

A resident said that University Park should be an open community, that includes the streets, and he is opposed to closing Sheridan Street. By closing Sheridan Street, this will push the traffic to other streets. The traffic study did not show that there is really a need to close the street. He asked the Councilmembers to vote to change the current status of closing Sheridan Street. Another resident agreed that Sheridan should not be closed. He feels that if a community has a problem then the community should get together and offer solutions. The data points in the traffic study do not mean much unless they are compared to what is going on elsewhere, like Tuckerman and Wells Parkway. He's concerned about the long term if Sheridan Street were to close.

A resident asked Mayor Carey, with regard to the Town Manager, what changes would be made to the Charter? Were other options considered with regard to the Town Manager? What jobs is the current Mayor doing that requires long hours that wasn't being done in the past with the other Mayors? Maybe the Mayor is choosing to do things that are not necessarily beneficial to the Town.

- Mayor Carey responded by saying that the Charter designates an array of powers and authorities upon the Mayor. Initially, with the hiring of a Town Manager, the Mayor would delegate administrative duties to the Town Manager. The Charter would then need to be revised to confer those responsibilities directly to the Town Manager.
- A Councilmember responded by saying that the development happening around University Park has increased.
- Mayor Carey responded by saying that due to the long hours that Mayor Tabori was putting in, the Council of 2012 decided to give him a stipend.
- Mayor Carey explained his responsibilities.

A resident said that the Mayor is asked to do administrative work and manage approximately six or seven people. He has a political role of being responsive to the resi-

dents of the Town by attending events, meetings and respond to messages. He has a second political role of representing the Town to the larger bodies, County agencies, the surrounding Town and the State agencies, that make decisions that affect University Park. This role includes attending meetings, providing comments timely, regarding the increased number surrounding developments. The political functions cannot be delegated, only the Mayor can speak for University Park. This resident recommends delegating the administrative function to a Town Manager.

Ms. Catherine Bennett Nwosu introduced herself and said that she is running for School Board for this area and looks forward to having more conversations with the residents.

Mayor Carey reported there will be a formal public hearing on the Constant Yield Tax Rate at the next Council Meeting scheduled for April 23.

### **New Business**

*Motion: To approve the introduction of Legislative Resolution 18-O-03: Fiscal Year 2019 Budget. The earliest date this motion may be considered for passage is May 21, 2018. Motion approved 7 to 0.*

### **Presentation by Mayor Carey and Staff**

Mayor Carey said that the proposed FY 2019 budget would implement several of the critical success factors and Council goals which were outlined in the Mayor and Council Strategic Plan Retreat Report from November 2016. Mayor Carey pointed out the following items that were included in the budget: cost of living pay increase for Town employees, Town Manager, replacement of the Van Buren Street bridge and the Beechwood Road Bridge, line items with placeholders for new sidewalks and major sidewalk repairs, and an increase in the Real Property Tax Rate to .59 per \$100 of assessed value. Treasurer Dan Baden reviewed Revenue and General Government sections of the FY 2019 budget and explained in detail the line items that had any significant changes.

*Motion: To approve the introduction of Charter Resolution 18-CR-01 to repeal and re-enact Article I, "General Corporate Powers" by adding Section 102, titled "Policy of Nondiscrimination." The earliest date this motion may be considered for passage is June 4, 2018.*

## TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Motion approved 7 to 0.

**Motion:** *To amend the motion to include “political affiliation” before “pregnancy.”* Motion approved 7 to 0.

**Motion:** *To approve the introduction of Legislative Resolution 18-0-04 to repeal and re-enact Chapter 12, “Public Ethics,” of the Code of the Town of University Park, Sections 12-102, “Definitions,” 12-104, “Conflicts of Interest” and 12-105, “Required disclosures by elected Town officials and candidates to be elected Town officials.”* The earliest date this motion may be considered for passage is May 7, 2018. Motion approved 7 to 0.

### Mayor and Council Reports

#### Mayor’s Report

Registration materials are available for the Azalea Classic event scheduled for April 21. The 5K start time is 9:05 AM.

Mayor Carey, CM Wells and Chief Wynnyk recently attended a meeting on the North County Transportation Study.

The University Park Civic Association is sponsoring the second of their civic socials on April 19. This is an opportunity for Councilmembers and Mayor, as well as candidates for Council and Mayor, to come together to discuss issues in Town.

#### Council and Committee Reports

**Public Facilities and Services Committee** Minutes from the March 15 meeting will be available soon. A recommendation for the tennis court will be discussed at the next meeting, which will be scheduled soon.

