

TOWN NOTES

News from La Plata Town Hall



MAYOR'S CORNER

The Town election is over and the La Plata Town Council, which will serve for the next four years, is now in place. A warm thank you to each person who voted on May 5, and if you did not vote, we expect to see you at the next election. I look forward to being your mayor for the next four years, and I will strive to uphold the highest standards of this office.

Public service is a trust empowered by the electorate; this trust carries tremendous responsibility that no one in elected office should ever underestimate. I believe that the Council is ready and highly motivated to assume this responsibility and work together as a team to accomplish our mission. We should also be mindful of the service provided by those individuals who are no longer part of the Council. This service warrants our sincere appreciation.

The La Plata Vision Plan, originally developed in 2000, reviewed and updated in 2004, is currently undergoing a new review. This plan, our road map for the future, has been a very important document for the Town and it played a major role in gathering support and assistance following the tornado in 2002. The Vision Plan together with our Comprehensive Plan, updated every seven years, are the major planning documents for La Plata. We will never be able to reach a destination unless we point ourselves in the right direction and

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Brownie Troop 1612 Donates Purple Martin House to the Town

La Plata Brownie Troop 1612 recently donated a purple martin bird house and several other bird houses for use at the Town Hall. Members of the Town Council and staff met with the Brownies on May 4, 2009, to dedicate the purple martin bird house which was installed on the west lawn of the Town Hall.

As part of a year-long process of working on their Brownie Quest Leadership Journey, the Brownies met with Mayor Hale earlier

in the year to see the Town Hall and to hear an explanation of what the Mayor and Town Staff do, and to discuss community service. During their meeting, Mayor Hale told the Brownies that the open, marshy area near the Town's concert lawn would be an ideal place for a purple martin house.

The Brownie Quest Leadership Journey included determining their own leadership talents, learning the values of the Girl Scout Law, working as a team, and identifying a community project that would improve their community and the environment. The bird houses were part of their first community service project. The Brownies read and learned about purple martins and decided to use some of the fundraising money they earned from Girl Scout cookie sales to purchase a purple martin house for the Town.



La Plata Brownie Troop 1612, Town Council members and staff at the May 4 dedication of the bird houses the Brownies donated for the grounds at the La Plata Town Hall. Brownies pictured are (front, left to right) Lexi Crozier, Meg Jacko, Kayla Liverman, Asbley Eastburn, Gabby Cuellar, Emily Raybon, Hannah Raybon, Heather Christian and Hannah Umstad. Town Council and staff (back, left to right) Councilman Scot D. Lucas, Mayor Roy G. Hale, Councilman Jim Goldsmith, Town Manager Daniel J. Mears, and Councilwoman Paddy Mudd. Not included in the photograph are Troop 1612 leaders Sarah Crozier, Julie Jacko, and Michelle Brosco Christian.

Fences

Thinking about putting up a fence? Here are a few things you need to know before installing a fence. In the Town you are not required to have a permit to erect a fence. Fences, walls, and hedges are permitted but shall not exceed a height of four (4) feet along the sides or front edge of the front yard, and a fence, wall or hedge shall not exceed a height of seven (7) feet in a back yard. Also remember that some neighborhoods have homeowners' association regulations, so check with your association's board for more information.

LA PLATA BUSINESS ASSOCIATION



The La Plata Business Association (LPBA) continues to represent the Town's business community through sponsoring, marketing and programming of special events. Additionally, the LPBA promotes cooperation and a streamlined exchange of information between business and the Town of La Plata.

In keeping with this mission, the LPBA is currently participating with many other individuals and organization representatives in a review of the Town's Vision Plan. The Plan has helped guide activities and attention of the Town in recent years. Since the 2002 tornado, efforts to keep it in step with current needs and expectations of our

businesses and residents are critical.

The LPBA continues to host quarterly membership meetings at the Town Hall, featuring great speakers that address enlightening subjects, and information on Town activities from various Town officials is presented. Recently, the LPBA hosted a Candidate Forum for the upcoming Town Council elections. The five candidates who participated responded to fifteen questions over the course of an hour that related to various Town matters both current and future. Also, the LPBA officers and directors met with the Mayor and Council at a work session this spring and successfully demonstrated the need to aid business

needs regarding length of time allowed for various types of signage to be displayed through a temporary moratorium.

With nearly fifty businesses as members, your association is a critical component to our vibrant and growing town. We all thank you for your business.

