

TOWN NOTES

News from La Plata Town Hall



MAYOR'S CORNER

America celebrated the 260th anniversary of the founding of this great nation on July 4th and the Town of La Plata added to the festivities by holding the annual watermelon bash. With heavy rains in the forecast, a few changes were made to the overall program but the weather did not dampen the outstanding turnout for this event and it was evident everyone who attended had a great time. A tremendous amount of hot dogs and watermelon were consumed and the children enjoyed the face painting, the water slides, moon bounce and the water sprayed from the fire engine that was situated in front of the Town Hall. A very warm thank you to all you helped make this event a huge success.

It is events such as the 4th of July Watermelon Bash, our Friday Night Concerts, and all the other events we hold in La Plata that bring people together and contribute substantially to making our community a strong and vibrant town. We strive to retain the small town atmosphere that most people desire while still understanding that we must plan and build for the future. Our primary concern is the residents of the town and we strive to meet your needs on a daily basis as well as understanding your respective views on what the town should be today as well as in the future. There is always ways to do things

Continued on page 3

La Plata Receives Banner Town Designation for Ninth Year in a Row!



The Banner Town designation is the Maryland Municipal League's (MML) highest member achievement award. The program is designed to encourage and reward exceptional participation in MML programs and activities and to foster teamwork among municipal officials. The program criteria consists of participating in all of the following: Visits to at least one school to encourage 4th graders to participate in the "If I Were Mayor, I would..." essay contest, have at least one representative from the Town attend four Southern Maryland Municipal Association chapter meetings, send a representative to the annual MML fall conference and have at least one elected official participate in at least one of the following: serve on the MML Board of Directors, enrollment in the Academy for

Excellence in Local Governance program or participate in the Student Shadowing Experience Program. All of the criteria must have been accomplished between June 1, 2015 and May 25, 2016. The Council has already begun working toward next year's requirements.

Foster Care and Adoption Program

The rewards of being a foster or adoptive parent are immense and immeasurable. A foster or adoptive parent provides short term care for children who have been victims of abuse, abandonment and neglect. **Charles County Department of Social Services Is Looking For Someone Like You To Be A Foster Parent To ONE Child In Charles County.** Free Training, Monthly Stipend, and Case Management Services will be provided. To Learn More Contact: Charles County Department of Social Services Tri-County Recruiter & Trainer at (301) 392-6727; cclarke@maryland.gov.



TownofLaPlata



LaPlataPD

COUNCIL COLUMN

Councilman Wayne Winkler, Ward 1

Summer is finally here and our summer concerts are in full swing. So is the Farmers Market and it looks like it is doing well with more vendors than I think we've had in the past.

The Town has been working very hard with the La Plata Business Association to update our sign code. It should be easier to understand and will help the businesses without making us look

like a junk town with sprawling signage covering all of the business windows and having banners blowing across the streets like we did in the early 2000's.

The Planning Commission has also been spending a considerable amount of time updating our building codes to make them easier to understand and more user friendly.

On another note, we are still getting new eating establishments coming into town. Sonic will soon be under

construction, we have a Bollywood Masala which is Indian, Spoons which is Korean, Kaow Thai, Dunkin Donuts, and a new barbecue restaurant. The Indian and Korean restaurants are located in the Rosewick shopping center, the barbecue will open behind Panera, and Dunkin Donuts and Kaow Thai are located in the La Plata Village center. Sonic will be at the corner of 301 and Route 6 which used to be a gas station.

Hope you have a fun and safe summer.

TOWN EMPLOYEES SERVE ON VARIOUS ASSOCIATIONS AROUND THE STATE

In addition to regular job duties some of the Town's staff and elected officials serve on various associations around the state.

The Maryland City/County Management Association, MCCMA is an association of professional local government managers in the State of Maryland.

It is an affiliate of both the Maryland Municipal League (MML) and the International City/County Management Association (ICMA). During its an-

nual conference Daniel Mears, Town Manager was elected Treasurer and Michelle Miner, Assistant Town Manager was elected President. As President of the MCCMA she is also a member of the MML Board of Directors for 2016-2017. Their terms run for one year.

