

Town Notes

News from La Plata Town Hall

October – November 2006

MAYOR'S CORNER



Many thanks to those who attended our concert series and movie nights on the green at Town Hall. We anticipate offering similar entertainment next summer. The Town of La Plata is co-sponsoring a Scarecrow Festival event to kick off the Civista Foundation fundraiser on Saturday, October 28 at Town Hall. Also, please mark your calendars for Sunday, November 5, when the

Town of La Plata will be hosting the Veterans Day Parade. Although there are many things going on in family life, such as school work, jobs and extracurricular activities, please try to get involved in your Town by participating in Town of La Plata sponsored events.

Smoking Ordinance

On July 18, 2006, the Town Council enacted Ordinance 06-10 *Regulation of Smoking and Tobacco Products*, which goes into effect October 1, 2006. In brief, the ordinance prohibits the smoking and carrying of lighted tobacco products in certain public places or within 20 feet of the public entrance. The complete ordinance is available on the Town's website at www.townoflaplata.org.

Town Hall Closed

The Town Hall will be closed on the following days in observance of the holidays listed:

Veterans Day (observed) Friday, November 10
Thanksgiving Thursday, November 23
and Friday, November 24

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.

Trick or Treat Evening



Trick or Treat evening in La Plata is Tuesday, October 31, from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. As an alternative to door to door trick or treating, the Town continues to encourage community parties as a means of providing safe fun for our children. However, for those who allow their children to go door-to-door, we ask that you limit this to the 12 and under age group, and encourage you to accompany your children as chaperones and keep your children in their own immediate neighborhood.

We encourage these safety precautions for all children who go out trick or treating:

- Wear reflective tape or other reflective material on your costume so you are visible as you walk along the streets.
- Use a flashlight to help light your way.
- Don't wear a mask that would keep you from being able to easily see vehicles or other hazards as you walk from house to house.

All who are driving through Town during Trick or Treat Evening on October 31st are asked to be especially careful of the children walking through the neighborhoods.

Town of La Plata Officials

Mayor: Gene Ambrogio

Council:

Wayne Winkler.....Ward 1
C. Keith Back.....Ward 2
Paddy MuddWard 3
Vic E. Newman.....Ward 4

Interim Town Manager:

Michelle D. Miner

Assistant Town Manager:

Patricia L Bembe

Town Clerk: Judith T. Frazier

Treasurer: Joseph W. Norris

Project Manager: Steven F. Schroeder

Director of Planning and Zoning:

Catherine N. Flerlage

Director of Public Works:

Stephen A. Murphy

Police Chief: Cassin B. Gittings

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



FROM WARD 1

Councilman Wayne Winkler

Well, it's getting darker earlier so I guess that means Old Man Winter is just around the corner.

The Town of La Plata is doing well due to the great leadership of Michelle Minor. When our Town Manager, Doug Miller, moved on to Aberdeen, Michelle stepped up to the plate and has done a fabulous job, and so has the rest of the staff.

By the time you read this I hope St. Mary's Avenue is paved and the sink holes have gone away. I also hope Washington Avenue road cuts are complete. I believe the reason they cut across Washington Avenue was to get water and sewer to the new District Court building that is to be built behind the existing courthouse. Talbot Street should be finished sometime this winter. One thing I find to be strange is that Talbot Street has no acceleration or deceleration lanes. I thought all new roads had to have them.

What's going on: Our smoking ban will take effect October 1 and that's a good thing. Another good piece of legislation is that we are moving all elections to May of 2009. I will have to run in May of 2007 but it will be a 2-year term, then all of the 4 Wards Council people will run at the same time, including the Mayor. Another good thing is that all voters will get to vote for all of the Council people instead of just the one running in their Ward. This should give us better voter turnout.