Butch Hunt, President
Wayne Winkler, Vice President
Michelle Miner, Secretary/Treasurer
Jim DiMisa, Director
Debbie Almasy, Director
Jon Johnson, Director

Irrigation

The Town of La Plata would like to remind residents to be thoughtful when considering irrigation this summer. In La Plata, **irrigation is only permitted between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 10:00 a.m. each day.** By limiting outdoor watering and irrigation between 6:00 p.m. and 10:00 a.m. those who choose to irrigate would reduce their water waste because less of the water applied would be lost to evaporation. Peak demand on the Town's water system would be reduced. Individuals and property owners who do water during the restricted eight hours will be faced with an infraction and fines for not complying with Town Code. This restriction does not apply to the application of water to outdoor planted

material by means of a hand-held hose or by a watering device, such as a hand-held watering can.

New irrigation systems in La Plata are required to be permitted and inspected. Requirements for new irrigation systems include having a plan be submitted to the Town showing a backflow preventer, a rain control sensor, an irrigation automatic control system, and the water tap after the water meter.

La Plata is the third municipality in the State of Maryland to restrict the time of day for irrigation. Irrigation of landscaping is discouraged in the Town to conserve potable water in our aquifers. The community is reminded to use native and drought resistant landscaping that does not require irrigation.

MAYOR'S CORNER (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

these planning documents are the maps to the future. We will keep you informed as this process moves forward.

By the time you receive this newsletter, our Friday night concert series will be underway. The concerts together with our movie program and all the other Town events are planned with you in mind. It is the opportunity to come together as a community and enjoy the many benefits of living in the wonderful town we call La Plata. The Beautification Commission, together with Public Works, has made major improvements to the landscaping around Town Hall and this makes the site even more picturesque.

As your Mayor, I will always welcome your comments, be they positive or critical. You can reach me at Town Hall (301-934-8421) or at home (301-934-4850).

TOWN OF LA PLATA OFFICIALS

Mayor: Roy G. Hale

Council:

Wayne Winkler Ward 1

C. Keith Back Ward 2

Paddy Mudd Ward 3

Joseph W. Norris Ward 4

Town Manager:

Daniel J. Mears

Treasurer: Robert W. Oliphant

Assistant Town Manager:

Michelle D. Miner

Town Clerk: Judith T. Frazier

Project Manager: Steven F. Schroeder

Police Chief: Cassin B. Gittings

Director of Inspections: Jorge A. Thompson

Director of Municipal Development:

David M. Jenkins

Director of Planning and Zoning:

Catherine N. Flerlage

Director of Operations: Robert F. Stahl, Jr.

Director of Public Works:

Jeffrey S. Garner

305 Queen Anne Street,

La Plata, Maryland 20646

Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

Telephone: 301-934-8421 / 301-870-3377

La Plata Police Department: 301-934-1500

Email: mminer@townoflaplata.org

Website: www.townoflaplata.org

Town Hall Closed

The Town Hall will be closed on the following day:

Friday

July 3

If you have a **water or sewer emergency** after hours, call 301-934-8421 and follow the instructions given to report your emergency. The automated response system will alert the appropriate department to respond to you.

COUNCIL COLUMN

Councilman Keith Back Ward 2

I want to thank all who came out and participated in this year's Town Council election. The weather may have been a little cool and wet, but many citizens took the time to participate in this important event. No matter who you voted for, Thank You for doing your part. And do not let anyone tell you that you should not vote because your vote will not matter. Just take a look at the close results this year, including the Ward 1 seat being won by only two votes.

In this first Town Notes since being elected as the Ward 2 Councilman on May 5, I would like to introduce myself to those of you who do not know me. My family and I have lived in La Plata for over eleven years. I previously served as Ward 2 Councilman from December 2004 through May 2007. I served on the La Plata Planning Commission for over seven years, including serving as the Chairman for one year. Other activities include the Charles County Relay for Life and coaching youth Soccer and Softball in the local leagues.

As I said to many who I talked to before the election, I look forward to working for the citizens of La Plata again in this position in order to continue to make La Plata the type of place many of us moved here to enjoy as well as helping to move forward to support the future of the Town and its residents.

If you have any questions for me as a Town Councilman, please send an email to kback@townoflaplata.org.