The MML has a variety of committees that represent municipal issues across the State. The Town's Director of Public Works, Jeff Garner, serves as a

member of the Legislative Committee that reviews all legislation filed in the State of Maryland for municipal impact, and recommends new statewide legislation as well. Jeff also serves as Vice President of the Maryland Municipal League's Directors of Public Works Association. Governor Larry Hogan has also appointed Jeff to a two year term on the Maryland Underground Facilities Damage Prevention Authority.

To Do List !

- Don't miss what is going on, post the pull out calendar on your refrigerator
- Attend your neighborhood's National Night out August 2nd
- Apply for a \$500 beautification grant by September
- Schedule a vacation patrol check with the Police Department
- Contact Town Hall for a 95 gallon recycling container
- Be in the know, sign up to be on the Town's Constant Contact email list
- Mulch your leaves and grass instead of bagging them
- Sign up for ACH utility Payments
- Spend a Friday night on the west lawn listening to music at the Town's free concerts
- Complete the latest Snap Poll question
- Help a neighbor in need
- Watch a Council Business meetings on Comcast Channel 99 and Verizon Channel 11
- Plan to attend a Special Event at Town Hall
- Get alerts on your water consumption
- Pick up litter while you walk your neighborhood
- Visit the Town's Facebook page and don't forget to Like it
- Visit <http://www.townoflaplata.org> for more information on all of these

MAYOR'S CORNER (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

differently and improvements that warrant consideration, and these occur on a regular basis, some are publicized and others not so much.

So much has occurred in La Plata since the tornado and this is only the 14th year since that tragic event. Actually, the rebuilding of the town has evolved so rapidly that we may tend to take what has occurred for granted. The rebuilding of our damaged neighborhoods, the advent of many new and remodeled businesses, a remodeled and growing hospital complex, a new Town Hall, a new police station and improved police force, a modern work site for our

public works department, upgrades to our waste water treatment plant, improvements to our drinking water system, revised and upgraded storm water management systems, and the list goes on. I say this because I want us to feel positive about our town and know that we enjoy these benefits because of the tremendous effort of many individuals who believed in La Plata and helped it become a positive example of how a town can rebuild following a tragic event.

Notwithstanding what has occurred, there is still much to do. Our immediate downtown area is prime for redevelopment. The La Plata Town Centre Corporation is

working diligently on this effort supported by a recent study made by the Urban Land Institute of Washington, D.C. A new library facility is included in the plan which may serve as a catalyst for the proposed redevelopment. So we continue to move forward, as we should, but with an eye on available funding and the impact on you, the primary reason we do what we do.

As your Mayor, I am always open to your comments, be their positive or critical. You may reach me at Town Hall (301) 934-8421 or at home (301)934-4850.

SPECIAL EVENT PARKING

Throughout the year there are many events at Town Hall. Guests often ask where the best location is to park.

For small Town events there is ample street parking in striped spaces down La Grange Avenue and side streets. For those small events the Town Hall parking lot is also open.

With larger events the Town Hall lot may be closed for vendors or activities. Please use the parking lot at Sacred Heart Church on St. Mary's Avenue, just a block west of Town Hall. When parking at Sacred Heart, please be sure to use the **back parking lot only** and leave the front and side lots available for parishioners attending services and activities at the church. The Town leases this lot from the Church for public parking.

Additional parking may be found along the north end of Maple Avenue along the railroad tracks on the north side of Charles Street. This parking is often used by those attending a show at the Port Tobacco Theater. This is just a few block walk to Town Hall.

There are a number of residences around Town Hall. Please respect the people who live nearby and not park in or block any residential lots or driveways. We ask that you not park in lots adjacent to or used by any open businesses when attending events at Town Hall. The private residences and businesses may tow your vehicle from their lot. Parking on private property is inconsiderate to them, and would not be a pleasant way to end the good time you had at a Town event.

Please do not park along any yellow painted curb, on grass, or in front of any fire hydrant. Overall, please be respectful of others.

NEIGHBORHOOD EVENT MINI-GRANT

Is your neighborhood interested in organizing an event like a block party or cook out to bring your community together? If so then help is here. Town of La Plata Neighborhood Event Mini-Grant is designed to provide an opportunity for Town of La Plata residents to strengthen their neighborhoods through producing special events. The Town of La Plata invites neighborhood associations

and communities to submit the neighborhood grant application for review. There will be 5 grants awarded up to \$500 each during the 2016 fiscal year. Deadline to submit application is September 9, 2016. Grant applications are available for download from the Town's website or email Colleen Wilson, Special Events Coordinator at cwilson@townoflaplata.org or (301) 934-8421 ext. 142.



