

THE UPDATE

**THE LATEST IN UNIVERSITY PARK
OCTOBER 3, 2025**

ART AS RESILIENCE!

The timing of Arts in the Park couldn't be better. With many residents carrying stress from the shutdown, events like this remind us of the joy and grounding power of creativity. Whether it's pottery, stained glass, photography, or painting, the act of making and appreciating art offers a kind of reset.

Stopping by to support local artists this weekend is more than a fun outing - it's an investment in the community's resilience. A painting on your wall or a handmade mug on your shelf becomes a reminder that even in tough times, creativity endures.



ARTS IN THE PARK ARRIVES THIS SATURDAY



After being rained out last weekend, Arts in the Park is back on track for Saturday, October 4, and organizers say the forecast couldn't look better. Longtime event coordinator Dick Groppe is thankful for everyone's patience and looks forward to beautiful weather for the event!

This year's event features 16 artists working across a range of mediums—from watercolors and photography to stained glass, pottery, and fiber arts. Two new artists have joined the lineup for the rescheduled date: Andrea Zukowski, showcasing photographic images, and Mike Kilberg, known for his striking nature photography.

Visitors will also have the chance to watch and learn through a series of free demonstrations. Printmaker David Brosch will walk through two different printmaking techniques, while Maureen Stone invites participants to try their hand at designing stained glass. Scott Sullivan will work clay on the pottery wheel and encourage guests to join in after his demo. Groppe himself will demonstrate stencil use in acrylic painting, and Michelle Wedge will host a hands-on "Tiny Arts" workshop especially for children, offering a chance to create with both acrylic and clay.

In addition to art displays and demos, BBQ Bill will once again be serving up lunch from a stand on Queens Chapel Road, opening around 12:30 p.m. Guests can pick up a Program Guide and booth map at the Information Desk upon arrival.

Whether you're looking to take home a new piece of art, try out a creative technique, or simply enjoy the atmosphere, Arts in the Park promises a full day of discovery and community celebration.

Arts in the Park will be held at UP's Town Park, along the pathway by the soccer field. The event will run from 1:00-4:00 p.m. Organizers ask that children please be accompanied by an adult.

WHEN THE GOVERNMENT CLOSSES, COMMUNITY OPENS: LOCAL SUPPORT FOR FURLOUGHED FEDERAL WORKERS

YOUR LOCAL OFFICIALS

If you're feeling the impact of the shutdown, you don't have to navigate it alone. Here are the offices representing University Park—ready to hear your story, connect you to resources, and advocate on your behalf.

Glenn Ivey:

US Representative, 4th District
(240) 906-6262

Alonzo Washington:

MD Senator, District 22
(410) 841-3155
Contact via [Email](#)

Anne Healy:

MD Delegate, District 22
(410) 841-3961

Ashanti Martinez:

MD Delegate, District 22
(410) 841-3652

Nicole Williams:

MD Delegate, District 22
(410) 841-3058

The federal government may be shut down, but here in University Park neighbors and officials are working to make sure furloughed workers know they're not alone. Across Prince George's County, community spaces and representatives are stepping up to provide outlets for advocacy, mutual support, and direct assistance.

Local: Every weekday morning, [Busboys & Poets will host "Coffee & Calls" starting at 8 a.m. at all locations.](#) TVs will carry live coverage, free coffee will keep spirits up, and volunteers will provide scripts and encouragement for residents calling Congress. Whether it's a first call or a hundredth, participants can count on making their voices heard alongside others.

County: County Executive Aisha Braveboy has compiled [Prince George's resources and FAQs online](#) - including important notes about healthcare and unemployment insurance.

State: Governor Wes Moore has established a fund providing [zero interest loans of up to \\$700](#) to any affected employee. [A comprehensive State page with FAQs and additional resources](#) is now available.

Federal: [Representative Glenn Ivey invites constituents to share their personal stories about how the shutdown is affecting them.](#) His office uses these accounts to press for solutions in Washington and to connect residents with federal agencies when casework arises.

Personal:

- [Many Credit Unions](#) are now offering 0% loans to furloughed employees
- Foreclosure proceedings may be paused during the furlough
- [PEPCO & WSSC](#) are both offering bill adjustments

By sharing stories, reaching out to elected officials, or gathering with neighbors, University Park residents can turn frustration into action - and ensure that those affected by the shutdown are supported every step of the way.

**OCT
4**

[Arts in
the Park](#)

**OCT
6**

[Electronics
Recycling &
Paper
Shredding.](#)

**OCT
18**

[Town Council
Meeting](#)