Some more good news: Maryland Department of Environment (MDE) fined the Town of La Plata \$10,000 plus a \$100.00 a day until we did sewer line repairs. Michelle and I went to Baltimore and pleaded our case with MDE and they reduced our fine to \$1,000.00 and dropped the \$100.00 a day fine. The Town is

repairing/replacing 4,000 feet of sewer line and repairing 13 man-holes and the work should be completed by December 31st. Next year we will continue replacing/repairing lines and manholes.

I understand that La Tolteca, the new Mexican restaurant near the old Safeway, is fabulous. I will be there sometime this week. La Plata still continues to grow and it is certainly not the little small town I grew up in. I don't expect to see any residential annexations anytime soon but I expect to see continued commercial growth.

Hope you have a great fall and winter. If you ever need to contact me, or simply want to know what it is when you see a new building, just give me a call on 301-934-0025.

FROM WARD 2

Councilman Keith Back

The La Plata Town Council has been working on a number of issues this summer that are finally coming to closure and a few new initiatives for the fall. By the time this is published, or very shortly afterwards, the Town will be announcing the name of our new Town Manager. We have spent many hours looking for a person to replace our previous Town Manager Doug Miller who left in the spring. I want to publicly thank Michelle Miner, who has been doing an excellent job as the acting Town Manager while we have been going through this recruitment process.

On October 1st the La Plata ordinance on secondhand smoke in public places will go into affect. Four out of five of your elected officials had the leadership courage to pass a measure that will protect the health of all of our citizens, even with the criticism of a small but vocal minority who spoke against this ordinance. The vast majority of the people who have spoken or written to the Council about this issue are pleased that this was passed and that La Plata's restaurants, bars and other public places will now be free of secondhand smoke.

The summer concert series has been a big success again this year and the new movie series on

Saturday nights has been drawing a larger crowd each time it is held. If you have not brought your family out to Town Hall on a Friday or Saturday evening to enjoy the shows, plan on giving it a try next year.

One new initiative that the Town Council is working on is the adoption of a Fire Sprinkler ordinance for new construction homes. This would require the installation of sprinkler systems in single family homes to be built within the Town. I have read that some builders oppose this requirement because they do not see a compelling benefit. The potential to save lives in a future fire far outweighs the small increase to the average price of a new home in La Plata. If this ordinance can save one life it is worth the cost.

FROM WARD 3

Councilwoman Paddy Mudd

My goal for the remainder of my term is to turn the Council from a reactive one to a PROACTIVE elected body. We have reacted to the destruction of the tornado with wonderful small town spirit and a lot of help from our friends. Now it is time to direct La Plata toward the town we want it to be in 2025. La Plata's population will be 20-25,000 then with no more residential annexation from now on. The Council must look at the Vision Plan and gather together old and new members to revive and amend it. If you are interested in being part of this group please contact the Town Manager or your councilman.

PROACTIVE means looking forward or ahead. I believe that every major project or "streetscape" should have undergrounding the utility poles built into the bid proposal. The Town should pay for replacing the present ones, not the property owner.

We have La Grange Ave. (which was done by the state reacting to the tornado destruction) in need of a complete landscaping redo – and we need diagonal or at least paral-

Council Column *continued from p2*

lel parking to replace what was taken away on the southwest end of La Grange. I also believe that the smaller utility poles on the east side of the street should be removed and tied into the larger ones on the west side at Town expense.

The Town Hall property must have the drainage redone – as well as the grass and landscaping redone ASAP so that we take advantage of the fall to establish the lawn, etc. PROACTIVE would mean hiring a company to begin now.

The St. Mary's Ave. streetscape was bid the first time before we were elected. I held the second bidding process up for 8 months while Gore Bolton and I looked into undergrounding the lines. Our idea was defeated – and then the Council awarded the bid to the lowest bidder – with enough left over in the money we had borrowed for the project – to underground. We have had much criticism about the width of St. Mary's – I am assured by our staff that it was bid and built to Code – the most narrow part having 10 foot lanes – we are adding 1 foot of asphalt to the east side where there is no curb. The pole at the Green Turtle has been undergrounded and Facchina and Bolton will underground on their property-from Howard St. to the Sacred Heart north parking entrance.