Councilwoman Paddy Mudd Ward 3

Congratulations to all our new Council members! I look forward

to a successful four years together. To those of you who did not win, please stay active and involved by becoming members of our teams and commissions and by supporting our Town events. You have a wealth of valuable knowledge among you that we cannot afford to lose. The Council also has continued our contract with the Town Manager, Daniel Mears. With his excellent senior management team we look forward to many good years to come for our Town.

On a heavier note, our budget process this year has been long and complicated. Growth and development has come to a standstill because of the economy so our revenue has decreased and we have had to make some very difficult decisions. Our residents will be informed of these in public meetings and hearings. You will have a chance to give us your ideas and opinions and help us in solving these very difficult problems.

Our Assistant Town Manager, Michelle Miner, and Special Events Coordinator, Amy Peña, have put together a great calendar of events for the coming year! Please come out this summer for our new First Friday concerts with many added attractions as well as for our regular Friday concerts, Memorial Day ceremony and Fourth of July celebration. Hope to see many of you there!

Councilman Joseph W. Norris Ward 4

Thank you to all of the citizens of the Town of La Plata for placing their trust in me as the Ward 4 Councilman for the next four years. I plan to work hard and do my best to earn your continued trust. I take this responsibility very seriously and am honored to serve you.

As I said during the campaign I believe the Town is in sound financial shape, but we must remain vigilant and prudent to keep it that way. We must be especially careful during this unusual economic time.

I pledge to work with my fellow Council Members to make the Town of La Plata the best it can be. If you have thoughts or ideas to share, please contact me at jnorris@townoflaplata.org or (301) 934-9230.

Again, thank you for this privilege.

Jim Goldsmith (Former Councilman, Ward 1)

On May 5, the Town of La Plata citizens exercised their right to select the individual to represent their interests in the government of their municipality. Unfortunately for me, I came up short on the vote count. I have enjoyed the past two years as I have done my best to serve the interests of the Town. I will continue to serve in whatever capacity that is available to me for the benefit of the Town.

I wish the new members of the Council the best. There are going to be some hard choices to make in this down economy. We are going through some major upgrades to our sewer treatment system and serious improvements are necessary to our aging infrastructure. All these things can be accomplished by all of us working together for our Town.

I encourage all to take advantage of the many things our Town has to offer: our parks, summer concerts and movies on the Town Hall lawn, and the many celebrations provided throughout the year.

Again, thank you for allowing me to serve you for the last two years.

LA PLATA TOWN SERVICES

Special Trash Pickup

Bulk items are picked up the first Monday of each month, or the following Monday if the first one is a holiday. Large amounts of loose material (such as brush) should be bundled or bagged in such a manner that the weight is less than 50 lbs. The Town reserves the right not to pick up items too heavy to safely handle. General construction cleanup and hazardous materials are not eligible. Items must be at curbside by 7:30 a.m. on pickup day. Call Town Hall before pickup day to be placed on the list. Minimum fee: \$11.75 for 5 minutes loading time; each additional minute is \$1.10. A fee of \$6.00, or the current Landfill disposal fee, shall be charged for each tire collected. *Billing for special trash pickup is included on your quarterly utility bill.* **NOTE: Effective July 1, 2009, the fee for this service will increase to \$12.50 for 5 minutes loading time. (Each additional minute remains at \$1.10.)**

Household Hazardous Waste Collection

The Charles County Sanitary Landfill accepts household hazardous waste products the **first Saturday of each month during April through December, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.:** June 6, July 11 (*2nd Saturday due to July 4 holiday closing of the Landfill*), August 1, September 5, October 3, November 7 and December 5.

The landfill is located at 12305 Billing-sley Road East, Waldorf. For driving directions from your location, visit their web page at <http://www.charlescounty.org>.

[org/pf/sw/landfill/default.htm](http://www.charlescounty.org/pf/sw/landfill/default.htm). Items accepted free of charge include pesticides, herbicides, fertilizer, gasoline, motor oil, antifreeze, paint, cleaning supplies, pool chemicals, batteries, fluorescent lights, expired prescription medicines and other poisons that are around your house. They advise that you should keep the materials in their original labeled containers whenever possible, and bring the items to the collection site in cardboard boxes for ease in unloading. *If you need more information, please call the Charles County Dept. of Public Facilities at 301-932-3599 or 301-870-2778, or the Landfill information service at 301-932-5656.*

La Plata Farmers' Market

The Southern Maryland Agricultural Development Commission is assisting Southern Maryland Farmer Markets by awarding grants for promotional purposes. The Town applied for such a grant and was awarded \$2,000.00 to assist in marketing efforts for the La Plata Farmers' Market. The amount of the grant is based on the actual amount spent on promotion in the 2008 season and market sales figures. The grant funds are available to Southern Maryland Farmers' Markets that are recognized by the Maryland Department of Agriculture. The grant funds are used to promote regional farmer markets as locations where consumers can purchase fresh, lo-

cal products from Southern Maryland farms. For information on how to support local farms visit www.somaryland-sogood.com.