**Police, Traffic and Public Safety Committee** The next meeting is scheduled for April 10 at 7 PM at University Park Elementary School. As requested, two ASL interpreters will be present.

**Development Overview Committee** The next meeting is



**Lost Pet Database** To register your pet, report a lost or found pet, please call Laura Collins. She can be reached at UPPetDatabase@gmail.com or 301-785-2838. Have your pets wear their tags or a microchip at all times so they can be identified.

scheduled for April 18.

#### Sustainability Committee

- Minutes from the April 5 meeting are available on the Town website.
- The Committee was updated on composting.
- The Town will have to conduct a new energy audit of Town Hall and garage facilities in time for the next Sustainable Maryland Certification.
- The Committee is planning a Sustainability Fair for the fall.
- The Committee will work with the Public Facilities and Services Committee regarding park planning.
- The Committee will produce a report on Food Waste Composting.

**Trees, Parks and Environment** The next meeting is scheduled for April 11.

Mayor Carey introduced Laurie Morrissey, candidate for Ward 3, Roland Stephen, candidate for Ward 7 and Joel Biermann, candidate for Mayor.

The meeting adjourned by consent at 9:35 PM.

### April 23 Council Meeting Highlights

Present were Mayor Carey; Councilmembers Thompson, Schultz, Hess, Verrill, Caskey, Wells, Alvarez.

Note: Mayor Carey introduced University Park Elementary School physical education teacher Ms. Christy Neff who was very instrumental in the playground project.

#### Permits

**Motion to approve the request for a building permit to enclose 15’x 35’ screened in porch to be a master suite located at 4008 Tennyson Road.** Motion approved 7 to 0.

#### Public Hearing on the Proposed Real Property Tax Rate Increase

Mayor Carey read the proposed real property tax rate increase legal notice into the record. In addition to copies of the legal notice, the following documents were available to the public: History of University Park/Comparable Tax Rate and 2017-2018 County Municipal Tax Rate.

## TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

*Public Comments (C) and Questions (Q) and Answers (A) by Councilmembers, Treasurer or Mayor Carey*

Q. The proposed property tax is an increase that is separate from any issue of a Town Manager or does it include the Town Manager?

A. The Town Manager is included as well as a cost of living increase for Town employees.

Q. The approval of the tax increase would be an automatic approval of the Town Manager position?

A. It is a budget process. The Council is going to determine what happens.

A. No, this just approves the funding. No decision has been made on hiring a Town Manager. The funding is just to say "if any of those things happen, there will be money to pay for it."

A. We can back off this tax increase that is asked for, that is the max, we could ask for more but we are not going to, we can back off through our action here.

Q. Will the community have a chance to vote on a Town Manager? How is it going to be determined?

A. According to the Charter, the Council has the authority to create and fill positions in the Town.

Q. What is the purpose of the \$209,000?

A. \$125,000 of that is to fund a Town Manager position if the Council decides to go forward with it and the balance is for normal operating costs, which includes increase in salaries and benefits.

C. Why do we need a Town Manger when University Park doesn't have a commercial strip? Is it necessary to pay \$125,000 for a manager? Maybe consider a part-time manager or pay less money for a Town Manager. Take a look at the money situation, a lot of residents do not want to spend more tax dollars. The Town does a great job and the work done is really appreciated. Consider doing additional research.

C. If we say, we don't want the tax rate going up and you can't have that much money, then it does deal with a Town Manager in some ways.

A. The proposal before us is the budget and the tax rate associated with that budget. How the money will be spent is itemized in the proposed budget.

C. Already feeling the effect of paying much higher taxes thanks to the federal government.

This proposed tax increase wants to make this resident leave University Park and go to a place where the property tax is much lower.

Residents have not been given enough notice to consider a tax increase and a Town Manager position.

Researched municipalities somewhat comparable in size to University Park and most have a lower budget than

University Park.

Consider safe speed cameras in Town to help slow traffic down and make money to increase the revenue.

Supports having a Town Manager but also supports paying for a Manager mindfully and not just add to the budget.

The relationship of the Town Manager and the Mayor should be identified clearly within the Charter before hiring someone.

Hopes that the Council is looking for ways to lower the tax rate increase. Has the Council considered looking at health insurance deductibles for Town employees?

It is useful to have the Town Charter and the Governance Structure of the Town looked at on a periodic basis.

C. Thought that the Town Manager was going to be a grant-funded position. Would like more information from the Council on hiring a Town Manager. What are the specific duties of a Town Manager and why this seems necessary at this point.

