

TOWN NOTES

News from La Plata Town Hall



MAYOR'S CORNER

HAPPY SPRING! I love this time of year. Spring is all about getting a fresh start. You can feel the excitement in the air. It's a time when the trees come back to life, the grass turns green, flowers begin to bloom, and our friends and neighbors come out of their winter hibernation. It's also the start of many of our town events.

CELEBRATE LA PLATA: Saturday, April 27th we will be holding our 17th annual Celebrate La Plata Day. We have a special treat the year - the Historic Preservation Committee will be hosting a walking tour of some of our most treasured sites. There will also be live music; the Bed Races; and many craft and food vendors. This is a Family Fun event for all to enjoy!

The La Plata Business Association will also be hosting their Annual Shop La Plata Spring Celebration Event in the Downtown District of La Plata on April 27th. This is a wonderful opportunity for you to enjoy a little Spring shopping while supporting some of our local businesses!

SUMMER CONCERTS: What a line up we have for you this year! Beginning at 7:00 pm on Friday, May 24th, Backfin will kick off our summer concert series with a night filled with classic rock, soul, country, blues and funk! In addition to our beloved military bands, we will be entertained by Bobby McKey's Dueling Piano Show; Trilogy and Sam Grow – just

Continued on page 2

La Plata Police Department (LPPD) Explorer Program



Are you interested in police science? Maybe you want to be a future crime scene investigator or a detective. Last night LPPD's explorers went hands on, learning how to process latent fingerprints.

Law Enforcement Exploring, a part of the Boy Scouts, is a hands-on program open to young men and women who have completed the 8th grade through 20 years of age, interested in a law enforcement or a related field in the criminal justice system.

The program offers young adults a personal awareness of the criminal justice system through training, practical experiences, competition and other activities. Additionally, the program promotes personal growth through character development, respect for the rule of law, physical fitness, good citizenship and patriotism.

If your young adult has interest in becoming an explorer, please contact Sergeant Jason Posey at 301-934-1500.



TownofLaPlata



LaPlataPD

MAYOR'S CORNER (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

to name a few! Check out the full schedule on our website: townofaplata.org.

FARMER'S MARKET: Opening Day for the Farmer's Market is SATURDAY, APRIL 6th. Under the direction and supervision of Market Master, Kelly Phipps, our Farmer's Market has grown and is doing better than ever. In addition to our favorite vendors, this year we will see some new faces. The Farmer's Market is open on Wednesdays and Saturdays and is a great way to support your local farmers, crafters, vendors and community.

NEW ARTWORK IN THE ATRIUM: Back again, by popular demand, the talented works of Addison Likins fill the walls of our Atrium. Addison has been a photographer for 45 years and his photographs have appeared in various newspapers and magazines over the years. He is a James Madison University graduate who studied photography and film making at the

University of Virginia. Addison has worked as a journalist, English and Journalism teacher, Exhibit and technical designer, and government analyst. When you have a chance, please stop by Town Hall and visit our very own art gallery.

LA PLATA BUSINESS ANNIVERSARIES: The following business is celebrating a milestone anniversary in La Plata:

CHILDREN'S LEARNING TREE – On March 1, 2004; Director Attie Ward opened the doors to Children's Learning Tree (CLT) right in the heart of La Plata. Located at 13 N. Maple Avenue, CLT is known for its caring, nurturing staff. Attie and her team believe that every child should have the ability to be a child. Each well-planned activity, whether it's Spanish lessons, music instructions or gymnastics classes, is structured to help kids enjoy being kids. If you would like to find out more about CLT, please visit their website.

Congratulations and Happy Anniversary **Children's Learning Tree!** We wish you many, many more years of success.

If you would like us to share a special business anniversary with our residents, please send me an email at jjames@townofaplata.org.

VOLUNTEER: Your Town Council and Staff continue to work hard to make La Plata the premiere place to dine, shop and live! We would love for you to become part of this journey. We are currently looking for volunteers for our newly formed Main Street Maryland Program and our Keep La Plata Beautiful Committee. Please contact Town Hall at (301) 934- 8421 or send me an e-mail at jjames@townofaplata.org if you are interested in being part of our growing Team. *Alone we can do so little, together we can do so much.*

Have a great Spring and I hope to see you at one of our many events!

COUNCIL COLUMN

Councilwoman Emily Mudd Hendricks, Ward III

With warm weather on the way Ward 3 can expect the long-awaited repairs and paving to begin at Patuxent Court. I want to thank the residents of Patuxent Court who attended the public hearing in January—your questions and thoughtful comments were appreciated.

National Library week is April 7-13. I will celebrate this week at an event at Charles County's La Plata Branch with library staff and members of the community. More details about the event will be announced soon.

The Parks and Recreation Commission meets once a month to consider project proposals and activities to enhance our community. If you have any suggestions for La Plata's Parks and Recreation Commission please feel free to contact me at emuddhendricks@townofaplata.org.

I look forward to serving La Plata in 2019 and wish you a prosperous new year!

Councilwoman Paddy Mudd, Ward IV

On Saturday April 27th we will again CELEBRATE LA PLATA's renewal after our devastating losses 17 years ago in the tornado on Sunday, April 28th 2002. We invite you all to come out and enjoy the vendors/activities at the Town Hall culminating with the Bed Races at 3PM, our Farmers Market at the Courthouse parking lot and La Plata Business Association's Spring Shop Small Business Day with shops and restaurants open for your enjoyment.

Our Historic Preservation Commission has planned to have three historic buildings and our Star Memorial Garden open for you to visit as you walk around Town on that day.