Washington Ave. – needs to be done. However, the storm and sewer drains under the road are in bad condition. This is a state road. While Talbot St. and the new courthouse are under construction – why can't we do the whole thing – sidewalks, curbs and undergrounding lines. Have you seen the trees that were trimmed around the lines? Most of the residents in the old part of La Plata are living on fixed incomes and cannot afford or understand the assessment process for improvements. They have been

paying Town taxes many more years than the newer subdivisions – who paid for these things when they purchased their homes. I truly believe that the Town should finance these improvements.

Charles Street downtown – we need to look into grants available to remake our downtown the one envisioned in the plan.

We need a recreation area – a Boys and Girls Club – or something similar, in the Kent Ave. corridor. We are already PROACTIVE with the formation of the Kent Avenue Community Partnership – now let's make things work.

I can go on and on with this list. When the new Town Manager comes on board – I assure the citizens of La Plata that I will propose that he look into all of this – and that we have a retreat during the winter to review the Vision Plan and come up with PROACTIVE proposals.

FROM WARD 4

Councilman Vic E. Newman

Your Council, Commissions, and Boards have been quite busy. While some of these efforts can be seen around town, others are discussed in weekly sessions to which all residents are invited to attend. Two ordinances adopted by the Council have to do with your safety and quality of life. The first was the quite controversial smoking ban, introduced by Councilman Keith Back and adopted by the Council. This ordinance prohibits smoking in all public facilities while extending the ban 20' from any public entrance. Secondly, the Council approved an ordinance which requires future developments to install sprinkler systems. This is in response to your La Plata Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. briefing the Council that not only do smoke alarms increase your chances of survival by 50%, but by adding a sprinkler system with your smoke alarm, your chances of surviving a fire will increase by over 97%.

Nationally, over 80% of fire deaths occur in residences, 18% of the victims were less than 16 years old and 31% were 65 years of age or older. This adoption will ensure life safety and property protection from fire for the citizens of La Plata.

We all can understand that in this Country the right to vote is extremely important. When individuals are turned away due to difficulties we must act to ensure that in the future all eligible voters have the right. The Town Council is currently working on election reform legislation. If adopted, beginning with the 2007 Town election, registered Town voters will not have to show identification in order to vote; and beginning with the 2009 Town election, all elected Town representatives will run for office. This will eliminate the existing staggered terms, which can be confusing and in addition will save tax dollars. Also beginning with the 2009 Town election, for the first time residents can cast their vote not only for their Ward Councilmember, but for all Ward Councilmembers. This was done in response to the fact that as a Councilmember we not only represent the residents of the Ward from which we were elected, but all Town residents, and thus should be elected by all residents.

The Council, along with Town Commissions and Boards are working very hard to bring you quality retail. Council members realize the importance of having balanced retail growth north, central, and south in La Plata. The Council is working with these developers to increase and enhance our water and sewage capabilities and capacities. This Council will continue to insist that developers pay for all infrastructure needs due to increased growth, which will help to improve quality of life for all present and future residents.

Please forward any questions/concerns/issues to my e-mail address: laplatacouncil@comcast.net

Tilghman Lake

Tilghman Lake will be closed to the public until the spring of 2007. Use of Tilghman Lake will be by permit only and can be obtained by calling the Town Hall.

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: \$11.00 for 5 minutes loading time; each additional minute is \$1.00. 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.

Yard Waste Pickup

Containers of yard waste ONLY - leaves, grass and shrub clippings, brush or branches - may be put out on your regular trash day for pickup that day or the next day. 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.*

La Plata Farmers' Market

Remember to visit the Farmers' Market for fresh produce, flowers and handcrafted items. The Market is open on Wednesdays, from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., and on Saturdays, from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. On Wednesdays, the Market is located just east of the Baldus Centre building (which is at the corner of Charles Street and Crain Highway). On Saturdays, the Market is located in the back rows of the parking lot behind the Charles County Courthouse.