La Plata's Farmers' Market is located in the north lot of the Charles County Courthouse on Washington Avenue. The market is open Wednesday's 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Saturdays 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Farmers interested in selling at the market can contact the Town Hall for an application (301) 934-8421.

Yard Waste Pickup on Mondays and Fridays

Effective April 1, 2009, a change was made to when residential yard waste pickups will occur. Yard waste pickups will only take place on Mondays and Fridays. If a holiday falls on one of those pickup days, there will be no yard waste pickup on that day.

Containers of yard waste ONLY - leaves, grass and shrub clippings, brush or branches - may be put out on Mondays and Fridays. The containers must be marked "Yard Waste." Brush or branches must be bundled, weigh no more than 50 lbs. per bundle, and the branches may not be larger than 4 inches in diameter or more than 4 feet long. *Plastic bags are not allowed - if you bag yard waste you must use paper bags.*

Trash Collection Schedule Adjustment

If your regular trash collection day is:
Friday, July 3

Trash will be picked up on:
Thursday, July 2

AND A GOOD TIME WAS HAD BY ALL...

Hundreds of residents came out on April 25 to "Celebrate La Plata" and to enjoy the craft fair, food, and entertainment, especially the return of the Parade of Beds and Bed Races, which were sponsored by the Charles County Chamber of Commerce.

And the winner is... Southern Maryland Business Group!



JUNE 2009

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY					
	Special trash pickup day (Call by 4:00 p.m. Fri., 5/29 to schedule.) Yard waste pickup day	1	7:00 p.m., Planning Commission meeting	2	8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Farmers' Market 9:00 a.m., Design Review Board meeting 7:30 p.m., Crime Watch Council meeting	3	4	5:30 p.m., First Friday – 8 Ohms Band Yard waste pickup day	5	6	8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Farmers' Market
7	Yard waste pickup day	8	7:00 p.m., Town Council work session	9	8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Farmers' Market 5:00 p.m., Parks and Recreation Commission meeting	10	11	7:00 p.m., Concert – Sweetwater Band Yard waste pickup day	12	13	8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Farmers' Market 8:30 p.m., SCREEN ON THE GREEN – Wall-E (Rain Date: June 20)
14	4:00 p.m., Beautification Commission meeting Yard waste pickup day	15	7:00 p.m., Town Council work session	16	8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Farmers' Market 9:00 a.m., Design Review Board meeting	17	18	7:00 p.m., Concert – Roadhouse Yard waste pickup day	19	20	8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Farmers' Market
21	Yard waste pickup day	22	7:00 p.m., Town Council regular meeting	23	8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Farmers' Market	24	25	7:00 p.m., Concert – Steve Potter Blues Band Yard waste pickup day	26	27	8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Farmers' Market
28	Yard waste pickup day	29		30							

JULY 2009

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY					
			8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Farmers' Market 9:00 a.m., Design Review Board meeting 7:30 p.m., Crime Watch Council meeting	1	2	3	4	Town Hall Closed (Fri. trash will be picked up on Thurs., 7/2) NO YARD WASTE PICKUP	8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Farmers' Market 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., 4th of July Celebration & Watermelon Bash		
5	Special trash pickup day (Call by 4:00 p.m. THURS., 7/2 to schedule.) Yard waste pickup day	6	7:00 p.m., Planning Commission meeting	7	8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Farmers' Market 5:00 p.m., Parks and Recreation Commission meeting	8	9	7:00 p.m., Concert – The Wise Guys Yard waste pickup day	10	11	8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Farmers' Market 8:30 p.m., SCREEN ON THE GREEN – Hotel for Dogs (Rain Date: July 18)
12	Yard waste pickup day	13	7:00 p.m., Town Council work session	14	8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Farmers' Market 9:00 a.m., Design Review Board meeting	15	16	7:00 p.m., Concert – U.S. Naval Academy Band "Electric Brigade" Yard waste pickup day	17	18	8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Farmers' Market 8:00 a.m. – 12:00, Recycle La Plata Summer Community Yard Sale
19	4:00 p.m., Beautification Commission meeting Yard waste pickup day	20	7:00 p.m., Town Council work session	21	8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Farmers' Market	22	23	7:00 p.m., Concert – U.S. Naval Academy Band "Next Wave" Yard waste pickup day	24	25	8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Farmers' Market
26	Yard waste pickup day	27	7:00 p.m., Town Council regular meeting	28	8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Farmers' Market	29	30	7:00 p.m., Concert – U.S. Navy Band "Sea Chanters" Yard waste pickup day	31		