1. La Plata Train Station

The Baltimore and Potomac railroad scheduled a stop at La Plata Station and built a warehouse/passenger room in 1873. The Town grew up around it and La Plata was incorporated on April 4, 1888. The Charles County Courthouse was moved to La Plata and dedicated in 1896 making our "railroad town" the Charles County seat.

2. Christ Church

Christ Episcopal Church Port Tobacco Parish was established in 1692. It was

dismantled and moved stone-by-stone by oxcart to its location by the Courthouse in La Plata in 1904. Note the narthex windows and pipe organ as you visit this site.

3. The Port Tobacco Players Theater

The Port Tobacco Players community theater group began in 1948 and performed for many years in schools and other venues around Charles County. In 1974 they moved to their permanent home - the old town movie theater on Charles Street. The engraved brick paving stones at the theater's entrance were added in 2018 to commemorate loved ones on the Players' 70th anniversary.

4. Star Memorial Garden

The Star Memorial Garden was dedicated in 2007 as a memorial to the 5 people who were killed in the 2001 tornado. A new star was erected to replace the 1949 one on the water tower that was destroyed. This garden is maintained by the La Plata Garden Club.

I hope you will come out and enjoy your Town for Celebrate La Plata and often. Our Friday concerts begin on May 24th. See schedule for other Town events. I would love to hear from you. pmudd@townofaplata.org, 301 934-8421.

TESTING OF EARLY WARNING DEVICES/SIRENS



The Town of La Plata will test early warning devices/sirens on **May 4, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.** Testing is done twice per year in early May and early December. The testing lasts about a half hour. The tests consist of both siren alerts and audible notifications. The tests are conducted in conjunction with the Charles County 911 Communications Center, which controls and operates the system for the Town.

The devices 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

Emergency Management Officials remind you that in the event of a real emergency to stay tuned to local radio stations for more information, to have emergency supplies on hand - including a radio which can be operated during a power outage, and to know where the safe haven is in your home. It is everyone's responsibility to plan for an emergency.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS – TOWN OF LA PLATA BUDGET

Calendar of events for the preparation and adoption of the Town of La Plata Budget for Fiscal Year 2020.

DATE	EVENT
Saturday, January 26, 2019	Council/Staff Budget Retreat.
Thursday, February 14, 2019	Budget worksheets issued to Department Directors.
Friday, March 8, 2019	Deadline for all Department Directors to submit FY 2020 budget worksheets to Town Manager.
Monday, March 11, 2019– Friday, March 22, 2019	Town Manager and Town Treasurer meet with Department Directors to align their budgets with service priorities and available resources.
Friday, March 29, 2019	Town Manager transmits Proposed Budget FY 2020 to the Council.
Wednesday, April 3, 2019	Publication of notice of public hearing on Constant Yield Tax Rate tentatively scheduled for April 22, 2018.
Monday, April 8, 2019	Work Session: Budget discussion focusing on Operating Funds.
Monday, April 15, 2019	Work Session: Budget discussion focusing on Enterprise Funds.
Monday, April 22, 2019	Public Hearing and Public Comment on Constant Yield Tax.
Monday, May 13, 2019	Work Session: Discussion of fee schedule and introduction of Ordinance for FY 2020 Tax Rates.
Monday, May 20, 2019	Special Meeting: 1. Introduction of Ordinance adopting the FY 2020 Fee Schedule. 2. Introduction of Ordinance adopting the FY 2020 Financial Plan Budget. 3. Public Hearing and Public Comment on FY 2020 Fee Schedule. 4. Public Hearing and Public Comment on FY 2020 Financial Plan Budget.
Tuesday, May 28, 2019	Business Meeting: Adoption of FY 2020 Fee Schedule, Tax Rates and Financial Plan Budget.

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

Town Manager: Brent Manuel

Treasurer: Kevin Greenville

Assistant Town Manager:

Michelle D. Miner

Town Clerk: Danielle Mandley

Police Chief: Carl H. Schinner

Director of Planning: Jeanine Harrington

Director of Operations: Robert F. Stahl, Jr.

Director of Public Works:

Jeffrey S. Garner

305 Queen Anne Street,
La Plata, Maryland 20646

Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.

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

La Plata Police Department: (301) 934-1500

Email: mminer@townoflaplata.org

Website: www.townoflaplata.org

Town Hall Closed

The Town Hall will be closed on the following days:

**Friday, April 19, 2019
(Good Friday)**

No Trash pick up (pick up 4/18/19)

No Yard Waste pick up

**Monday, May 27, 2019
(Memorial Day)**

No Trash pick up (pick up 5/28/19)

No Yard Waste pick up

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 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 Charles 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.



CHARLES COUNTY
HOUSEHOLD
HAZARDOUS WASTE
COLLECTION

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.

Commercial Recycling

Many of our La Plata businesses have asked for commercial recycling and now we are happy to announce that the Town of La Plata now provides recycling to our commercial customers.



Applications are available on the Town's web site at https://townoflaplata.org/.../Commercial_Recycling_Application... Locations will be inspected to determine that there is reasonable access.

Please contact Mary Trollinger at 301-934-8421 or email at mtrollinger@townoflaplata.org with any inquiries.