The Farmers' Market usually closes mid-November or the Wednesday before Thanksgiving, depending on the crops, but this year there is a possibility that the Market may be open longer due to interest expressed by some of the vendors and customers. Check for the Farmers Market sign on the corner of Washington Avenue and Charles Street to determine if the Market will remain open later than Thanksgiving.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection

The Charles County Sanitary Landfill accepts household hazardous waste products the first Saturday of each month during April through December, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Upcoming collection dates are: October 7, November 4 and December 2. The landfill is on Billingsley Road East, between Piney Church Road and Rt. 5. Items accepted free of charge include pesticides, herbicides, fertilizer, gasoline, motor oil, antifreeze, paint, cleaning supplies, pool chemicals, batteries,

expired prescription medicines and other poisons that are around your house. They advise that you should keep the materials in their original 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.***

Street Sweeping

Early on Tuesday mornings you may have noticed there are strange little trucks with brushes and vacuums on the streets of La Plata. These trucks are from a street sweeping company that the Town has hired to help beautify the Town. The Council approved street sweeping services for the Town in the 2007 budget. The sweeping is done on a rotating schedule, and in a 4-week period hits a majority of the major streets in Town. We also will be sweeping a few of the minor streets each time until we cover the Town.

Curbside Leaf Vacuum Service

The Town will provide curbside leaf vacuum service this year from mid-October to mid-December. You must call Town Hall to be put on a list for pickup, which will be done as time permits. Leaves must be dry, have no branches, rocks, or wire or other metal debris mixed in, and ***must be raked to the curb.***

Recycling News

During a week when a holiday occurs, recycling will be delayed one day. If your recycling is not picked up within two days of the scheduled date please call the Town Hall.

Single-Stream Recycling

Waste Management has converted their recycling efforts over to "Single-Stream Recycling". One of the largest growing curbside recycling programs, Single-stream recycling uses a truck much like an ordinary trash truck. Single-stream recycling allows customers to recycle paper, plastic and glass in one bin without the recycling employee having to separate the recyclables. Single-stream is made possible through the use of various mechanized screens and sorting technologies used in many of Waste Management's Material Recovery Facilities. Single-stream reduces the number of trucks, the frequency of pick-ups, the number of employees and the incidence of injuries.

Trash Collection Schedule Adjustment

Due to Charles County Sanitary Landfill being closed on certain holidays, the following adjustment is necessary to the Town's refuse collection schedule:

If your regular trash collection day is:	Trash will be picked up on:
Thanksgiving Day	
Thursday, November 23	Wednesday, November 22



La Plata Business Association

Voters' Forums

The La Plata Business Association will be sponsoring two Voters' Forums after the primary in preparation for the November 7 general election. The first will be held on **Thursday, October 5** for candidates for Charles County Commissioner. The second will be held on **Thursday, October 26** for candidates for the Charles County Board of Education.

Each forum will be held at the La Plata Town Hall at **7:00 p.m.** Candidates will have an opportunity to make brief opening and closing statements and respond to prepared questions on a number of issues. Businesses and residents who are interested in the welfare of La Plata and Charles County are encouraged to attend.

Bolton & Associates, LLC introduces a new Vice President

Bolton and Associates, LLC is pleased to announce a new addition to our professional and dedicated team. **David M. Jenkins, Vice President**, has recently joined Bolton & Associates, LLC. David comes to us from The Tri-Council for Southern Maryland, where he served as Executive Director for seven years. He has a Master's Degree in City and Regional Planning and a Master's in Business Administration. Many of you probably have known David from this past position and know that his insight, professionalism and in-depth knowledge of Southern Maryland brings a wealth of community and economic development and management experience to the Bolton and Associates team. His experience includes equal time in both public and private sectors in planning, transportation and economic development. Gore Bolton, President and CEO of the firm, commented that "We are very fortunate to have David on our team and in our leadership for the firm. David has always been a pleasure to work with and we expect he will do great things to advance our mission. David will be overseeing strategic alliances and business development of the firm nationwide."