C. Many residents have been asking for more information from the very beginning on why a Town Manager is needed. The budget item of \$125,000 is unnecessary because you are putting the cart before the horse.

C. Thought that the original plan was to hire a part-time Town Manager on a trial basis.

A. The history on the Town Manager is in November 2016 there was a Strategic Retreat and Council said this was one of the critical success elements for the Town. The Council budgeted to receive a \$62,000 grant from the State to pay for a part-time Town Manager shared with Colmar Manor for two years. University Park was denied the grant and as a result did not hire a part-time Town Manager. In November 2017 Mayor Carey told the Council that he would bring forward a proposal for a full-time Town Manager as part of the fiscal 2019 budget proposal.

C. Appreciate all the work the Mayor and Council do, but is unhappy about the tax increase. If the Town wants a Town Manager then cut other items in the budget.

C. Concerned about being able to afford a tax increase.

C. The D.C. Fiscal Policy Institute website does a nice comparison between jurisdictions.

Supports the idea of a Town Manager, but does not support it without doing a thorough assessment that involves people who are perhaps a little bit less invested than the Council and Mayor currently are.

Suggested looking at the Charter as a living document on a regular basis.

Q. Is it possible to approve the Town Manager contin-

## TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

gent upon funding?

Q. What are the responsibilities that the individual would take on?

A. A sample job description is on the Town website.

Q. What is the worst that could happen if you waited on hiring a Town Manager in order to filter through all the various aspects including job sharing, etc.? Find other ways to come up with \$125,000.

A. The worst-case scenario is what happens if you don't have that person who is willing to work in a full-time capacity for the entire term.

A. It is unlikely that the Town will find someone who will be willing to do the job as Mayor, we need the professional consistency of someone to be here to take care of things.

A. One of the things that the Town does not realize is how much work the Mayor and Council do on development surrounding University Park.

Q. Is the concern that we won't have anyone who wants to be Mayor? Have we considered making a larger stipend for the Mayor so that would attract more candidates as opposed to a Town Manager?

A. Being the Mayor, no matter whether we pay zero dollars or \$100,000, it's a 40-70 hour a week job, seven days a week. There is no way someone with a full-time job can do this job. You have to be available and in Town. The pay is not the question for the Mayor. Having a professional person who can do the job is important.

C. The job of Mayor has always been a volunteer position.

Q. Are there more duties now as opposed to when we had working Mayors?

A. In order to have the Public Works Department and Police Department to continue with what they do, the Town will need to pay for it, which is a portion of the tax increase for cost of living, benefits, etc. In order to continue running the Town efficiently, a professional person with the right qualifications is needed. The residents should have a voice as to whether the Town should hire a Manager. It was suggested that there be more discussion as to how the process would work, what the Town Manager would do, how would the public voice get into the conversation and how would the Charter be changed.

C. Spoke to two former Councilmembers who would have been delighted to be Mayor, but they didn't want to run against Mayor Carey. It is a speculation to say, "we don't have people who want to be Mayor."

C. The Town Manager position has not been sold. The budget is going to be approved soon and would like to

get the facts first about hiring a Town Manager.

A. There are a lot of different variables where you can come up with ways where it can be done without raising any taxes at all. Consider a management consultant to help with the decision if a Town Manager is needed.

C. It was recommended that the Council work together as a whole on this topic. Work publicly together or with a well announced committee meeting would be useful.

Mayor Carey announced that the Council will not make the decision at this meeting regarding the Real Property Tax Rate for University Park. The budget and the tax rate will be considered at the next Council meeting scheduled for Monday, May 7, 2018 and again possibly on Monday, May 21, 2018.

### Public Comment

A resident, along with other volunteers, came together in November 2017 to form a group to help those in need in Puerto Rico after the devastating hurricane last summer. Recently this group partnered with another group which holds a 501(c)(3) and has a history of doing community projects in third world countries. The group asked the Council to consider forming a partnership (sister city) with a town in the eastern part of the Puerto Rico. Two volunteers of the group (a resident of Bowie, MD and a teacher at University Park Elementary School) explained in detail what they witnessed when visiting Puerto Rico and how they are currently helping the people on the island. The group is not looking for funding from the Town, they are asking for a relationship (sister city) that will give the group more credibility as they go and try to get funding through FEMA, and the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and the Hispanic Federation, and others. Mayor Carey asked for a written proposal with what action will be needed from the Council. The group is scheduled to meet on Wednesday, April 25 at the Church of the Brethren at 7:30 PM.