Trash Collection Schedule Adjustment

If your regular trash collection day is:

Friday, April 19, 2019
Monday, May 27, 2019

Trash will be picked up on:

Thursday, April 18, 2019
Tuesday, May 28, 2019

Recycling Collection:

Recycling for Wednesday, May 29, 2019 will be picked up as scheduled

Yard Waste Pick Up Schedule Adjustment

There will be no Yard Waste pick up on:
Friday, April 19, 2019 and Monday, May 27, 2019

Special Pick Up:

Monday, April 1, 2019
Monday, May 6, 2019
Monday, June 3, 2019

From the Desk of the Chief

Wire Fraud is on the Rise. U.S. consumers lose millions of dollars each year to fraudsters using wire transfers as part of their scams. Any of the following “red flags” should signal a scam:

- You are asked to wire money.
- You are sent a check in connection with a payment request. Con artists often win their victims’ confidence by sending a fake check for more than the amount of purchase or to cover so-called processing fees, shipping costs or other expenses. It may be a cashier’s check, personal check or money order. They instruct the victim to cash the check or money order and send them a portion of the money by wire.
- The contact indicates a confirmation code or money transfer control number (MTCN) is needed before your money can be withdrawn. This is a blatant lie. Once you wire money, it can be picked up immediately.
- A caller or email appears to originate from overseas. The email message may be full of typing errors.
- The person communicates via TTY service. TTY is used by the hearing impaired. Cons prefer the service because it makes calls untraceable. Follow-up correspondence is by email.

Types of Scams

- **Classified ad purchases – fake buyers:** Swindlers browse online classifieds, auto sales journals and newspapers for potential victims. They contact those advertising cars, electronics or just about anything of value, pretending to be an interested buyer. Payment arrives as a counterfeit check – often for more than the sale price. You are instructed to wire the extra amount to a third party or reimburse the difference. Typically, con artist claim the wired money is payment for an intermediary to ship the item. Other times, they may send a check for the correct amount, then back out of the deal and ask for a refund.

How to protect yourself: Deal with local buyers. Only accept payment for the actual purchase price. When possible, accept only cash. If you accept a check, ask for one drawn on a local bank that you can visit to determine conclusively that the check is good. Don’t relinquish your car or other valuables until the issuing bank (the one listed on the check) has verified that the check has cleared.

- **Classified ad purchases – fake sellers:** Con Artist post bogus advertisements for cars or other high-ticket items then ask for payment via wire transfer. Other times, they may suggest use of a phony escrow company.

How to protect yourself: Deal with local sellers. Question any seller who insists on using a particular form of payment and refuse requests to wire money.

- **Fake lotteries and sweepstakes:** You receive a certificate indicating you’ve won a big prize and a check. You’re told to keep some of the money and send a wire transfer to cover a “processing fee” or vague taxes. Once the money is wired, the victim never sees their prize. You can’t legally play a foreign lottery in the United States, so those pitches are always scams.

How to protect yourself: Never pay or send money to anyone who claims you won a prize.

- **“Relatives” in need of help:** You receive a desperate phone call, email or even an instant message from someone posing as a grandchild or a friend. He was arrested overseas. She was mugged. Please send money right away. Except it’s not who you think – it’s a con artist.

How to protect yourself: Call the friend or relative claiming to need your help to confirm whether the story is true, using a phone number you know to be genuine. If you aren’t able to contact the person, call other friends or family members to confirm the situation. Refuse to send money via wire transfer.

- **Expensive food orders:** The con artist (or possibly a ring of con artists) uses a stolen credit card to pay for a wedding cake or large catering order then instructs the business to wire money to a company that will pick up and delivery the food.

- **Advance-fee loans:** After submitting a loan application, you are asked to wire processing payments to a lender. Once you wire the money, you never receive the loan. In addition, the crooks have your bank account information and may rob your account.

How to protect yourself: Don’t pay for the promise of mere loan or credit approval. Legitimate lenders may charge application, appraisal, or credit report fees, but these are paid after the loan is approved and generally are paid out of the proceeds of the loan.

- **Secret shopper jobs:** After responding to a “help wanted” ad to work as secret shopper, your first assignment is to wire money. You are sent a phony check with instructions to keep some for payment for your work and wire the rest.

How to protect yourself: Never accept a mystery shopping job that requires a wire transfer or one that requires that you pay money or use your own bank account. Also, be skeptical of mystery shopping promoters who guarantee a job, charge a fee, sell directories of companies that provide mystery shoppers, or advertise in a “help wanted” section or by email.

- **Work at home schemes:** Consumers are offered part-time jobs as “international relayers.” Their task is to deposit checks into their personal bank accounts, keep a small percentage as a commission, and relay the rest by wire transfer to their new employer. The checks are often worthless. Other times, they are written by victims who purchased merchandise from an online auction but never got the goods. These same thieves, now armed with your banking information, can use the numbers to create a demand draft to make an unauthorized debit from your account.

How to protect yourself: Avoid job listings that use the terms “money transfers,” “wiring funds,” and “foreign agent agreements.” Never forward or transfer money from any of your personal accounts on behalf of an employer. If a legitimate job requires you to make money transfers, the money should be withdrawn from the employer’s business account. Never provide your bank account information until you are hired, and then only to a legitimate employer if you choose to have your paycheck deposited electronically.

The above information was provided the State of Washington Office of the Attorney General. We ask that you share this information with friends, co-workers, and family.

See you on the road!
Chief Carl Schinner



Passing of former La Plata Police Chief Samuel Sherwell



Chief Sherwell served the citizens of La Plata from September 1993 through August 1999. Prior to serving in La Plata, Chief Sherwell served as a Maryland State Trooper. He also served as security officer at the Charles County Court House.

Chief Sherwell served his nation in the US Armed Forces and as a UN Peace Keeper in Kosovo. The men and women of LPPD

send their thoughts and prayers to Chief Sherwell's family and friends as they mourn the loss of a great public servant.