Conservation Corner – Tree Care



Trees are a valuable resource for our community. Trees provide shade which cools our buildings, paved surfaces, lawns, and people. They provide visual appeal to our neighborhoods and downtown, and help connect us to our natural environment. They can be a source

of food for people, as well as wildlife habitat. They can serve as elements for recreation and as visual barriers to screen unsightly areas. Trees clean the air, provide oxygen, and serve a valuable role in carbon sequestration. We must all take a role in planting and caring for the trees in our community, for the benefit they provide to our town.

Trees are a cost effective, low maintenance, and attractive addition to our landscapes. The biggest key to success is to research the trees on your property and those you are considering to plant. Be sure to choose trees that are native to this area, so they will have the greatest chance of survival and growing well; this will also reduce your long term maintenance needs.

When planting trees:

- Consider the size of the tree and space it a reasonable distance from buildings, utility lines, driveways, sidewalks, roads, and other trees to ensure the branches and roots do not become maintenance problems later.
- Dig a wide hole to plant the tree to loosen soil and give roots room.
- Do not dig the hole deeper than the root ball.
- On root balls always remove cages, twine, and burlap.
- Fertilizer and other additives are not necessary.

- Water absorbing crystals can aid in retaining moisture in the soil during drier periods.

Mulching trees has many benefits beyond the aesthetic appeal.

- Inhibits growth of weeds.
- Provides a barrier to reduce damage from lawn-mowers and other equipment.
- Conserves moisture in the soil.
- Removes competition for rain by turf or other plants, allowing more moisture to get to the roots.
- Helps maintain the soil temperature.
- Mulch up to four inches deep.
- Do not place mulch against the bark. A mulch volcano is incorrect and can lead to tree health problems. Pull mulch away from the trunk.

Pruning trees may be done when needed for safety of people or property, to remove disease or insect infestation, to stimulate fruit production, or for aesthetic appeal.

- Do not top trees or over prune. This causes significant stress to the tree.
- Do not prune in the summer. Tree branches and leaves protect the tree, conserve its moisture, and the tree shades itself.
- Only prune select branches.
- Do not prune branches near utility lines, instead contact the utility.
- Prune safely or contact a professional service.

For more tips visit www.arborday.org. Consider adding a fruit tree to your property to not only add value to your property, but food for your family and neighbors. Properly caring for trees will improve our environment and our community. Thank you for your concern for trees and their positive impact on our community.

CITIZEN NOTIFICATION SYSTEM (CNS)



According to an April 29, 2009 news release issued by the Charles County Commissioners, Charles County debuted Phase I of its Citizen Notification System (CNS) on April 28. The system is a free, subscription e-mail/text service that allows

citizens to receive timely information notices regarding severe weather advisories and homeland security alerts that affect Charles County. Alerts are received on registered computers, cell phones, or any device that is capable of receiving email or text messaging. To subscribe go to the County's website at www.charlescounty.org

and click on the CNS image to visit the registration page. Phase II is scheduled to premiere in the coming months, and will include registration categories for County announcements, new services, special events, recreational programs, and more.

LA PLATA POLICE DEPARTMENT BIKE PATROL

The La Plata Police Department is proud to announce that, on May 8, 2009, Officers Jeffrey Hitaffer and Jonathan Maynard completed the Law Enforcement Bicycle Association Mountain Bike Officer Certification class taught by the

Charles County Sheriff's Office. The 40-hour course of instruction includes physical fitness, bike maintenance, accident prevention traffic stops, firearms, and off-road riding. During the course the officers have ridden their bikes over

100 miles in training under various conditions. Officers Hitaffer and Maynard join three other La Plata Police Department Officers certified in bike patrol for the department: Robert Bagley, Michael Payne, and Jason Posey.