### Continuing Business

Treasurer Dan Baden, Police Chief Wynnyk and Public Works Director Mickey Beall went through the Police Department and the Public Works sections of the FY2019 proposed budget and answered questions from the Council. CM Alvarez made a proposal to take \$2,000 from line item B3 Tree Replacement and add it to a new line item called Tree Reimbursement. CM Alvarez requested from Mr. Beall the salary for the Mosquito Coordinator at 20 hours per week.

## TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Note: Mayor Carey reported that Governor Hogan is going to sign the Highway User Revenue bill on April 24. This will increase Highway User Fund revenue to the Town for the next fiscal year by about \$55,000 and it will go up from there.

### Department and Council Reports

#### Mayor's Report

Mayor Carey will announce the details for a celebration, as soon as they are available, for the opening of "the crossing" or bridge across the CSX tracks, which is scheduled to open in May.

#### Council and Committee Reports

*Development Overview Committee* The Cafritz property will restore two floors of parking in Building 5. CM Wells and Mayor Carey received a letter from Mr. Taub requesting University Park's action on the parking item be forwarded to the County. Since the Committee did not take an action at the Development Overview Committee meeting, CM Wells asked the Council to confirm that the Committee did feel favorable about the amendment to the Detailed Site Plan.

*Motion: To ask Mayor Carey to send an email to Susan Lareuse of the Planning Staff expressing the Town's position of No Objection to restore two floors of parking in Building 5.* Motion approved 7 to 0.

*Chief of Police Wynnyk* The March 2018 Crime Report was distributed. The Department has been doing a lot of targeted enforcement at Clagett-Pineway. This targeted enforcement will be moved around to other parts of University Park.

*Town Treasurer Dan Baden* The March 2018 Treasurer's Report was distributed.

*Director of Public Works Michael Beall*

- WSSC plans to begin their project next week and a breakdown of their work schedule can be found on the Town website.
- The playground is nearing completion. Mayor Carey said that the community, Delegate Tawanna Gaines and the entire 22nd Legislative District will be invited to the ribbon cutting scheduled for May 19.
- The fencing for the tennis court has been contracted. Mr. Beall is working on getting a confirmation date for installation.

The meeting adjourned by consent at 10 PM.

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### May 7 Council Meeting Highlights

Present were Mayor Carey; Councilmembers (CM) Thompson, Schultz, Hess, Caskey, Wells. Excused: Ver-rill, Alvarez.

#### Consent Agenda

*Motion to approve the following consent agenda item.* Motion approved 5 to 0.

*To replace existing 101'x 10' and 28'x 10' driveway located at 4309 Sheridan Street.*

*To install two egress windows in the basement bedrooms located at 7007 Adelphi Road.*

#### Permits

*Motion to approve the request for a building permit to install 1-20kW generator using 1-150 Amp ATS located at 4200 Underwood Street.* Motion approved 5 to 0.

*Motion to approve the request for a building permit to replace an existing 10'x 12' shed at 4213 Woodberry Street.* Motion approved 5 to 0.

*Motion to approve the request for a building permit to replace an existing 10'x 12' shed located at 4215 Woodberry Street.* Motion approved 5 to 0.

*Motion to approve the request for a building permit to install a 6' wooden privacy fence on a corner lot located at 6934 Pineway.* Note: This application was presented with prior approval from the Board of Zoning Appeals case number V-213-17. Motion approved 5 to 0.

#### Comment

Note: Responses from Councilmembers, Mayor or Staff are italicized.

A resident discovered an error in the five-year projections to the FY2019 budget. Mayor Carey will pass this information to the Town Treasurer.

Does the Police Department keep statistics on every ticket/warning written in University Park? Would it be possible to make this information public on a monthly basis? Lieutenant Enig said that Chief Wynnyk has a

## TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

comprehensive list of these statistics and they are available at the Council meetings.

What is the “packer lease?” Four years ago, the Town bought two trash “packers” on a six-year note.

Resident received a number of phone calls and has had conversations with neighbors who were perplexed by the statement made by Mayor Carey in his May 4 email referencing the record-breaking number of ballots cast at the election and that residents believe things are going well in Town and headed in the right direction. These residents are against hiring a Town Manager and an increase of taxes. He suggested pausing at this time, examining the needs of Town Hall, and if the conclusion is to hire an additional person then the Mayor should try to find places in the budget to cut back instead of raising taxes.

