

TOWN NOTES

News from La Plata Town Hall



MAYOR'S CORNER

HAPPY SUMMER LA PLATA! May 8th marked one year since we took office and what a year it has been! We hit the ground running and haven't slowed down since. One of our main goals the first year in office was to improve communication, collaboration and relationships with the businesses, residents, and elected officials. In the past year, I have attended over 330 events, meetings and/or conferences. Whether it's speaking in Annapolis to our Senator and Delegates on the importance of restoring our Highway User Revenue or attending local HOA meetings and events, I welcome any opportunity to interact with our officials and residents. My door is always open at Town Hall. I believe the quickest way to succeed is through a strong partnership and welcome your input.

Our Town is steadily attracting new businesses. Since May 2017 we have seen nearly 20 small businesses, restaurants, retail stores, and healthcare services open their doors to our residents and call La Plata home. From the new University of Maryland Charles Regional Medical Center's state-of-the-art Imaging Center to AR Workshop's DIY boutique, each business, big or small, plays a fundamental role in shaping the future of our Town. Revitalizing and redeveloping the downtown area continues to be a priority so that we offer the services and amenities our residents deserve.

Continued on page 3

Hope Night

Chief Carl Schinner and Captain Christopher Becker were honored to join La Plata Mayor Jeannine James, Charles County NAACP President Janice Wilson, La Plata Councilman Brent Finagin, and Pastor Garrett Conner at La Plata Baptist Church's Hope Night. The stories shared by our community members at Hope Night were inspirational.



Facilities Tour



On April 28, before the Celebrate La Plata event the Town Council, members of the La Plata Planning Commission, planning staff and administration staff toured some of the Town's facilities with our Director of Operations as our Tour Guide.

The tour was intended to provide attendees with an inside look into our daily operations.



TownofLaPlata



LaPlataPD

COUNCIL COLUMN

Councilman Matthew Simpson, Ward I

For the past year, it has been an exciting time as this Council has acclimated to an ever changing environment. While the past few months have been spent searching for a new Town Manager and Town Treasurer, we have not stopped moving forward through the budget process and several important matters.

The Zoning Code Update is set to be enacted by August of this year. Please keep an eye out for the public hearing dates for your chance to speak on the update before we vote on the measure. In the same arena, the 10 Year Comprehensive Plan Update will begin with a kick-off meeting June 2, at Town Hall. Join us in the process so that your input can be included as we shape the future of La Plata for the next few decades.

Important matters regarding the Stage Coach/Southwest Quadrant annexation and the installation of water and sewer infrastructure to that area will be on the Council's agenda for the next few months. We will also be dealing with the potential HUB Annexation Petition. This is a potential 400 acre area to be added to the Town which would be a mix of residential and commercial space, mostly of the office park variety.

As a reminder to all Town residents, please register all residential rentals with the Town. Yes, there is a fee and an inspection process that is good for two years, however it is vital that you participate. Any La Plata landlord who pursues a Failure to Pay Rent case against a tenant in the Courts, under the law, could be unsuccessful unless you have the Rental Registration number provided by the Town. This is the law when the property is located in a jurisdiction that has a rental registration system. The inspection and registration is meant to ensure that tragic accidents do not harm the community if they are avoidable, for the protection of both Landlord and Tenant.

Councilman Brent Finagin, Ward II

Happy Spring my fellow citizens! This month marks the one-year anniversary of our time in office, serving the people of the Town of La Plata. I cannot express how honored I continue to be to serve as your municipal representative and what a privilege it has been working with the exceptional Town Staff on a daily basis.

We have addressed many issues within this first year and many more issues are on the agenda for review and action in the upcoming months by the Mayor and Council. Our legislative priorities are, in large part, determined by the needs and priorities of our constituents, which is why your continued involvement and input are critical to our continued success.