SERVICE PRIORITIES

Each year the Town Council works with the Town Staff to develop the Service Priorities for the upcoming Fiscal Year. The Town Staff uses the priorities determined to develop recommendations for the upcoming budget.

Service Priorities focus on Police, Finance and Administrative Support, Community Development (Community Promotion,

Planning and Zoning, Code Enforcement, Protective Inspection, Development Assistance), Public Works, Water and Wastewater, Town Management and Council Relations, and General Management. The Service Priorities include items such as infrastructure maintenance goals, staffing levels, new services, changes to how service is delivered, conservation

objectives, and other items that may relate to the Town's budget.

If you would like to view the Service Priorities for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2009 they are available on the Town's website. Visit <http://www.townoflaplata.org> and follow the link on the left to "Service Priorities".

VISION PLAN

In March of 2000, the Town adopted its *Vision Plan For Greater La Plata* ("Vision Plan"). After years of input from the community, it served as a foundation for future planning and service to the community. In 2002, the Vision Plan along with its partner *Plan For The Future Of Downtown La Plata* served as the guides for rebuilding La Plata after the devastating tornado damage that spring.

In order to capitalize on the work done in that original visioning process, the Town is now beginning a ReVisioning process in which the Vision Plan is reviewed and the community continues with the implementation of the Plan's elements. With the reestablishment of a Vision Implementation Team (VIT) the Town is slowly returning to its focus on the community vision. The VIT is composed of a cross section of community citizens and stakeholders. The VIT includes citizen representatives, business owners, community investors, and employers both large and small. A kickoff meeting was held March 31 at the Town Hall to review the Vision Plan's history since its inception

in the late 1990's through 2004. Mayor Hale stated, "This is an appropriate time to restart the Vision Plan process and is needed as the Town continues to change. The Plan provided the framework for the rebuilding of La Plata after the April 2002 tornado and is a model of the community's aspirations."

The second meeting on April 28 focused on review and discussion of the Goals of the 50 Year Vision for Downtown and Greater La Plata. Participants were asked to bring with them ideas, concerns, and recommendations. They were asked to identify what doesn't work in the Vision Plans. Finally, they were asked to answer if the plans are still valid. The meeting on May 26 summarized the results of this review and provided the status of the Vision Plan's priority projects and accomplishments.

Future meetings will discuss the formation of work groups to refine the Vision Plan goals, development of new goals, outreach to the larger La Plata community, and implementation of Vision Goals.

VIT members include: Burkey Boggs, Butch Hunt, Charles McPherson, Emily Ferren, Gary Echols, Gary Herbek, Helen Lucas, Jerry Lenhart, Ken White, Paul Bales, Reed Faasen, Rick Baldus, Robert Turgeon, Ron Rymer, Tom Mudd, and Tom O'Farrell.

Town Manager Daniel Mears added, "This is not a wholesale revision of the Vision Plan, but a process to determine the validity, given recent changes. Town staff will convene meetings, facilitate discussion, and listen to the VIT reinforcing that this is a bottom up process. Opinions, input, and work from the community is essential to realizing our community's vision."

The March 2000 Vision Plan is currently available on the Town's web site: <http://www.townoflaplata.org>. Additional information will be posted as it is available.

For additional information or to provide comments, please contact David M. Jenkins, Director of Municipal Development, 301-934-8421, extension 117 or via email at djenkins@townoflaplata.org.

LEGISLATION RECENTLY ENACTED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL

(Full text copies of legislation are available at the Town Hall, 305 Queen Anne Street, or on the Town's web page at www.townoflaplata.org under "Legislation".)

- Ordinance 08-11 New Irrigation System Installation Adopts regulations regarding installation and operation of new irrigation systems; prohibits use of potable water in such systems; requires permits and inspections; sets fee for permits.
- Ordinance 08-14 International Building Code 2006
- Ordinance 08-15 International Residential Code for One- and Two-Family Dwellings 2006
- Ordinance 08-16 International Electrical Code-Administrative Provisions 2006
- Ordinance 08-17 International Mechanical Code 2006
- Ordinance 08-18 International Energy Conservation Code 2006
- Ordinance 08-19 International Fuel Gas Code 2006
- Ordinance 08-20 International Existing Building Code 2006
- Ordinance 08-21 International Fire Code 2006
- Ordinance 08-22 International Plumbing Code 2006
- Ordinance 08-23 International Property Maintenance Code 2006

Ordinances 08-14 through 08-23 adopt the 2006 International Codes as listed in the titles, with certain modifications, and also provide for the administration and enforcement of those codes, and specify penalties for violations.