La Plata Police Department CRIME PREVENTION THEFT PREVENTION TIPS



Maria Gonzalez Retires from Police Department



The Town of La Plata wishes Mrs. Maria Gonzalez a very happy retirement. Maria was born in San Juan, Puerto Rico. She began working for the La Plata Police Department as the agency's Administrative Assistant on August 31, 1998. She retired on February 28, 2019, with over twenty years of service.

TOWN OF LA PLATA FARMERS MARKET

For 40 years, the Town of La Plata Farmers Market has brought in vendors from all over Southern Maryland to provide you with high-quality local products.

The market operates from the first Saturday of April through the Saturday immediately after Thanksgiving, so you can enjoy the freshest seasonal produce throughout the peak growing season and even have it on your Thanksgiving table.

The 2019 market season runs April 6–November 30.

Where and When is the Farmers Market?

The La Plata Farmers Market is open from 8 a.m.–5 p.m. on Wednesdays and 8 a.m.–3 p.m. on Saturdays.

The market is located behind the Charles County Courthouse in the parking lot on the north side of Talbot St. on Wednesdays and in the parking lot on the south side of Talbot St. on Saturdays.

What is sold at the Market?

The Farmers Market vendors sell a wide variety of goods, from fresh fruits, vegetables, and home-baked goods, to jams, jellies, pickled vegetables, local spirits, and home-made crafts and beauty products. The market also features food trucks, many of which come with a large fan base.

How can I learn more about the Market?

If you need more information about the La Plata Farmer's Market, visit the La Plata Farmers Market webpage (townoflaplata.org/farmersmarket) or Facebook page (facebook.com/laplatafarmersmarket). If you can't find the information you need, please contact Kelly Phipps at lpmdmarketmaster@gmail.com.

We look forward to seeing you at the market!



APRIL 2019

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

1
Yard Waste Pick Up
Special Pick Up, please
call by 3/29

2
Planning Commission
Meeting; 7:00 pm

3
Arbor Day Celebration
10:00 am to noon

4
Yard Waste Pick Up

5
Farmers Market Opens;
8:00 am to 3:00 pm
Household Hazardous
Waste Collection

7

8
Yard Waste Pick Up
Town Council Work
Session; 6:00 pm

9
Crime Watch Council
Meeting; 7:00 pm

10
Farmers Market;
8:00 am to 5:00 pm
Parks and Recreation
Commission Meeting;
7:30 am
Design Review Board
Meeting; 9:00 am

11
Yard Waste
Pick Up
Beautification
Commission
Meeting; 10:00 am

12
Farmers Market;
8:00 am to 3:00 pm

14

15
Yard Waste Pick Up
Town Council Work
Session; 6:00 pm

16

17
Farmers Market;
8:00 am to 5:00 pm

18
Town Hall Closed -
Good Friday
No Yard Waste Pick Up
Trash Pick Up 4/18/19

19
Farmers Market;
8:00 am to 3:00 pm

20



21
Yard Waste Pick Up
Town Council Business
Meeting; 7:00 pm
Earth Day

22

23

24
Farmers Market;
8:00 am to 5:00 pm

25
Yard Waste Pick Up

26
Celebrate
LA PLATA!
12:00 to 4:00 pm
LPBA Spring Shop
La Plata
Farmers Market;
8:00 am to 3:00 pm

27



28

29
Yard Waste Pick Up

30



\$500 Beautification Grant
Do you know of an area around Town that could use some improvement? Have you ever thought about holding a community cleanup? We are here to help you bring your idea to life. Consider applying for a 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.townofaplata.org, or you may get them directly from Danielle Mandley at (301) 934 - 8421 or dmandley@townofaplata.org. Grant applications will be reviewed by La Plata's Beautification Commission following the next application deadline, May 2019, 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"

MAY 2019

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
Yard Waste Pick Up Special Pick Up, please call by 5/3/19	Yard Waste Pick Up	Planning Commission Meeting: 7:00 pm	Farmers Market; 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting; 7:30 am Design Review Board Meeting: 9:00 am	Yard Waste Pick Up Beaufication Commission Meeting; 10:00 am	Yard Waste Pick Up	Farmers Market; 8:00 am to 3:00 pm	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
Mother's Day 	Yard Waste Pick Up Town Council Work Session; 6:00 pm	Crime Watch Council Meeting: 7:00 pm	 Farmers Market; 8:00 am to 5:00 pm	Yard Waste Pick Up	Yard Waste Pick Up Splash Pad Open Concert: "Backfin"; 7:00 pm	Farmers Market; 8:00 am to 3:00 pm	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
Yard Waste Pick Up Town Council Work Session; 6:00 pm	Yard Waste Pick Up	Farmers Market; 8:00 am to 5:00 pm	 Farmers Market; 8:00 am to 5:00 pm	Yard Waste Pick Up	Yard Waste Pick Up	Farmers Market; 8:00 am to 3:00 pm	
26	27	28	29	30	31		
Memorial Day  Town Hall closed No Trash Pick Up; Pick Up 5/28 No Yard Waste Pick Up	Town Council Business Meeting; 7:00 pm Trash Pick Up for 5/27	Farmers Market; 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Recycling as scheduled	 Memorial Day Ceremony at American Legion Post 82; 11:00 am	Yard Waste Pick Up Bobby Mc Key's Dueling Piano show; 7:00 pm			