It was great to see so many familiar, as well as new, faces at our recent Celebrate La Plata event this past month. Please be sure to check out the Town's official calendar for information on the many events we will be hosting throughout the summer and fall, including our 4th of July Watermelon Bash, Kids' Summer Shows, National Night Out, and our Summer Concerts. I hope to see everyone at one or more of our upcoming events!

As always, I am available to answer any questions you may have and/or address

any issues for which the Town of La Plata may be able to provide assistance. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you believe that I may be of assistance to you. Since this is our last newsletter before the start of the summer holiday, I also want to wish everyone a relaxing and enjoyable summer and safe travels to all on their summer vacations.

Councilwoman Emily Mudd Hendricks, Ward III

It has been a busy and productive first year for the Council! We have worked hard to prioritize goals and lay the groundwork for future projects. I am proud of what has been accomplished so far.

Earlier this year we facilitated La Plata's participation in the Main Street Affiliate Program and restructured the Historic Preservation Commission. We reviewed proposals related to land use and development, amended ordinances and appointed a new Farmers Market Master. We also worked with the Town's staff to upgrade equipment to increase efficiency in services and improve safety.

Serving on town council has given me opportunities to hear from residents about important issues and work collaboratively to find solutions. I'm excited to start year two and, as always, I look forward to hearing from you and seeing you around town!

Town Hall Closed



The Town Hall will be closed on the following day:

**Wednesday, July 4, 2018
(Independence Day)**

If you have a **water or sewer emergency** after hours, call (301) 932-3870 and follow the instructions given to report your emergency. The automated response system will alert the appropriate department to respond to you.

MAYOR'S CORNER (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

Other notable actions taken during our first year in office include: balancing the budget without increasing property taxes; annexing property that has been on the books since 2012; working closely with the State Highway Administration to address the traffic problem in front of the Sonic restaurant; being named a Main Street Maryland Affiliate; hiring 4 new Police Officers; and, resurrecting the Historic Preservation Commission.

UPCOMING EVENTS: Friday, May 25th kicked off our Friday Night Summer Concert Series with Driving Muzzy. Bands scheduled to perform this summer include: Bobby McKey's Dueling Piano Show; Three Days of Rain; Trilogy; Bye Felicia; U.S. Air Force Band Max Impact; and U.S. Navy Band The Commodores to name a few. Concerts begin at 7:00 pm. Check out the complete list on our website, townofaplata.org, under Events.

Tuesday, June 26th is the first of 5 summer shows for our youth at Town Hall. Shows will be held outdoors on the West lawn where the Friday night concerts take place and are geared towards preschool and elementary age children. Attendees are encouraged to bring blankets and lawn chairs for sitting.

Wednesday, July 4th from 10:30 AM to 1:30 PM join us at Town Hall to celebrate the 4th of July with the Watermelon Bash. There will be hot dogs, water slides, and plenty of watermelon.

FARMER'S MARKET: The Farmer's Market is now OPEN FOR BUSINESS! Under the direction and supervision of our new Market Master, Kelly Phipps,

our Farmer's Market is thriving. Kelly has reached out to new vendors, created a fantastic new logo and is great at using social media to keep customers updated. Be sure to go on Facebook and like the La Plata Farmers Market and Crafts - to find out the latest information.

ARTWORK IN THE ATRIUM: Please stop by Town Hall and check out the talented work of Addison Likins. Addison has been a photographer for 45 years and his photographs have appeared in various newspapers and magazines over the years. You don't want to miss this great art display.

NEW TREASURER: The search for a new Treasurer has begun. After 9 years of hard work and dedication to our Town and residents, Bob Oliphant, has decided to retire. I wish him the best of luck on his well-deserved retirement.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my first year in office and am excited about the future of our wonderful Town! Thank you all for your continued support. *Alone we can do so little, together we can do so much.* Please feel free to call my office at (301) 934-8421 or send me an e-mail at jjames@townofaplata.org with any questions, suggestions or concerns. Your opinion matters!