A resident suggested waiting another year before hiring a Town Manager so that residents have a clearer picture of how high County taxes are going to increase.

This resident agrees with hiring a consultant to help run the Town better by aligning duties to the current staff and possibly a Town Manager, if needed.

How did the \$125,000 figure for the salary of a Town Manager come about? *The \$125,000 figure is a budget estimate inclusive of FICA and benefits, and comes from data regarding rates paid Town Managers in Montgomery County municipalities, as well as from the ICMA (International City/County Management Association).*

A resident said he suggests excluding the Town Manager position from the FY2019 budget.

A resident asked to clarify the following statement made by the Treasurer at the last Council meeting: “without the Town Manager we would not require the 6% increase in taxes.” *In order to pay for the same level of service, with no changes at all (Town Manager or anything else), the tax rate will have to be increased to cover changes in staff benefits and other expenses.*

The Town should consider dipping into the “Reserves.”

### Continuing Business

***Motion to approve the adoption of Legislative Resolution 18-O-04 to repeal and re-enact Chapter 12, “Public Ethics,” of the Code of the Town of University Park,***

***Sections 12-102, “Definitions,” 12-104, “Conflicts of Interest” and 12-105, “Required disclosures by elected Town officials and candidates to be elected Town officials.”*** Motion approved 5 to 0.

***Motion to approve the adoption of Legislative Resolution 18-O-03: Fiscal Year 2019 Budget.*** *The earliest date this motion may be considered for passage is May 21, 2018.*

Councilmembers discussed ways of adjusting the FY/2019 budget to reduce tax increase.

Consult with Treasurer Dan Baden to see if there could be a savings in the budget if the following line items were adjusted: Payroll and taxes for G2, A2 and P2.

Councilmembers agreed to put a hold on the Town Manager line item and remove the \$125,000 with a \$100 placeholder in order to study this option.

The following are items that Councilmembers agreed to adjust in the FY2019 Budget:

- W13 Veterans Memorial, \$100.00 placeholder.
- B7 Park Usage Concept Plan, \$100.00 placeholder.
- Councilmembers expressed a strong interest in moving toward once a week trash pick-up beginning September 2018.
- Put a freeze on hiring a Public Works employee. Mr. Beall requested that the budget include the cost of a temporary employee from July to September at \$175.00 per day.
- B1 Cemetery Upkeep, \$100.00 placeholder.

***Motion: To replace G-15 “Government Studies-Paperless” with “Government Studies” and add \$25,000 (from Reserves) for a “Town Manager Study.”*** Motion approved 5 to 0.

***Motion to approve the adoption of Charter Resolution 18-CR-01 to repeal and re-enact Article I, “General Corporate Powers” by adding Section 102, titled “Nondiscrimination.”*** *The earliest date this motion may be considered for passage is June 4, 2018.*

### Mayor and Council Reports

#### Mayor’s Report

Mayor Carey will be out of town beginning May 9 for approximately one week. The ribbon cutting for the playground will take place on Saturday, May 19 at 10 AM.

## TOWN NEWS & EVENTS

Mayor Carey encouraged Councilmembers to attend this event and to arrive at 9:45 AM. The playground will be available for use after the final inspection, scheduled for May 9.

Mr. Beall reported that the Van Buren Street Bridge is currently in permitting.

### Council and Committee Reports

**CM Caskey** In the Committee Report of the Police, Traffic and Public Safety, one item was missing. CM Caskey asked for a decision on the legality of the restriction of traffic in the town and it got a very well-drafted opinion. The minutes indicated that it would be included at the next meeting of the Police, Traffic and Public Safety Committee. CM Caskey asked that the text of that decision be appended to those minutes and posted on the website.

*Development Overview Committee* The next meeting has been rescheduled from May 16 to May 23.

There is a Public Hearing on the Zoning Rewrite on Monday, May 14. For those interested in attending, contact CM Wells for detailed information. The next two Public Hearings will take place in July and August.

*Trees, Parks and the Environment Committee* The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 9 at 7 PM.

The meeting adjourned by consent at 9:45 PM.

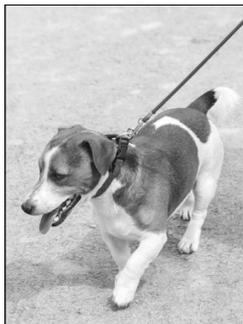
### Teen Workers List

The following young residents are interested in finding summer jobs around our Town. Please save this list and contact them if you need any of these services.