JUNE 2019

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

							 Farmers Market; 8:00 am to 3:00 pm Household Hazardous Waste Collection
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2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Yard Waste Pick Up Special Pick Up, please call by 5/31	Yard Waste Pick Up	Planning Commission Meeting; 7:00 pm	 Farmers Market; 8:00 am to 5:00 pm	 Farmers Market; 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting; 7:30 am	Yard Waste Pick Up Concert: "Pork Donut"; 7:00 pm	 Farmers Market; 8:00 am to 3:00 pm

9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Yard Waste Pick Up Town Council Work Session; 6:00 pm	Yard Waste Pick Up	Crime Watch Council Meeting; 7:00 pm	 Design Review Board Meeting; 9:00 am	Yard Waste Pick Up	Concert: "Trilogy" Flag Day  National Night Out mini grant applications due	 Farmers Market; 8:00 am to 3:00 pm

16	17	18	19	20	21	22
 Father's Day	Yard Waste Pick Up	Kid's Summer Show "Blue Sky Puppet"; 10:00 am	 Farmers Market; 8:00 am to 5:00 pm	Yard Waste Pick Up	Concert: "U.S. Navy Band – The Sea Chanters"; 7:00 pm First day of summer	 Farmers Market; 8:00 am to 3:00 pm

23/30	24	25	26	27	28	29
Yard Waste Pick Up	Yard Waste Pick Up	 Farmers Market; 8:00 am to 5:00 pm	 Farmers Market; 8:00 am to 5:00 pm	Yard Waste	Concert: "The Bradley Turner Band"; 7:00 pm	 Farmers Market; 8:00 am to 3:00 pm

2019 COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

Council of the Town of La Plata 2019 Meeting Schedule

Work Sessions are scheduled for 6:00 PM and Business Meetings are scheduled for 7:00 PM, unless otherwise stated.
Additional meetings may be scheduled as needed.

JANUARY – Alternate Schedule

Work Sessions	Monday, January 7, 2019 Monday, January 14, 2019
Business Meeting	Monday, January 28, 2019

MARCH

Work Sessions	Monday, March 11, 2019 Monday, March 18, 2019
Business Meeting	Monday, March 25, 2019

MAY – Alternate Schedule

Work Sessions	Monday, May 13, 2019 Monday, May 20, 2019
Business Meeting	Tuesday, May 28, 2019

JULY

Work Sessions	Monday, July 8, 2019 Monday, July 15, 2019
Business Meeting	Monday, July 22, 2019

SEPTEMBER

Work Sessions	Monday, September 9, 2019 Monday, September 16, 2019
Business Meeting	Monday, September 23, 2019

NOVEMBER – Alternate Schedule

Work Sessions	Tuesday, November 12, 2019 Monday, November 18, 2019
Business Meeting	Monday, November 25, 2019

FEBRUARY – Alternate Schedule

Work Sessions	Monday, February 11, 2019 Tuesday, February 19, 2019
Business Meeting	Monday, February 25, 2019

APRIL

Work Sessions	Monday, April 8, 2019 Monday, April 15, 2019
Business Meeting	Monday, April 22, 2019

JUNE – Alternate Schedule

Work Session	Monday, June 10, 2019
Business Meeting	Monday, June 17, 2019
MML Conference	June 23 to June 26, 2019

AUGUST

Work Sessions	Monday, August 12, 2019 Monday, August 19, 2019
Business Meeting	Monday, August 26, 2019

OCTOBER

Work Sessions	Monday, October 14, 2019 Monday, October 21, 2019
Business Meeting	Monday, October 28, 2019

DECEMBER – Alternate Schedule

Work Sessions	Monday, December 9, 2019 Monday, December 16, 2019
Business Meeting	Monday, December 16, 2019

Work Sessions are the second and third Monday of each month and Business Meetings are the fourth Monday of each month, unless rescheduled or cancelled. Special Meetings and Closed Sessions may be scheduled as needed. When a meeting would fall on a scheduled holiday an alternate schedule has been adopted.

Agendas are published online and can be viewed on the Town's Civic Web portal at <https://laplata.civicweb.net/Portal/>, and are subject to change. Printed copies are available upon request, by contacting the Town Clerk, Danielle Mandley via phone as listed below or email at dmandley@townofaplata.org.

TREE-MENDOUS Maryland

"Helping Maryland Plant Trees on Public Lands Since 1989."

Spring 2019 Tree-Mendous Order Forms are now being accepted!

Program Summary

TREE-MENDOUS MARYLAND, a program of the Maryland Forest Service, remains one of our most popular programs aimed at helping citizens restore tree cover on public land and community open space in Maryland. To date, we have assisted more than 3,000 towns and communities, parks, and schools planting trees and shrubs to help clean the water, clean the air, and keep our towns and cities inviting, livable, and environmentally viable places to live.

Tree-mendous Maryland's goal is to help Maryland residents have access to affordable trees to plant on their public lands. With permission from land owners, volunteers can plant trees at schools, in state and community parks, local open space, street trees and more. Gather your friends, scout troop or classmates and plant a tree today to clean your air, clean your water and beautify your home town!

Please visit <http://dnr.maryland.gov/forests/Pages/treemendous/default.aspx> for more information.

Director of Planning Appointment



Jeanine Harrington, AICP, has been promoted to the position of Director of Planning for the Town of La Plata, Ms. Harrington has been employed with the Town for four years as the Senior Planner. In her new role as Director, Ms. Harrington will be responsible for the overall operation of the Planning Department. The Director provides responsible and complex leadership to demonstrate communication, problem solving, and coordination of municipal planning, inspections, engineering, and enforcement tasks with multi-department cooperation. The position is responsible for research and evaluation as part of strategic planning and will represent the Town to other agencies and organizations to develop partnerships to further the Comprehensive Plan and related planning policy documents. "It is with great pleasure that we announce the promotion of Jeanine Harrington to the position of Planning Director," Town Manager Brent Manuel said. "Jeanine has proven herself to be a valuable member of the town staff, and we look forward to her continuing with the town in the director position."