NEW EMPLOYEES

New Police Officers

Frank Campbell



Frank Campbell attended the Prince George's Community College Police Academy in June of 2013. After completing the Police Academy in December of 2013, Frank began his career at Forest Heights police Department. Frank worked his way through the ranks leaving in 2018 as a Staff Sergeant. Frank transferred to the La Plata Police Department where he is currently employed.



John Piersa

John Piersa began his career as a military police officer for the United States Navy from 2006-2010. He performed the duties of a patrolman, small craft coxswain, field training officer and watch commander. After the military, he attended the Pennsylvania municipal police academy at Delaware County Community College. He became a sworn Police Officer for Easton, Pennsylvania from 2010-2012. John later became certified as a federal uniformed police officer and worked for the Department of Defense in Philadelphia and Mechanicsburg, PA from 2012-2016.

John attended Columbia College and received a Bachelor's of Arts in Criminal Justice Administration. His professional certifications include: DUI/DWI detection and field sobriety testing, Intoxilyzer 5000/8000 operation, bicycle patrol basic, HIDTA courtroom testimony, Narcan and Doppler radar operator basic.

TOWN OF LA PLATA OFFICIALS

Mayor: Jeannine E. James

Council:

Matthew Simpson Ward 1

Brent Finagin Ward 2

Emily Mudd Hendricks Ward 3

Paddy Mudd Ward 4

Interim Town Manager:

Danielle Mandley

Interim Treasurer: Karina Larsen

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

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@townofaplata.org

Website: www.townofaplata.org

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.

Water or Sewer After Hours Emergency

If you have a water or sewer emergency, call (301) 932-3870 for Public Works and follow the instructions given to report your emergency. The automated response system will alert staff to respond to you.

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 in the parking lot of the Department of Public Works



CHARLES COUNTY
**HOUSEHOLD
HAZARDOUS WASTE
COLLECTION**

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: Wednesday, July 4, 2018
Trash will be picked up on: Thursday, July 5, 2018

Recycling Collection: Recycling will be picked up on Thursday, July 5

Special Pick Up:

Monday, June 4
Monday, July 2

BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED

Commercial Building permits issued
3/13/2018-4/9/2018

Tenant fit-out – 102 Centennial Street
Garden center – 40 Shining Willow Way
Tenant fit-out – 5 North La Plata Court
Column repair – 6231 Crain Highway
Demolition – 207 St. Mary’s Avenue

Commercial Occupancy permits issued
3/2/2018-4/3/2018

Ohms & Watts Vaping
220 Rosewick Road
All Family Nail & Spa
80 Drury Drive
Sweetfrog
228 Rosewick Road

July 2018

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Special Pick up (please call by 4:00 p.m. 6/29) Yard Waste Pick Up		No Planning Commission Meeting	Farmers Market: 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Town Hall Closed No Trash pick up (will be picked up on 7/5) No Recycling (will be picked up on 7/5)  4th of July Watermelon Bash; 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.	Trash pickup from 7/4 Recycling pick up from 7/4	Yard Waste Pick Up	Farmers Market; 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Hazardous Waste Collection

8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Mayor and Council Work Session; 7:00 p.m. Yard Waste Pick Up		Crime Watch Council Meeting; 7:00 p.m. Planning Commission; 7:00 p.m. Kid's Show: Marsha and the Positrons; 10:00 a.m.	Farmers Market; 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting; 7:30 a.m. Design Review Board Meeting; 9:00 a.m.		 Beautification Commission Meeting; 10:00 a.m. Concert: U.S. Navy Band The Commodores; 7:00 p.m. Yard Waste Pick Up	 Farmers Market; 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Mayor and Council Work Session; 7:00 p.m. Yard Waste Pick Up			 Farmers Market; 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.		Bucket List Band; 7:00 p.m. Yard Waste Pick Up	 Farmers Market; 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	Yard Waste Pick Up		 Farmers Market; 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.		Concert: U.S. Naval Academy Band Superintendent's Combo Jazz; 7:00 p.m. Yard Waste Pick Up	 Farmers Market; 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

29	30	31	
Yard Waste Pick Up		Kid's Show: Storybook Tales by Bright Star Touring Theatre	

Planning Department Update

The Planning Department and the Planning Commission for the Town of La Plata will begin the process of updating the Town's Comprehensive Plan.