**Rowan Hanby**, 14, 301-767-5446, Sheridan Street, rowan9pitch@gmail.com, mowing and yard work, shoveling, pet care.

**Nora Stewart**, 19, please text or call 301-789-3149, Van Buren Street, nora.stewart@gmail.com, CPR certified, babysitting, pet sitting and tutoring.

**Caitlyn Weeks**, 17, please text 301-310-2280, experienced UP babysitter.



### UPWC Scholarship Winners

For the past 72 years, the UPWC has provided scholarships to promising local high school seniors. Their outstanding personal and academic achievements, excellent recommendations by teachers and counselors and their



essays led to their selection. They will be recognized at the June 4 Woman's Club luncheon. Congratulations!

The winners this year:

Charles Dawson, winner of the University Park Woman's Club Scholarship, will graduate from Eleanor Roosevelt High School. He has been accepted by University of Maryland into their Honors College where he will study Computer Science/Math. Many of you already know him from his local tech support business.

Matthew Laskowski was also awarded a scholarship because of his outstanding academic record, potential for leadership and persistent efforts. He will graduate from St. Anselm's Abbey school and plans to study Biochemistry in college.

The University Park Woman's Club would like to thank all those who participated in the Holiday House Tour and sale and other money raising activities that help to support these scholarships.

 **UPCA** **UPCA News**  
University Park Civic Association Thank you to our fabulous neighbors and volunteers for organizing (and hosting!) this year's Yard Sale & Porchfest. What a fun day shopping the neighborhood, grabbing lunch from BBQ Bill and then listening to music throughout the neighborhood. We are already looking forward to next year's music line up! Another big thank you to Beth Domingo for kicking off Memorial Day weekend with a neighborhood social around the fire pit! These events are made possible by great neighbors, volunteers, and our members! To join today go to [upcivicassociation.com](http://upcivicassociation.com).

**UPCA Mutt Strut**  
**Sunday, June 3, 9-11 AM**

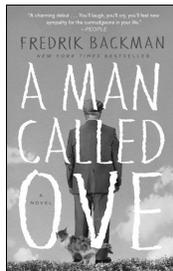


The Mutt Strut is a fun gathering for our precious dogs and their faithful human friends (adults and children) to enjoy each other's company, have coffee and donuts, visit exhibitors, win prizes...and walk together through beautiful University Park. Meet up at UP Town Soccer Field. Participation is \$5 per person with discounts for large families. Humans get our beautiful event t-shirt, doggies get a matching event bandana and this year, their very own refreshment table! For more information about the UPCA Mutt Strut, to exhibit or to volunteer, contact Linda Verrill, linda\_verrill@yahoo.com, 301-927-6743 or Carolynn Hammersmith, carolynn@hammersmith.ws, 410-507-7208.

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**After 8 Book Group**  
**Tuesday, June 19, 8-10 PM**

June's title is *A Man Called Ove* by Fredrik Backman. Please call Kathy Mancusi 301-779-0722 or Laura Donnelly 301-927-6550 for more information. This is our last meeting until starting up again in September.



The UP After 8 Book Group is looking for new members. We meet 10 times a year, September thru June on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at members' homes in UP. Books are chosen from recent fiction and nonfiction, biographies, history and sometimes even a classic or two. Drop-ins are always welcome and you don't have to join to participate. We list the book schedule in the Town Newsletter and if you've read the book, please feel free to join us. For more information, contact Laura Donnelly at 301-927-6550.

**4th of July Parade & Picnic**  
**Wednesday, July 4, 10-1PM**

Decorate your bikes, join the parade, play some games and enjoy a neighborhood potluck as the UP Civic Association celebrates Independence Day with our Annual 4th of July Parade and Picnic!

**10-10:15 AM** Arrive at UPES gazebo and drop off food and blankets for your family. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share and water or drinks for your family.



**10:15-10:45 AM** Walk to the top of Queen's Chapel Road (near Town Hall) to decorate your bike, stroller, or pet and gather for the parade.  
**10:45-11 AM** The Parade!  
**11 AM** Back to the gazebo for lunch, Italian ice, games and prizes!

Please contact Connie Visnic (connie.visnic@gmail.com) and Michelle Pintur (mpintur@gmail.com) for any questions, or to volunteer for the event.

**UPCA July Pool Social**  
**Tuesday, July 17, 10:30 AM-9 PM**

Have a free swim on us! The UPCA will pay your guest fees at the Adelphi pool. The event is all day: stop in for a morning swim or come later and stay 'til closing. Don't dare worry about dinner, as BBQ Bill will be serving up dinner that evening.