Ms. Harrington was raised in St. Mary's County and is a graduate of Frostburg State University with a Bachelor's Degree in Urban and Regional Planning. In December of 2017, she became a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP). "I am grateful for this opportunity and I offer my commitment to improve the services we provide to the Town's residents and business community."

Planning Department Updates

In our continuing effort to best serve the residents and business owners of the Town, the Planning Department has updated our forms, applications, checklists and created FAQ guides. All of our forms and applications can be found on the Town's website as well as at the front desk. We also have a new Planning Department Facebook page to provide the community with updates and Town News.

The Planning Department would like to remind homeowners that if you live in a community with a Homeowners Association (HOA), approvals may be required by the HOA for certain home improvements. The Town has prepared a new building permit checklist to help homeowners understand what documentation and/or any separate approvals may be required along with the building permit review. Every association has a different set of rules and policies detailed in the association's governing documents. If you are submitting a building permit to the Town, I encourage you to contact your HOA representative and ask them to highlight and explain the specific language that outlines any required approvals, as well as the review process. Your HOA representative should be able to provide excellent guidance to walk you through the process. It is also important to note that after a homeowner submits a completed application, most associations have a review period to reach a formal decision, so please plan accordingly and give yourself sufficient time for the review process before you jump into that next home-improvement project. Communities that may have an HOA include, but are not limited to:

1. Agricopia
2. Kent Square
3. Charleston Terrace
4. Kings Grant
5. Clarks Run II
6. Martin's Crossing
7. Dorchester
8. Quailwood
9. Edelen Station
10. St. Mary's Villas
11. Hawthorne Greene
12. Steeplechase
13. Hickory Ridge
14. Washington Square
15. Jamestowne
16. Willow Woods

As always, the Planning Department is available to assist with any additional questions or concerns you may have at (301) 934-8811 or by email at jharrington@townoflaplata.org

Comprehensive Plan Update

The Planning Department and the Planning Commission for the Town of La Plata are in the process of updating the Town's Comprehensive Plan. To date, the Town has held a kick-off meeting and four listening sessions to obtain feedback from the public. If you missed any of the previous meetings, please visit the Town's Comprehensive Plan webpage at bit.ly/ToLPCompUpdate where you can review the meeting results and participate in all of the activities.

The Town of La Plata recently invited proposals for professional consulting services to update the Town's Comprehensive Plan. Sabra & Associates has been selected as the consultant for the Town of La Plata Comprehensive Plan update. The next step will be to start scheduling public forums and steering committee meetings. The Town will be posting regular updates on our website as well as our new Planning Department Facebook Page.

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@townoflaplata.org.

Partnership with Service Line Warranties of America

The Town of La Plata is excited to announce a partnership with Service Line Warranties of America (SLWA) to help eligible homeowners be prepared and have the best possible service in case of a water service or sewer line emergency. Exterior sewer and water line laterals between the mainlines and the connection on residential private property are owned by individual residential property owners residing in the Town. If residents suffer a leak, break or clog in these lines it would be up to the individuals to find a service company and get the lines repaired. SLWA offers optional coverage to take care of the covered repair by dispatching a qualified technician to your home and paying the bill directly. For pricing and coverage details please contact SLWA directly toll-free at 1-844-257-8795, available Monday through Friday 8AM to 8PM and Saturday 10AM to 4PM eastern standard time. Additionally, SLWA will be sending out a direct mailer to eligible residents this Spring with more information.

LA PLATA GARDEN CLUB

The La Plata Garden Club presents Garden Design with “The Garden Guru,” Kent Russell from Bucks County, PA. Kent served as “The Garden Guru” on PBS and is listed as a preferred speaker by The Garden Club of America. Essentially born with a silver trowel in his hand, he started his life in horticulture at his family’s Nursery, Russell Gardens in Bucks County, PA. Kent designs gardens and container plantings for clients throughout the East Coast. A nationally recognized celebrity



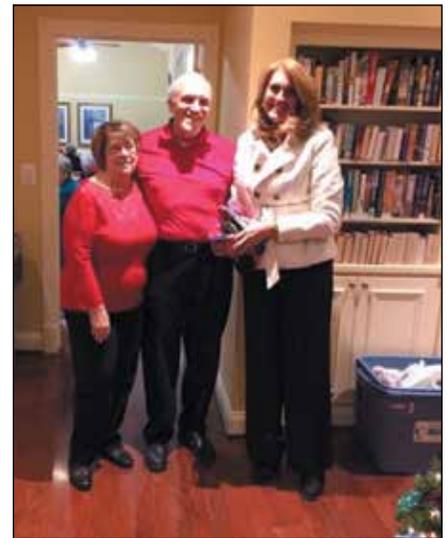
gardener, Kent will entertain and educate with his informative presentation served up with verve and humor and illustrated with a wide assortment of plant materials.

He will focus on creating eye-catching drama in any garden setting. In addition to the abundant selection of plants, Kent will share stories about his recent gardening adventures. The Kent Russell Show will take place on Saturday, April 13, 2019 from 1:00 p.m.–3:00 p.m. at Grace Lutheran Church, 1200 Charles Street, La Plata, MD. Tickets are \$25.00 per person. Refreshments will be served. Learn more about Kent Russell at: TheGardenGuru.com.

For information contact Dianne Shisler at (301) 932-0251, dshisler@verizon.net.”