A meeting will be held on Saturday June 2, 2018 at 10:00 am at the Town Hall in order to provide citizens and stakeholders with an overview of the Town's planning process and explain how they can get involved in the Comprehensive Plan Update. The meeting will also give people a chance to provide comments on the 2009 Comprehensive Plan and provide initial input on the new vision and guiding principles. This initial input will be used to frame future committee engagement efforts and Planning Commission work sessions. Please visit the Town's Comprehensive Plan webpage, bit.ly/ToLPCompUpdate for more information.

If you are interested in receiving updates or if you would like to participate in the Comprehensive Plan review and update process, please contact the Planning Department by phone at 301-934-8421 or by email at jharrington@townofaplata.org.

Meet Your Market Master



April saw Kelly Phipps step in as Market Master of the La Plata's Farmers Market. With a lifetime of connections to the US military as both a child and an adult, Kelly understands well the importance of community service and the need to respect traditions while adapting to an ever-changing world. She looks forward to helping our local entrepreneurs pursue their dreams, promoting the area's agricultural heritage, and providing the community a space to meet, mingle, and connect.

MINI-GRANT

Home Video Security Camera Mini-Grant

The La Plata Police Department in partnership with the Town of La Plata is proud to offer a third round of Home Video Security Camera Mini Grant. The purpose of the mini-grant is to provide an opportunity for La Plata residents and small business owners to increase security in and around their homes.

The majority of criminal events in La Plata are theft related, oftentimes from vehicles and residents yards. Citizens who receive a mini-grant must be willing to share any images captured on their video system with the La Plata Police Department during official investigations. The ultimate goal of the Home Video Security Camera Mini-Grant is to give La Plata residents an extra measure of security in and around their homes and to deter criminal activity in the town's residential neighborhoods.

The Department invites local residents to submit an application for review by the La Plata Police Department's Crime Watch Council. There will a minimum of 20 grants awarded for \$250. Deadline to submit an application is August 11, 2018. Applications for the grant can be found on the Police Department section of the Town's website, or by calling 301-934-1500.



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.

PRIOR EVENTS

Ice Cream with the Easter Bunny

The Easter Bunny hopped into Town Hall for one last visit with the children on Monday April 2nd.



Councilman Simpson stopped by Town Hall on Monday, April 2 to visit with the Easter Bunny. He got to watch children making crafts and enjoy ice cream sundaes.

Neighborhood Event Grants



The Town of La Plata is pleased to announce we have awarded five \$500 grants for the Neighborhood Event Mini Grant to the following communities:

Hawthorne Greene • Villages of Steeplechase • Washington Square • Hickory Ridge • Edelen Station

Celebrate LA PLATA!

Spring finally arrived just in time for Celebrate La Plata on Saturday, April 28th. Over 50 craft, business and food vendors were on display with a variety of items for sale such as handcrafted jewelry, candles, decorations and delicious food.

Thank you to Coal Road CrossFit for sponsoring the Family Fitness Zone, Art Smart Studio for providing the art activities for the children and Miss Busy Bee provided free face painting.

Lots of free activities for the children to enjoy - pedal cars, moon bounce, turbo tubs ride and basketball toss on the east lawn. Joe Romano took the stage at 1 pm and wowed the children with his entertaining magic show.



The La Plata Bed Races wrapped up the event and teams bought their A team this year! Thanks to all the teams that participated in this year's Bed Races - 301 Derby Dames, Brian Klaas For Commissioner President, Catherine Foundation - Love Life, Chick-fil-A La Plata, Dave's Rockin' Road Hog Racers - Famous Dave's, Friends of David Hancock, La Plata HS Warriors Football, Our Place Waldorf, LLC., Sherry's Angels, Sky Zone Waldorf, Southern Maryland Roller Derby, St. Mary's Angels, #WaringIsCaring, and We Make Kids Smile, Unicorn Squad.