The Mission of Bolton & Associates, LLC is to serve our clients and to add value throughout the design and construction process by providing creative and technical solutions. Visit us on the web: www.boltonandassociates.com. Email: info@boltonandassociates.com

Fall Events Benefiting United Way of Charles County

Gospel Jubilee Sponsored by Hunt Ford

Saturday, October 7. Performances by Elvis impersonator Michael Hoover, Butch Hunt, The Cash Family, Jimmy Passwaters, Sonrise, and Greg Floberg. Two shows: **3:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.** at the Charles County Government Auditorium, 200 Baltimore Street, La Plata. Ticket prices are \$12 for ages 6 to 61; \$10 for age 62 and up; free for children 5 and under. Tickets may be purchased from any United Way of Charles County Board member or at the United Way office. Call 301-609-4844 for more information.

Greater Potomac Open Golf Tournament

Saturday and Sunday, October 7 and 8. Swan Point Yacht and Country Club. For more information, contact Swan Point at 301-259-0047.

Civista Jewelry Sale

Thursday, October 26, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Friday, October 27, 7:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
In the cafeteria at Civista Hospital. Fine and costume jewelry.

Concert at Christ Church

112 E. Charles Street
Sunday, November 12, 2006, 7:00 p.m.
Michael Britt, Theatre Organ

A native of Baltimore and a 1984 graduate of Peabody Conservatory of Music, Michael Britt is much in demand throughout the United States for his silent film accompaniments. He has performed for chapters of the American Guild of Organists and the American Theatre Organ Society and has been featured on Maryland Public Television. He delights in creating his own music for the classic silent films of Laurel and Hardy, Harold Lloyd, and Buster Keaton – for adults and children alike. Mr. Britt also plays classical organ and has served as Director of Music and Organist at the Shrine of the Little Flower in Baltimore for the past 23 years. He teaches at the Community College of Baltimore County and is keyboardist for Shades of Blue (a Big Band orchestra.) Take a step back in time – before the first "talkie" came out in 1927 – and laugh as the great comedians of the silver screen come alive with the rare talent of theatre organist, Michael Britt.

MEET THE TOWN STAFF

Carol Rollins



Carol Rollins has worked for the Town of La Plata since February of 2003, and has been involved in three separate departments in her 3-1/2 years here. From serving as receptionist at the permits counter, to functioning as administrative assistant to the Town Manager, to coordinating the Design Review Board process

and meetings, Carol has applied her insight and diverse capabilities to several elements of the Town organization. She is an active member of the Maryland Downtown Development Association, and attends regular training seminars hosted by the organization to hone her skills in site plan review and design assessment.

On the home front, Carol has been a Virginia resident all her life, commuting to La Plata each day from her home in King George. She and her husband Mark live with three very energetic beagles, and are currently "parenting from afar" the two sons away at college. Carol enjoys playing the piano, reading, and shopping with friends. She is also actively involved in her church, Round Hill Baptist, where she fills the posts of Sunday School teacher, children's choir director, and youth group advisor.

Upcoming Events

Olde Tyme Holiday Gathering
Sunday, December 3
La Plata Town Hall

The Town Council will be hosting the 2nd annual Olde Tyme Holiday Gathering on Sunday, December 3 beginning at 3:30 p.m. at the Town Hall. There will be entertainment inside and outside, Holiday craft stations for children, holiday snacks, miniature train rides, petting farm and Santa's arrival and visit with children.

Breakfast with Santa
Saturday, December 9
La Plata Town Hall

Children 10 years old and under are invited and are asked to bring at least one Christmas card (cards taken to the residents of nursing homes in La Plata.)