PRIOR EVENTS

Photo from Neighborhood Event Grant Award



Annual Holiday Dinner Party at Hawthorne Greene, Saturday December 8

Funds were awarded from the Town of La Plata’s Neighborhood Event Mini-Grant for this event.

Spring Lawn Care

There is an enormous amount of chemicals and yard waste associated with the spring season. The Town of La Plata has been working to provide public education concerning stormwater pollution during spring lawn care.

While you’re improving your yard this spring, you could be harming our environment, follow these steps to keep your lawns healthy, as well as rivers and streams.

- 1. Obey the Maryland Fertilizer Law:** Everyone must follow University of Maryland fertilizer recommendations.
 - A single fertilizer application may not exceed 0.9 pounds total nitrogen per 1,000 square feet and 0.7 pound of soluble nitrogen per 1,000 square feet except when using enhanced efficiency fertilizer.
 - For additional guidance, homeowners should visit extension.umd.edu/hgic. For annual nitrogen recommendations, lawn care professionals should consult the Maryland Professional Lawn Care Management Manual at mda.maryland.gov/fertilizer.
 - Phosphorus may only be applied to lawns when a soil test indicates that it is needed or when a lawn is being established, patched or renovated.
 - Fertilizer may not be used to de-ice walkways and driveways.
 - It is against the law to apply fertilizer to sidewalks, driveways or paved surfaces. Fertilizer that lands on these surfaces must be swept back onto lawns or cleaned up.
 - Do not apply fertilizer if heavy rain is predicted.
 - Do not apply fertilizer within 15 feet of waterways. This setback is reduced to 10 feet if a drop spreader, rotary spreader with deflector or targeted spray liquid is used to apply fertilizer.
 - Lawn fertilizer may not be applied between November 15 and March 1.
 - Enhanced efficiency fertilizers may be applied at a rate of 2.5 pounds per 1,000 square feet or 80% of the annual University of Maryland nitrogen recommendation, whichever is less. The product must be approved as an enhanced efficiency fertilizer by the Maryland State Chemist.
- 2. Do Not Put Leaves or Grass Clippings into the Storm Drain:** Covered or clogged drains significantly contribute to street and yard flooding. Storm drains are not meant to accept debris or garbage, but to take away overflow rainwater to prevent flooding of home and property.
- 3. Remember– the Storm Drainage System is Different from the Sanitary Sewer System:** The storm drainage system is a separate system from the sanitary sewer system. Any material that flows into the storm drainage system flows directly to our local rivers and streams, whereas the sanitary sewer system takes wastewater from our homes and businesses and is treated at the wastewater treatment plans.

Please help the Town in its fight against stormwater pollution. Whenever it rains, all of the rain water flows to our local rivers and streams, carrying any pollutants that are picked up along the way. Questions Call Town of La Plata Stormwater Utility at 301-934-8421.

UPCOMING EVENTS

The Town of La Plata 2019 Special Events Schedule is now available. You can pick up copies of the new Special Events brochure at Town Hall or local businesses around town. A pdf version is available for downloading from our website. Go to www.TownofLaPlata.org and click on Events.

Ice Cream with the Easter Bunny



**Monday, April 22nd:
11 AM to 1 PM**

Hop on in for ice cream with the Easter Bunny! Stop by the La Plata Town Hall on the Monday after Easter, April 22nd from 11 AM to 1 PM. Bring the kids for sweet treat, crafts and visit with the Easter Bunny.



The members of the American Legion Post 82 invite the Town of La Plata citizens to join them on Thursday May 30th at 11 AM for a Memorial Day Ceremony at the Post, 6330 Crain Highway in La Plata.

National Night Out Mini-Grant

National Night Out (NNO) brings residents, law enforcement agencies, community groups, and businesses together to celebrate crime prevention awareness while sending a message that crime will not be tolerated in our community. Each year, on the first Tuesday in August, people across America gather in their own communities to take a stand against crime. Town of La Plata National Night Out Mini-Grant is designed to provide an opportunity for Town of La Plata residents to strengthen their neighborhoods through producing a National Night Out celebration for their community. National Night Out is scheduled for Tuesday, August 6, 2019.

The Town of La Plata invites neighborhood associations and communities to submit the National Night Out Mini-Grant application for review. Eligible grants will be awarded up to \$200. Deadline to submit application is June 14, 2019. 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.

Summer Fun at Town Hall

The Town of La Plata will host five summer shows for kids at Town Hall. 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.

2019 Schedule

Tuesday June 18th: 10 AM
Blue Sky Puppet Show

Tuesday July 9th: 10 AM
Dino Rock

Tuesday July 23rd: 10 AM
Mr. Skip

Tuesday August 13th: 10 AM
Bay K-9

Tuesday August 20th: 10 AM
Rainbow Rock Band

If the show is cancelled due to the weather we will post the announcement on the Town's website (home page and kids show page), face book page and information will be available by calling Town Hall at 301-934-8421.



Continued on page 14



Fats, Oils & Grease (FOG)

- Grease blockages in sewer lines are common causes of overflows and basement backups.
- Grease is a byproduct of cooking and comes from meat fats, oils, shortening, butter, margarine, food scraps, sauces, and dairy products.
- Correcting a blockage is expensive. If it occurs on your property, it will be the owner's responsibility to contact a plumber to have it cleared.
- Sewage overflows can result in serious harm to the environment.

Help Prevent Blockages & Backups by Disposing of Grease Properly

- Do not pour grease, fats, and oils from cooking down the drain.

Collect the grease in a metal can (soup cans work great).