PRIOR EVENTS (CONTINUED)

2018 BED RACE WINNERS



1st Place Team – La Plata HS Warriors Football



La Plata HS Warriors Football VS Dave's Rockin' Hog Racers – Famous Dave's



2nd Place Team – Sherry's Angels



Catherine Foundation – Love Life VS Our Place Waldorf, LLC.



Best Decorated Team
We Make Kids Smile, Unicorn Squad



Best Decorated Bed
Southern Maryland Roller Derby



Golden Bed Pan
Chick-fil-A La Plata



Sherry's Angels VS 301 Derby Dames



Sky Zone Waldorf VS #WaringIsCaring



Chick-fil-A La Plata VS Brian Klaas for Commissioner President



Friends of David Hancock VS St. Mary's Angels

UPCOMING EVENTS



Friday June 1st: 7 PM to 9 PM
Bobby McKey's Dueling Piano Show

Friday June 8th: 7 PM to 9 PM
Three Days of Rain
Today's hits, 80s, Dance, Funk, Classic Rock & Country

Friday June 15th: 7 PM to 9 PM
Trilogy
Rock, Pop, Dance, Hip Hop & Country Covers with a twist

Friday June 22nd: 7 PM to 9 PM
Bye Felicia
The Ultimate Variety Band

Friday June 29th: 7 PM
U.S. Air Force Band Max Impact
Classic/Contemporary Rock & Country

Friday July 6th: 7 PM to 9 PM
Ryan Forrester Band
R&B, Funk, Soul & Rock

Friday July 13th: 7 PM
U.S. Navy Band The Commodores
Jazz

Friday July 20th: 7 PM to 9 PM
Bucket List
Classic & Modern Rock

Friday July 27th: 7 PM
U.S. Naval Academy Band Superintendent's Combo
Jazz

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.

4th of July

Celebrate the 4th of July at Town Hall!

Wednesday, July 4th
from 10:30 am to 1:30 pm

Join us for hot dogs, water slides, and
plenty of watermelon.



UPCOMING EVENTS (CONTINUED)

Kids' Summer Show Schedule

Tuesday, June 26th at 10 AM
Flash Max

Tuesday, July 10th at 10 AM
Marsha and the Positrons

Tuesday, July 31st at 10 AM
Storybook Tales by Bright Star Touring Theatre

Tuesday, August 14th at 10 AM
Rolie Polie Guacamole

Tuesday, August 21st at 10 AM
Sciencetellers

For more information about the shows please contact Colleen Wilson,
Special Events Coordinator at cwilson@townoflaplata.org or at 301-934-8421.

wallpapersgallery.blogspot.com

TO DO LIST

- Attend a Town Council meeting, consult the pull out calendar for dates and time
- Submit a Special Event Mini-Grant application
- Be in the know, sign up to be on the Town's Constant Contact email list
- Say hello to a La Plata Public Works employee
- Call the police for suspected illegal activity
- Set up your utility bill for automatic payment
- Contact Town Hall for a 95, 65, or 35 gallon wheeled recycling container
- Receive Electronic Meeting Agendas
- Help a neighbor in need
- Make your home more water efficient
- Pick up your pet's waste when walking them on a leash
- Visit <http://www.townoflaplata.org> for more information on all of these

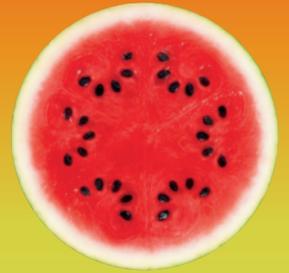
TOWN OF LA PLATA

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La Plata, Maryland 20646-2268



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

Summer Activities in La Plata



See Inside for Details!