- Ordinance 08-24 Approval of Cable Television Franchise Agreement with Verizon Maryland, Inc. – Approves a cable television franchise agreement.
- Emergency Ordinance 08-25 Temporary Moratorium on Enforcement of Certain Sign and Fee Regulations– Places a temporary moratorium on enforcement of certain regulations and payment of certain fees for certain types of signs in the CB, CBT and CH zoning districts.
- Ordinance 09-1 Town Personnel System – Adopts a new personnel system, rules and regulations.
- Ordinance 09-2 Limitations on Outdoor Irrigation – Adopts limitations on hours during which irrigation or other watering of outdoor plant material may occur; removes requirement of installation of a moisture sensor in the spray zone.
- Ordinance 09-3 Community Grant Policy – Establishes terms and conditions under which the Town Council may make certain grants of money to certain entities for public purposes.
- Emergency Ordinance 09-4 Extension of Temporary Moratorium on Enforcement of Certain Sign and Fee Regulations [*Procedural flaw in adoption – superseded by Emergency Ord. 09-5.*]
- Emergency Ordinance 09-5 Extension of Temporary Moratorium on Enforcement of Certain Sign and Fee Regulations – Extends the temporary moratorium on enforcement of certain regulations and payment of certain fees for certain types of signs in the CB, CBT and CH zoning districts.

- Ordinance 09-6 Town of La Plata FY2009-2010 Tax Rate – Adopts the Town's FY2009-2010 Tax Rate.
- Resolution 08-15 Charter Amendment – Elections – Amends the Town Charter to clarify that nominees for election to the Town Council from each Councilmanic ward shall be elected by qualified voters of the entire Town beginning with the Primary election held in 2009.
- Resolution 08-16 Fast Food Restaurants – La Plata Village Center – Expresses the concurrence of the Town Council that the development of a fast food restaurant on Lot 1-A in the La Plata Village Center is not inconsistent with Paragraph 6 of the Annexation Agreement, provided that a covenant and restriction prohibiting the development of a fast food restaurant is recorded against Lot 2-A of the La Plata Village Center.
- Resolution 09-1 Surplus Vehicles and Equipment – Declares that certain vehicles and equipment owned by the Town are no longer needed for public use and authorizes the Town Manager to dispose of such surplus vehicles and equipment.
- Resolution 09-2 Town of La Plata Investment Policy – Adopts the Town of La Plata Investment Policy by amending the Town of La Plata Investment Policy as originally adopted by Res. 95-4 on 9-26-95, and as amended by Res. 96-1 on 1-23-96, and by Res. 05-12 on 11-8-05.

LA PLATA RECEIVES GRANT FOR PARKS PROJECTS

During the summer of 2008 the Town applied for a Community Parks and Playgrounds grant through the Maryland Department of Natural

Resources. Our projects have been included in the FY 2010 Maryland Executive Budget. Projects included resurfacing of tennis courts, play-

ground borders and additional park equipment. Work on these projects will begin very soon.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Summer Concert Series

All concerts are free and open to the public. Concerts begin at 7:00 p.m. (See calendars for concerts in June and July; visit the Town's website for a complete listing of concerts: <http://www.townofla-plata.org>.) Please bring a lawn chair or a blanket. Refreshments are available for purchase. An after-hours recorded message will advise of concert cancellations due to threatening weather: call (301) 934-8421. **Parents must be responsible for their children. Please do not bring pets or alcoholic beverages to the concerts and be considerate to all guests.**

First Fridays

5:30 p.m., La Plata Town Hall

The First Friday of each month in June and August through October, the La Plata Town Hall will feature local businesses, food vendors, kids' attractions and a concert. This "mini-festival" kicks-off at 5:30 p.m. and the band begins at 6:00 p.m. and plays until 9:00 p.m. Local businesses will be on site providing information and coupons for their services. Enjoy great food

from local food vendors while the kids spend time on the fun mood bounces and slides. As with every Friday evening during the summer, also enjoy an entertaining concert on the lawn. Bring the kids, a lawn chair or blanket and come out for an evening of fun, information, relaxation and to support your local community.