La Plata Police Department Community Policing Initiative: Are you heading out of town to the beach, mountains, or maybe taking a cruise? The La Plata Police Department wants you to feel safe while away! LPPD Officers will perform a daily house check while you're away and will call or email you if something looks unusual. To set up a vacation house check give LPPD a call at (301) 934-1500.

Code Corner

181-33 – Walking Along Roadway

- A. Where sidewalks are provided, it shall be unlawful for any pedestrian to walk along and upon an adjacent roadway.
- B. Where sidewalks are not provided, any pedestrian walking along and upon a highway shall, when practicable, walk only on the left side of the roadway or its shoulder facing traffic and, upon meeting a vehicle, shall step off to the left.
- C. No person shall stand in a roadway for the purpose of soliciting a ride from the driver of any vehicle.

TESTING OF EARLY WARNING DEVICES/SIRENS

Town of La Plata Weather Sirens Activate for Confirmed Tornadoes

Provided in partnership with the Charles County Government and the Town of La Plata.

Summer brings severe weather, such as hurricanes, extreme heat, thunderstorms, and tornadoes. The Department of Emergency Services and the Town of La Plata remind residents that the Town of La Plata tornado sirens will activate if there is a confirmed tornado on the ground, spotted in, or heading towards La Plata. This is a three-minute cycling of the siren, in addition to a voice announcement at the end of the cycle.

La Plata sirens are “outdoor warning sirens” intended to warn residents who are outside of an imminent tornado threat. The sirens are not intended nor guaranteed to warn residents whom are indoors. Residents indoors should rely

on weather radios, television and radio messages, or phone notification systems for updates on tornado threats.

Residents are urged to register/review their profiles for the latest Citizen Notification Service (CNS) updates and alerts from Charles County Government and the National Weather Service. To register for CNS, manage your message settings, provide preferred contact information, and select categories, visit www.CharlesCountyMD.gov/CNS.

When you hear the siren going off, please do not delay in seeking shelter. Get indoors to an interior small room or basement, and get low. For tornado preparedness tips, visit the National Weather Service’s website at www.spc.noaa.gov/faq/tornado/safety.html.

The sirens are installed at the following locations:

- On Charles Street in front of the Charles County Courthouse

- On Curley Hall Road at the Town’s Wastewater Treatment Plant (near Quailwood Subdivision)
- In Clarks Run Subdivision
- In King’s Grant Subdivision
- On Shining Willow Way next to the La Plata Volunteer Fire Department
- College of Southern Maryland

Severe weather notices are posted online at www.CharlesCountyMD.gov, on CCGTV cable television (Verizon channel 10 and Comcast channel 95), on Facebook, and on Twitter. Sign up for the CNS at www.CharlesCountyMD.gov/CNS to receive inclement weather, tornado watch, and tornado warning notifications by email or text message. For updated information on power outages, view the SMECO outage map at stormcenter.smeco.coop. Call (877) 747-6326 to report a power outage. Call 9-1-1 in the event of an emergency.

\$500 Beautification Grant

This is a great outlet for Home Owner Associations, school projects, scout groups, civic organizations, individuals, businesses, and other La Plata community members to do something that benefits you, the Town, and all who visit La Plata.

Grant applications will be available for download from the Town’s website www.townoflaplata.org, or you may get them directly from Danielle Mandley at (301) 934-8421 or dmandley@townoflaplata.org. Grant applications will be reviewed by La Plata’s Beautification Commission following the next application deadline, September 2, 2016, and successful projects will receive up to \$500 to help bring the idea to life. Thank you for your interest in helping our community by focusing on ways to make La Plata a better place.

“Volunteers bring beauty to life”



AUGUST IS SPEED AWARENESS MONTH

The Council of the Town of La Plata and the La Plata Police Department have declared August as *Speed Awareness Month*.