Reservations accepted after November 20 for the following time slots: 7:15 a.m. - 8:00 a.m., 8:15 a.m. - 9:00 a.m., 9:15 a.m. - 10:00 a.m., 10:15 a.m. - 11:00 a.m., and 11:15 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Early Reminder of the Christmas Decorations Contest
Monday, December 18 - lights on by 6:00 p.m.

The Town's Beautification Commission would like to give an early reminder that the annual Christmas Decorations Contest will be held on Monday, December 18, and ask that you have your lights on by 6:00 p.m. All businesses will be considered, but individual homes must register to have their outdoor decorations judged in this contest. Call Gayle Curry at the Town Hall (301-934-8421 or 301-870-3377) by 4:00 p.m. on Friday, December 15 if you want your outdoor Christmas decorations to be judged. You may also register a neighbor's home that you believe should be in the contest. Remember - please have your lights on by 6:00 p.m. in anticipation of the Beautification Commission judges.

SCARECROW FESTIVAL

"Something to Crow About"



The Charles County Chamber of Commerce, as part of their 50th Anniversary Celebration, is partnering with the Town of La Plata, the La Plata Business Association, and Civista Health Foundation in bringing a "Scarecrow Festival" to the Town of La Plata.

Everyone is invited to participate in this community event. The Chamber encourages merchants, business people, individuals, church groups, school groups, clubs, organizations and families to participate in making a scarecrow. The scarecrows will be displayed throughout the Town of La Plata on designated posts.

The event will take place October 28th - November 5th. There will be a contest with awards for different categories. We will be hosting a "Don't Be Scared" Seminar on how to make a scarecrow on October 5th from 5:30 p.m. until 7:30 p.m., at Wills Park Community Building, 505 St. Mary's Avenue, La Plata. This event's proceeds will benefit Civista Health Foundation. Contact the Charles County Chamber of Commerce for more information: 301-932-6500, 301-870-3089.



Special Events

"Scarecrow Festival" Kick off
Saturday, October 28, noon to 4:00 p.m.
La Plata Town Hall Lawn

The Town of La Plata will kick off the "Scarecrow Festival" with the awards ceremony beginning at noon on the steps of the Town Hall. Immediately following there will be continuous entertainment on the west lawn of the Town Hall, moon bounce, giant slide, petting zoo, children's games and light refreshments for sale.

"Salute to Veterans" Parade and Ceremony
Sunday, November 5, 1:00 p.m.

The Town Council is sponsoring a "Salute to Veterans" Parade and Celebration on Sunday, November 5. The parade will begin at 1:00 p.m., beginning at the Charles County Courthouse. A ceremony will be held at Town Hall, with guest speakers, musical entertainment provided by the Port Tobacco Players Encore Kids, and free refreshments. Pre-registration for the parade is requested. Any business, organization and individuals wishing to participate in the parade should call Michelle Miner (301-934-8421) mminer@townoflaplata.org for a registration form. Any organization that would like to volunteer to cook and serve hot dogs and drinks at the ceremony, please contact Michelle Miner as soon as possible.

OCTOBER 2006

La Plata Town Notes

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Special trash pickup day (Call by 4:00 p.m. Fri., 9/29 to schedule)	3 4:00 p.m., Town Council meeting 7:00 p.m., Planning Commission meeting	4 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	5	6	7 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Farmers' Market
8	9	10 7:00 p.m., Town Council meeting	11 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Farmers' Market 5:00 p.m., Parks and Recreation Commission meeting	12	13	14 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Farmers' Market
15	16 4:00 p.m., Beautification Commission meeting	17 6:00 p.m., Town Council meeting	18 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Farmers' Market 9:00 a.m., Design Review Board work session	19	20	21 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Farmers' Market
22	23	24 6:00 p.m., Town Council meeting	25 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Farmers' Market	26	27	28 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Farmers' Market 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., "Scarecrow Festival" Kick off
29 2:00 a.m., Daylight Savings Time ends. Set your clocks and watches back 1 hour.	30	31 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., Trick or Treat Evening	 <p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; text-align: center;">Happy Halloween</p>			