SCREEN ON THE GREEN

8:30 p.m., La Plata Town Hall

Come out and watch movies on the lawn of the Town Hall under the stars. Refreshments are available for purchase. All movies are free and begin at 8:30 p.m. (see calendars for movies in June and July), and have a rain date of the following Saturday night. Visit the Town's website for a complete listing of movies: <http://www.townoflaplata.org>.

Recycle La Plata Summer Community Yard Sale

Saturday, July 18, 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon La Plata Town Hall

Join us for a Community Yard Sale on the grounds of the La Plata Town Hall. Come out and search for treasures and grab a bite

to eat from some local food vendors. If you would like more information on reserving a table, please go to <http://www.townoflaplata.org> and follow the link on the left to "Events" and download an application.

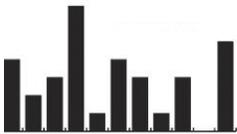
4th of July Celebration and Watermelon Bash

Saturday, July 4, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. La Plata Town Hall

Town is hosting a 4th of July Celebration at the La Plata Town Hall. There will be musical entertainment, moon bounces, hot dogs, bottled water, and ice cream – all free. Don't miss the first annual Watermelon Bash featuring free watermelon slices, a watermelon eating contest, a watermelon roll (children ages 5 and under), and a watermelon toss!

For information on any of the above events, please contact Amy Peña at 301-934-8421, ext. 142 or via email at apena@townoflaplata.org.

WEBSITE POLL



Visit the Town of La Plata's website at <http://www.townoflaplata.org> to participate in an online poll. Click on the 'Snap Poll' link on the left side of the web page to go to the poll and see the results to date. The current question is:

The 2000 Vision Plan for Greater La Plata is an accurate vision of what I would like to see in La Plata.

Strongly Agree	Somewhat Disagree
Somewhat Agree	Strongly Disagree
Neither Agree nor Disagree	Don't Know

Website Poll results from last issue of *Town Notes*

Below are the website 'Snap Poll' results from the last issue. The question and results are:

The Town of La Plata should show the following movie during its Screen on the Green this summer.

Wall-E – 30%

Hotel for Dogs – 17%

Madagascar - Escape 2 Africa – 14%

Kung Fu Panda – 10%

Journey to the Center of the Earth – 8%

Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull – 7%

Ironman – 6%

Hancock – 5%

High School Musical 3 - Senior Year – 2%

College Road Trip – 0%

You asked for it! The Town of La Plata will be showing *Wall-E*, *Hotel for Dogs* and *Madagascar - Escape 2 Africa* this summer for the SCREEN ON THE GREEN Saturday evenings. Hosted by the Town of La Plata, SCREEN ON THE GREEN is provided for the community free of charge and is located on the lawn of the Town Hall. Refreshments are available for purchase.

We have three SCREEN ON THE GREEN dates this year. They are June 13, July 11 and August 8. Each movie begins at 8:30 p.m., and in case of rain, the movie will be played on the following Saturday. So invite your friends and neighbors, pack up the kids, grab a blanket or lawn chair, and come out this summer and watch the movies that you voted for at the La Plata Town Hall.

MEET THE TOWN STAFF



Tommy Daniels

Tommy Daniels, Code Enforcement Officer, began his career with the Town in 2005. Prior to coming to La Plata, Tommy served with the Prince George's County Fire/EMS as a Fire Prevention Specialist for 18 years. Raised in Oxon Hill, Tommy has been married for 32

years and has one son and two beautiful granddaughters. In his free time Tommy enjoys gardening, sports, reading, traveling, and socializing. Tommy greatly enjoys his interaction with the citizens and encourages anyone who has a concern to feel free to contact him.

TOWN OF LA PLATA GENERAL ELECTION RESULTS

Mayor:

Roy G. Hale441

Councilman, Ward I:

James "Jim" Goldsmith..... 235

Ralph Wayne Winkler237

Councilman, Ward II:

C. Keith Back246

Scot D. Lucas..... 218

Councilman, Ward III:

Paretta D. (Paddy) Mudd.....382

Councilman, Ward IV:

Vic Eugene Newman..... 137

Joseph W. Norris.....357

Town Notes is a publication of the Town of La Plata.

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