August signals the end of summer and the start of another school year. The goal of Speed Awareness Month is to slow down traffic, thus saving lives. By making drivers more aware of the speed limits and encouraging them to drive within the posted limits, the citizens and visitors of the Town will have a safer August. Drivers are encouraged to always drive within the speed limit throughout the year. Please help us reach our goal; obey the speed limit.



TOWN OF LA PLATA OFFICIALS

Mayor: Roy G. Hale

Council:

- Wayne Winkler Ward 1
- C. Keith Back Ward 2
- Lynn D. Gilroy Ward 3
- Joseph W. Norris Ward 4

Town Manager:

Daniel J. Mears

Treasurer: Robert W. Oliphant

Assistant Town Manager:

Michelle D. Miner

Town Clerk: Danielle Mandley

Police Chief: Carl H. Schinner

Director of Planning:

Jeremy D. Hurlbutt

Director of Operations: Robert F. Stahl, Jr.

Director of Public Works:

Jeffrey S. Garner

Manager of Inspections: James Q. Yates

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

August 2016

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

1	Yard Waste Pick Up Special Pick Up (please call by 4:00 p.m. on 7/29 to be put on list)	National Night Out Planning Commission Meeting moved to 8/3 Kids Summer Show; Rainbow Rock Band; 10:00 a.m.	Farmers Market; 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Design Review Board Meeting; 9:00 a.m. Crime Watch Council Meeting; 7:00 p.m. Planning Commission Meeting; 7:00 p.m.	2	Yard Waste Pick Up	Yard Waste Pick Up 257th Army Band "The Band of the Nations' Capital"; 7:00 p.m.	3	Farmers Market; 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
---	---	---	--	---	--------------------	---	---	--

7	Yard Waste Pick Up	Mayor and Council Work Session; 7:00 p.m.	No Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting	8	Yard Waste Pick Up	Eric Scott Band; 7:00 p.m.	13	Farmers Market; 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
---	--------------------	--	---	---	--------------------	-------------------------------	----	--

14	Yard Waste Pick Up	Mayor and Council Work Session; 7:00 p.m. Kids Show – Uncle Devin Show; 10:00 a.m.	Farmers Market; 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Design Review Board Meeting; 9:00 a.m.	15	Yard Waste Pick Up	Yard Waste Pick Up Muddy Crows Band; 7:00 p.m.	20	Farmers Market; 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
----	--------------------	---	---	----	--------------------	--	----	--

21	Yard Waste Pick Up	Mayor and Council Business Meeting; 7:00 p.m.	Farmers Market; 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.	22	Yard Waste Pick Up	Yard Waste Pick Up Southern Maryland Concert Band; 7:00 p.m.	27	Farmers Market; 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
----	--------------------	---	--	----	--------------------	--	----	--

28	Yard Waste Pick Up			29	Yard Waste Pick Up		
				30			
				31			

SEPTEMBER 2016

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

4	 Labor Day Town Hall closed							
11	No Yard Waste Pick Up No Special Pick Up No trash Pick Up (Pick Up 9/6)							
18	Yard Waste Pick Up Special Pick Up (please call by 9/9 to be put on list)							
25	Yard Waste Pick Up							
5								
12								
19								
26								
6								
13								
20								
27								
7	 Farmers Market; 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Parks and Recreation Commission meeting; 10:00 a.m. Recycling delayed to 9/8 Crime Watch Council meeting; 7:00 p.m.							
14	 Farmers Market; 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Design Review Board meeting; 9:00 a.m.							
21								
28	 Farmers Market; 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.							
8								
15								
22								
29								
1								
8								
15								
22								
29								
2								
9								
16								
23								
30								
3								
10								
17								
24								
Yard Waste Pick Up								
Yard Waste Pick Up								
Mayor and Council work session; 7:00 p.m. Trash pick up from 9/5								
Mayor and Council Work Session; 7:00 p.m.								
Mayor and Council business meetings; 7:00 p.m.								
Recycling Pick Up from 9/7								
Yard Waste Pick Up Paul Thomas and the M W B Band; 7:00 p.m.								
Yard Waste Pick Up John Luskey Band; 7:00 p.m.								
Yard Waste Pick Up Robbie Boothe Band; 7:00 p.m.								
Farmers Market; 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.								
Farmers Market; 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.								
Farmers Market; 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.								
Yard Waste Pick Up Port Tobacco Pickers Band; 7:00 p.m.								
Farmers Market; 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.								