NOVEMBER 2006

La Plata Town Notes

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 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	2	3	4 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Farmers' Market.
5 1:00 p.m., "Salute to Veterans" Parade and Ceremony	6 Special trash pickup day (Call by 4:00 p.m. Fri., 11/3 to schedule)	7 4:00 p.m., Town Council meeting 7:00 p.m., Planning Commission meeting	8 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Farmers' Market 5:00 p.m., Parks and Recreation Commission meeting	9	10 VETERAN'S DAY (observed) TOWN HALL CLOSED (No change to trash schedule)	11 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Farmers' Market.
12	13	14 7:00 p.m., Town Council meeting	15 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Farmers' Market 9:00 a.m., Design Review Board work session	16	17	18 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Farmers' Market.
19	20 4:00 p.m., Beautification Commission meeting	21 6:00 p.m., Town Council meeting	22 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Farmers' Market	23 THANKSGIVING DAY TOWN HALL CLOSED (Thursday's trash will be picked up on Wednesday, November 22.)	24 TOWN HALL CLOSED (No change to trash schedule)	25 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Farmers' Market.
26	27	28 6:00 p.m., Town Council meeting	29 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Farmers' Market	30		

Community Announcements

Fire Prevention Week is October 8 – 14. This would be a good time to put fresh batteries in your smoke detectors.

La Plata Volunteer Fire Department, 911 Washington Avenue, will be hosting a Fire Prevention Open House on Sunday, October 8, from 1:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m.

Craft Fair - The La Plata Volunteer Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary will be hosting their Craft Fair on Saturday, **October 21, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.** at the La Plata Firehouse, 911 Washington Avenue. There will be a variety of Crafts, a Bake Sale and raffle. A donation to the Ladies Auxiliary is appreciated at the door. Contact for vendor information: Wendy Latimer, President of the Ladies Auxiliary, at 240-427-7230.

Basket Bingo – the La Plata Volunteer Fire Department, 911 Washington Avenue, will be holding a Basket Bingo on **Friday, November 3. Doors open at 6:00 p.m. and regular games begin at 7:00 p.m.** Admission is \$20.00. Extra packets are \$5.00. The Basket Bingo features regular bingo, specials, basket raffles, 50/50 raffle, and door prizes. Refreshments will be available for purchase. *This Basket Bingo is in no way affiliated with or endorsed by the Longaberger® Company, although the prizes to be won are genuine Longaberger® products.*

MARYLAND HEALTH → GO LOCAL

The Health Sciences and Human Services Library (HS/HSL) at the University of Maryland, Baltimore is pleased to announce a health information resource for the citizens of Maryland. *Maryland Health → Go Local* (www.medlineplus.gov/maryland) is a web-based resource guide linking the public to local health services. Developed as a partnership between the HS/HSL and the National Institutes of Health's National Library of Medicine, *Maryland Health → Go Local* can also be accessed through *MedlinePlus*, the National Institutes of Health's consumer health web site. *MedlinePlus* (www.medlineplus.gov) provides information on over 700 health topics.

How will Maryland Health → Go Local improve the health of Maryland citizens?

For the first time, Maryland citizens can learn about a specific health condition and link directly to support services in their local community – all without special training or assistance. *Maryland Health → Go Local* points citizens to the local resources that promote their health and wellness.

What types of programs and services are in Maryland Health → Go Local?

Maryland Health → Go Local links to information for hospitals, nursing homes, support groups, adult day care centers, hospice care, substance abuse treatment centers, physicians, health screening providers and much more. By clicking on your county in the map of Maryland, you can link to services and programs in your local community – or search for all programs of that type in the state.

Town Notes is a publication of the Town of La Plata. If you would like to submit a Community Announcement item (subject to Town approval and space availability), please send it by e-mail to jfrazier@townoflaplata.org, or send a typed copy to: Judy Frazier, LaPlata Town Hall, P.O. Box 2268, LaPlata, MD 20646-2268

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