**Qigong & Tai Chi Lessons**  
**Saturdays, 8-9:30 AM**

Come join us to learn the ancient Chinese martial art often referred to as "meditation in motion" and leave feeling relaxed and energized. Free. Hosted by University Park Church of the Brethren, 4413 Tuckerman Street. For more information, call 301-466-5894.



**Green Housekeeping Workshop, Wednesday, June 27, 6:30-8:30 PM** Learn how to keep your household clean, green and healthy! Did you know that some cleaning products can negatively affect indoor environmental quality and pose health risks for your household? Join the Prince George's County Department of the Environment Sustainability Division for a workshop highlighting best practices for greening your cleaning routine. Participants will learn easy and affordable ways to maintain healthy households, and there will be giveaways of green household products! Laurel-Beltsville Senior Activity Center, Great Room, 7120 Contee Rd, Laurel, MD 20707. Contact eprindle@lidcenter.org or eclifton@lidcenter.org to register for this free event.

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR



### Riversdale

A National Historic Landmark, Riversdale is a restored, five-part, stucco-covered brick plantation home built between 1801 and 1807. 4811 Riverdale Rd., Riverdale Park, 301-864-0420.

**Father's Day Tours, Sunday, June 17, 12:15-3:15 PM** Bring your father, grandfather, or another special gentleman for a free guided tour during open hours. Limited to one free tour with each paid admission.

**Jazz on the Lawn, Wednesday, June 27, 7 PM** Bring a blanket or lawn chair and your picnic basket to enjoy an evening of entertainment. These performances are made possible in part by a grant from the Maryland State Arts Council. Free. All ages welcome.

**Downtown Hyattsville Arts Festival Exhibitors Applications Now Open** Exhibitors Applications for the Downtown Hyattsville Arts Festival are now available online at [hyattsvilleartsfestival.com](http://hyattsvilleartsfestival.com). The Festival will be held Saturday, September 22, 12-6 PM. 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. Online applications must be sent in by 6 PM on Friday, July 13.

### Taking on Maryland's Invasive Species

The Nature Conservancy actively works to prevent the spread of invasive plants in Maryland through restoration and removal. You can help protect the lands you love by learning about some of the invasive plants commonly found in the Potomac River watershed.

**What is an invasive plant?** Invasive plants are usually nonnative species that have been introduced intentionally or by accident and spread from human settings into natural areas with negative effects to our economy, envi-

ronment or health. Free from the plant-eaters and parasites that keep them in check in their native ranges, they reproduce rapidly and spread aggressively, taking over natural areas and altering biological communities. Invasive plants have been referred to as a form of biological pollution.

**Why should you be concerned?** Invasive species are one of the top threats to our natural heritage, along with habitat loss and degradation. Invasive plants can displace native species, eliminate food and habitat for wildlife, alter natural fire regimes and nutrient cycling in soils, and inhibit native plant regeneration. In the U.S. alone, invasive species cost over \$120 billion annually in damage and control, and the cost they inflict on our natural heritage is immeasurable.

Whether you are acting as a steward for your own property, a local park, or a faraway natural area, invasive plants are likely to be a problem. In the face of such global threats to biodiversity as habitat destruction and climate change, we can each make a difference by preventing and controlling the spread of invasive species.

**Learn how to identify invasive plants.** For a start, visit [www.nature.org](http://www.nature.org) and look for the brochure on Maryland invasive plants for 10 of the most prevalent and problematic invasive plants in our region and how to control them.



**Become an educated consumer.** Don't purchase or transplant invasive plants. Ask plant sellers before you buy, to be sure the plant you want is not invasive, and ask for alternatives if it is.

**What you can do at home and in your parks.** Learn about the plants on your property. Do you have invasive plants? Do the invasive plants overwhelm the native plants? Consider removing invasive plants from your yard and garden, and replace them with non-invasive and native plants in your landscaped areas. Don't feel like you have to do it all at once; remove and replace invasive plants as your time and budget allow. Every little bit helps.—from *The Nature Conservancy*

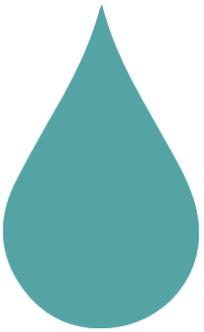


# EASY WAYS TO STOP MOSQUITOES FROM BREEDING



## EMPTY PLASTIC CONTAINERS

Children's toys are a particular favorite of mosquitoes. Work to clean toys out of yard before rains, or dump water from toys immediately after rain. Check for standing water weekly!