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. Billing for special trash pickup is included on your quarterly utility bill.

Yard Waste Pick Up

Residential yard waste pick ups will only take place on Monday and Fridays. 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 50lbs. per bundle, and the

branches may not be larger than 4 feet long. *Plastic bags are not allowed – if you bag yard waste you must use paper bags.*

You must contact the Town if you are interested in a wheeled recycling container. Due to a limited budget, wheeled recycling containers are only being ordered to meet demand. Thank you for your interest.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection



CHARLES COUNTY
**HOUSEHOLD
HAZARDOUS WASTE
COLLECTION**

Household hazardous waste collection occurs on the first Saturday of each month from 9 am to 3 pm from April through December.

Upcoming 2016 collection dates are: Aug. 6, Sept. 3, Oct. 1, and Dec. 3 in the parking lot of the County Department of Public

Works building, located at 10430 Audie Lane, off of Radio Station Road in La Plata. Household hazardous waste collection is a contracted service and items

cannot be accepted when the contractor is not on site.

Items accepted free of charge include pesticides, herbicides, fertilizer, gasoline, oil-based paint, cleaning supplies, pool chemicals, fluorescent lights, mercury thermometers, and other poisons found in the home. Please keep the materials in their original containers whenever possible, and bring them to the collection site in cardboard boxes to ease unloading.

Unacceptable materials include bio-medical waste (sharps, needles, anything with bodily fluids), latex paint, prescription drugs, and ammunition. Used motor oil, anti-freeze, propane tanks, and batteries are accepted on a regular basis at various collection sites. Latex paint is not considered hazardous waste and can be placed in your household trash as long as it is solidified. This can be accomplished by adding kitty litter, shredded paper, paint hardener, or sawdust to aid in drying it out.

For more information, call the Charles County Department of Public Facilities, Environmental Resources Division at (301) 932-3599.

Trash Collection Schedule Adjustment

If your regular trash collection day is:

Monday, Sept. 5, 2016

Trash will be picked up on:

Tuesday, Sept. 6, 2016

Yard Waste Pick Up Schedule Adjustment

There will be no Yard Waste Pick Up on Monday, Sept. 5

Recycling Pick Up

Due to the Labor Day Holiday Recycling will be picked up on **Thursday, Sept. 8, 2016**

Special Pick Up

Monday, August 1, 2016

Monday, September 12, 2016

Fall Craft Fair

Saturday, October 8 from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm at the La Plata Volunteer Fire Department at 911 Washington Avenue. Hosted by the La Plata Volunteer Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary. For more information email lpvdlacraftfair@yahoo.com.



**Sign Up for
our Email List**

Stay up to date on what is going on in the Town of La Plata by signing up for our weekly email. If you would like to receive email notifications about upcoming Town of La Plata news and events please send your email to Special Events Coordinator Colleen Wilson at cwilson@townoflaplata.org.

PRIOR EVENTS

Town of La Plata Memorial Day Ceremony

The Town of La Plata held the Annual Memorial Day Ceremony on Monday, May 30 at 10 am at Town Hall. The ceremony honored the men and women who died while in the military service. CMC Jacob Bristow, Command Master Chief Naval Support Activity South Potomac was the guest speaker at the ceremony.

The ceremony began with a blessing from Pastor Garrett Conner, La Plata Baptist Church. The La Plata High School NJROTC was on hand to present the colors and the National Anthem sung by Stephanie Boyer and accompanied by the Veteran's Home Brass. The observance also included the roll call of deceased veterans from Charles County by American Legion Post 82. Wreaths were also laid by monument at Town Hall to remember those who have served by the General Smallwood Chapter MOAA, La Plata Town Council, and La Plata Police Department and Explorers. The Schubert Singers of Christ Church performed patriotic selections and Bill Foreman performed TAPS. The ceremony concluded with Stephanie Boyer and the Veteran's Home Brass leading the audience in singing "God Bless America."



Photos from Neighborhood Event Mini-Grant Awardees

Washington Square held their Spring Parking Lot Restriping Event on Saturday April 30.



Edelen "Station" Celebration was held on Saturday, June 4.

Hawthorne Greene held a Memorial Day Celebration on May 30th.



PRIOR EVENTS (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8)

Villages of Steeplechase held its 2nd Annual Memorial Day Block Party on May 29.



Town of La Plata July 4th WATERMELON BASH!

Despite the cloudy weather, we had a great turnout for the event! Thanks to all who attended the Watermelon Bash. Special thank you to Joann Worden, Dan Merrick, volunteers from Lifestyles of Maryland, La Plata Volunteer Fire Department, and Pack 1799 for all their help.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Family Camping at Tilghman Lake

Saturday, September 24, 2016

Space is limited to the first 50 registrants. Permit form is available at www.townoflaplata.org or by calling 301-934-8421.

La Plata's Largest Park!

40 Acres of nature to explore

Located at 10598 Box Elder Road off of Radio Station Rd

Take the opportunity to camp with your family and friends close to home. You can bring charcoal to cook out dinner and breakfast on one of the many grills located in the park. Eat under the large beautiful pavilion overlooking Tilghman Lake. Enjoy fishing from the dock or lakeside. Walk the trail loop, or walk the connection to Laurel Springs Regional park ...here there is a playground, ball fields, and sport fields.



For more information, visit the Family Camping page at www.TownofLaPlata.org. reservations due by Sept. 20



UPCOMING EVENTS

Summer Fun at Town Hall

Tuesday, August 2nd: 10 AM

Rainbow Rock Band

Tuesday, August 16th: 10 AM

Uncle Devin Show

The shows are geared towards preschool and elementary age children and are approximately 45 minutes long. The shows are free and open to the public. Shows will be held outdoors on the West lawn where the Friday night concerts take place (weather permitting - shows will not be moved indoors). Attendees are encouraged to bring blankets and lawn chairs for sitting. No concessions will be available, but you are welcome to bring drinks and snacks along.

Town of La Plata Summer Concert Series

AUGUST

Friday August 5th:
7 p.m.

257th Army Band – *“The Band of the Nation’s Capital”*

Friday August 12th:
7 p.m.–9 p.m.

Eric Scott Band – *Acoustic Soul/Pop*

Friday August 19th:
7 p.m.–9 p.m.

The Muddy Crows – *American/Alt Rock*

Friday August 26th:
7 p.m.–9 p.m.

Southern Maryland Concert Band – *Concert Band Favorites & Showtunes*

SEPTEMBER

Friday September 2nd:
7 p.m.–9 p.m.

John Luskey Band – *Pop, Country & Rock*

Friday September 9th:
7 p.m.–9 p.m.

Paul Thomas and The M W B Band
50s & 60s Oldies

Friday September 16th:
7 p.m.–9 p.m.

BackFin – *Pop, Rock, Oldies, Country, Blues & Funk*

Friday September 23rd:
7 p.m.–9 p.m.

Port Tobacco Pickers – *Bluegrass*

Friday September 30th:
7 p.m.–9 p.m.

Robbie Boothe – *Country*

Please note military concerts are usually about 1 hour to 1 hour 15 minutes due to their regulations.

If a concert has to be cancelled due to the weather we will post the information in the following locations:

- Town of La Plata website - on the home page and concert page
- Town of La Plata face book page
- Call (301) 934-8421 for a recorded message, press #7 for special events
- Town of La Plata emails – to sign up please send your email address to cwilson@townoflaplata.org.



National Night Out Mini-Grant Awardees

The Town of La Plata is pleased to announce the following communities have been awarded funds to support their National Night Out

events on Tuesday August 2nd:

- Clarks Run
- Hawthorne Greene
- Hickory Ridge
- Villages of Steeplechase
- Washington Square

Thank you for making La Plata a better place for the entire community.

FUTURE EVENTS



11th Annual Scarecrow Festival sponsored by the Charles County Chamber of Commerce and the Town of La Plata! Register to be part of the fun! Enter your Scarecrow for official judging during La Plata Town Festival, Sunday, October 9th. Winners will be announced at Town Hall. Registration Deadline is Friday, September 23rd.

For more information contact the Charles County Chamber of Commerce at (301) 932-6500.