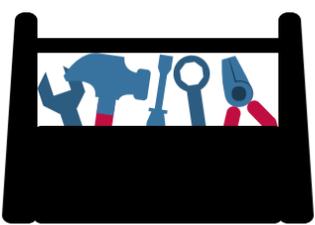
## CLEAN AND COVER

Gutters are another favorite spot of mosquitoes. Make sure that you clean your gutters so they don't have standing water. You can also use nylon or mesh material with a rubber band over the ends of corrugated pipes around your home.



## REMOVE TRASH

Can you believe that mosquitoes only need a thimble of water to lay eggs?! Keep your yard clear of garbage, it will beautify the neighborhood AND reduce opportunities for water to collect in garbage items. If possible, keep trash and recycle bins out of the rain.



## FIX IT UP

Check for and fix outdoor leaks and dripping faucets. Puddles created by window A/C units or outdoor dripping faucets are a perfect place for mosquitoes to lay eggs, they are also a terrible waste of water resources! Fix them up!



## DUMP AND SCRUB

Clean your GAT mosquito traps, potted plant saucers and birdbaths once a month. Mosquito eggs can be dormant if they don't reach water, so it is important to actually scrub these items to eliminate larvae from growing.



## MINIMIZE TARP FOLDS

Make sure pool, sandbox, grill and other tarp like covers are tight to minimize folds where water can gather.

## FOR OTHER IDEAS CONTACT US!

mosquito@upmd.org or 301-852-1889

Ed Wells ed.wells@gmail.com

David Brosch davidcbrosch@comcast.net

Lynne Davidson davidson.lynmarie@gmail.com

Amy Kerr apkerr2@gmail.com

# June 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		<p>Save the Date!  <b>4th of July Parade &amp; Picnic</b>                      Wednesday, July 4, 10-11 PM</p>	<p>Save the Date!  <b>UPCA July Pool Social</b>                      Tuesday, July 17, 10:30 AM-9 PM</p>		<p><b>1</b>                      Trash</p>	<p><b>2</b></p>
<p><b>3</b>                      UPCA Mutt Strut, 9:00 AM</p>	<p><b>4</b>                      Yard Waste                      Town Council,                      7:30 PM</p>	<p><b>5</b>                      Trash</p>	<p><b>6</b></p>	<p><b>7</b>                      Recycling</p>	<p><b>8</b>                      Trash</p>	<p><b>9</b>                      Ivy League, 9-11 AM</p>
<p><b>10</b></p>	<p><b>11</b>                      Yard Waste</p>	<p><b>12</b>                      Trash</p>	<p><b>13</b>                      Tree Committee, 7:30</p>	<p><b>14</b>                      Recycling</p>	<p><b>15</b>                      Trash</p>	<p><b>16</b></p>
<p><b>17</b></p>	<p><b>18</b>                      Yard Waste                      Town Council,                      7:30 PM</p>	<p><b>19</b>                      Trash                      Helping Hands                      Committee, 7:30                      Book                      Group,                      8-10</p> 	<p><b>20</b></p>	<p><b>21</b>                      Recycling</p>	<p><b>22</b>                      Trash</p>	<p><b>23</b></p>
<p><b>24</b></p>	<p><b>25</b>                      Yard Waste</p>	<p><b>26</b>                      Trash</p>	<p><b>27</b></p>	<p><b>28</b>                      Recycling</p>	<p><b>29</b>                      Trash</p>	<p><b>30</b>                      Qigong &amp; Tai Chi                      Lessons,                      8-9:30 AM</p> 



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

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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  
 Mayor Carey Cell Phone 240-338-2826  
 Town Clerk Tracey Toscano ttoscano@upmd.org  
 Public Works Dir. Mickey Beall mbeall@upmd.org  
 Chief Michael Wynnyk upchief@upmd.org

**Police**

Emergency 911  
 Non-Emergency 301-352-1200  
 Police Dept. Direct 301-277-0050  
 Police Dept. Cell Phone 240-375-1077  
 Chief Michael Wynnyk 301-277-0051

**Town Council**

Ward	Council Member	Phone
1	Joe Thompson	240-770-1358
2	Joe Schultz	301-892-6314
3	Bradlee Hess	202-531-5347
4	Linda Verrill	301-927-6743
5	David Caskey	301-699-8785
6	Martha Wells	301-864-1735
7	Roy Alvarez	301-779-6746

**NEWSLETTER**

The July-August newsletter deadline is Wednesday, June 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 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.

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