Town of La Plata “Salute to Veterans” Parade

Come out on **Sunday, November 6th at 1 pm** for the Salute to Veterans Parade. Watch the parade make its way to Town Hall down Charles Street and La Grange Avenue. Registration forms will be available on the Town’s website in September.

Town of La Plata Holidays 2016

Sunday December 4th, 3 p.m.–to 6 p.m.

The sounds and spirit of the season bring friends and neighbors together for an afternoon of good cheer. Join us for holiday music, activities, refreshments, and a visit from Santa!

WEBSITE POLL



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

The current question is:

How have the challenges in the economy impacted La Plata, its residents, and businesses? Choose the response that best describes how La Plata has fared compared to 2007.

- Far better off than 2007
- Better off than 2007
- Slightly better off than 2007
- Same as 2007
- Slightly worse off than 2007
- Worse off than 2007
- Far worse off than 2007

June Website Poll Results

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

La Plata is the preeminent place to live in Charles County. Do the events, landscaping, decorations, and cleanliness support that view?

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2016</u>
Strongly Agree	- 37%	- 49%
Somewhat Agree	- 32%	- 34%
Neither Agree nor Disagree	- 12%	- 4%
Somewhat Disagree	- 6%	- 9%
Strongly Disagree	- 9%	- 3%

Over the past eight years, perception of La Plata as the preeminent place to live in Charles County has increased. In 2008 the work by the Town's Beautification Committee, Design Review Board, and Public Works staff were the Town's main efforts to improve the attractiveness of our community. Since then, their work has continued, making improvements all

over Town. Additionally, the participation of residents and businesses in promoting the physical environment has increased, benefitting everyone.

Since 2008, the Town has offered Green Grants and Beautification Grants which have empowered residents to make improvements in their neighborhoods. Last year the Beautification Committee offered a column flower basket program that a couple dozen businesses participated in to enhance downtown. The La Plata Business Association put flower baskets on utility poles down Charles Street. These efforts by the members of the community support work of the Town.

The Town has converted all of the trash containers and most of the recycling containers to ones with covers, reducing windblown trash. Neighborhoods like Kent Avenue take advantage of Town support and hold an annual cleanup day where residents, volunteers, La Plata Police, Town Council members, and La Plata staff pick up trash from the community. Other neighborhoods have done cleanup events as well.

The La Plata Garden Club has taken on several projects making landscaping improvements to Wills Park, Tilghman Lake Park, and other spots. With Tilghman Lake Park now open, a large attractive community amenity has added to La Plata's quality of life. Through grants the Town has improved recreation amenities, and added new features to the Town.

With the hiring of a Special Events Coordinator, the Town has grown its Special Events. This includes a longer summer concert schedule, summer children's programs, and fun new activities at many of La Plata's traditional events. The community has participated with getting neighborhoods together by utilizing Neighborhood event mini grants, and the new National Night Out mini grants. The La Plata Police have even held some small

neighborhood block parties to engage directly with residents in a positive environment to promote community policing.

There are so many large and small things that have been done over the past several years to benefit all of La Plata. Participation from residents, businesses, and partner organizations have really made a great impact on improving many aspects of the quality of life in La Plata. The work is ongoing, and the Town is always here to do its part, and encourage participation throughout the community. Thank you to everyone who contributes to making La Plata a great place to live. Your efforts are noticed by those who live here, work here, and visit our community.

LA PLATA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

In June, the La Plata Community foundation awarded \$2,000 to Charles County Citizens for Substance Free Youth also known as "Project Graduation". The funds were used to help provide a safe drug and alcohol free environment for seniors on graduation night. The event held at the College of Southern Maryland provides food, games, entertainment, and prize giveaways.

TOWN OF LA PLATA

305 Queen Anne Street
P. O. Box 2268
La Plata, Maryland 20646-2268

PRESORTED
FIRST CLASS MAIL
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
WALDORF, MD
PERMIT NO. 10131



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

Fall Festival

Food & Craft
Vendors



Pedal Cars



Moon
bounces



Sunday, October
9th
12 PM to 3 PM
La Plata Town

Live Music



Petting Zoo



Face
painting

For more information on the Fall Festival please contact Special Events Coordinator, Colleen Wilson at 301-934-8421 ext. 142 or cwilson@townoflaplata.org.