- Once the grease has cooled and solidified, place it in the trash for disposal.

Common Myths about Grease

- Garbage disposals do nothing to protect your drain lines from accumulating grease.

Dishwashing detergents do not protect your lines from grease buildup. While it is true that they initially break up grease, they eventually lose this ability and grease will begin to accumulate in sewer lines.

- Chasing grease down the drain with hot water only causes the grease to build-up elsewhere.

UPCOMING EVENTS (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13)



MAY

Friday May 31st: 7 PM to 9 PM
Bobby McKey's Dueling Piano Show

JUNE

Friday June 7th: 7 PM to 9 PM
Pork Donut
Classic Rock 70s, 80s & 90s

Friday June 14th: 7 PM to 9 PM
Trilogy
Rock, Pop, Dance, Hip Hop & Country Covers with a twist

Friday June 21st: 7 PM
U.S. Navy Band The Sea Chanters
Traditional choral music, including sea chanteys & patriotic fare, to opera, Broadway & contemporary

Friday June 28th: 7 PM to 9 PM
The Bradley Turner Band
Country/Rock

JULY

Friday July 5th: 7 PM to 9 PM
Flippin' Eyelids
Classic Rock, Modern Rock, Oldies and Dance

Friday July 12th: 7 PM to 9 PM
Ryan Forrester Band
R&B, Funk, Soul & Rock

Friday July 19th: 7 PM
U.S. Naval Academy Band Navy Blues and Gold
Blues

Friday July 26th: 7 PM to 9 PM
Funkzilla
Hits from the 60's to modern rock

AUGUST

Friday August 2nd: 7 PM
257th Army Band
"The Band of the Nation's Capital"

Friday August 9th: 7 PM
U.S. Navy Band The Commodores
Jazz

Friday August 16th: 7 PM to 9 PM
Bucket List Band
Classic & Modern Rock

Friday August 23rd: 7 PM to 9 PM
Southern Maryland Concert Band
Concert Band Favorites & Showtunes

Friday August 31st: 6 PM to 9 PM
Sam Grow with opening act
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.

LA PLATA BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION

The La Plata Beautification Commission, with support from the Town Council, has applied to become an Affiliate of Keep Maryland Beautiful, recognized as the official state affiliate of Keep America Beautiful, Keep Maryland Beautiful works in three key areas to expand funding opportunities and technical assistance to local governments, nonprofits, and community groups:

- **Clean Up & Green Up Maryland:** Provide funding, equipment, and resources to communities and volunteer groups to eliminate litter and implement beautification and greening initiatives. Funding for communities, nonprofits, schools and land trusts is available through the Maryland Environmental Trust's Keep Maryland Beautiful grants.
- **Workforce Development:** Provide "on-the job" training that will give program participants the skills needed to make them better candidates for employment opportunities with the private-sector landscape, construction and waste management industries.
- **Outreach, Education, and Technical Assistance:** Provide local governments and community nonprofits the tools that teach the fundamentals of litter prevention; preserving our resources; responsible solid waste management; and how to reduce, reuse and recycle.

If you would like to find out more please contact Danielle Mandley by phone at 301-934-8421 or email at dmandley@townoflaplata.org



Keep Maryland
BEAUTIFUL
KEEP AMERICA BEAUTIFUL AFFILIATE

WHAT ARE MY RESPONSIBILITIES AND WHAT ARE THE TOWN'S RESPONSIBILITIES WHEN IT COMES TO REFUSE COLLECTION?

We all have responsibilities to keep our neighborhoods safe and clean. Below is a list of what residents should expect from the Town and what is expected of residents when it comes to all aspects of refuse collection in La Plata.

Town Responsibilities:

Residential trash collection occurs once a week and begins at 7:30 a.m. (routes may change from time to time, which may cause your collection time to change).

Containers will be emptied, lids secured and containers placed back where they were retrieved.

All residential trash collection will be completed on the scheduled collection day, except for holidays or inclement weather where the landfill may be closed.

Recycling services are contracted out to Southern Maryland Recycling. They pick up residential recycling on Wednesdays and begin their routes at 7:30 a.m. (routes may change from time to time, which may cause your collection time to change).

Town will provide recycling containers at no charge to residents. Town offers 35, 65, 95-gallon containers and 18-gallon totes, an additional container may be requested for a cost of \$50.00, you may also switch your container size for a cost of \$35.00.

Town provides 35, 65 or 95-gallon trash containers, an additional container may be requested for a cost of \$50.00, you may also switch your container size for a cost of \$35.00.

The Town offers yard waste collection on Mondays & Fridays.

The Town offers a bulk trash pick up the first Monday of each month, should the need arise to dispose of large, non-hazardous items. There is a fee associated with this service.

Loose leaf pick up will be offered from Mid- October to Mid-December. Pickup schedule will be posted in Oct./Nov./Dec. newsletter.

Christmas tree pickup services are for 2 weeks after Christmas Day.

Household hazardous waste collection is provided by Charles County.

Resident Responsibilities:

All trash must be in the refuse container that has been provided to you by the town. (35, 65 or 95-gallon container.)

Trash and Recycling Containers shall be placed at the roadside no later than 7:30 a.m. on your collection day.

As soon as practicable after such containers have been emptied, they shall be removed to within or to the rear of the premises and away from the street until the next scheduled time for collection.

Have your recycling containers roadside on Wednesdays no later than 7:30 a.m. Please move emptied recycling containers to the rear of the property as soon as practicable.

The blue recycle bin is for "recycling only".

Residents should utilize recycling service to reduce the amount of material that ends up in the landfill.

Yard waste must be in brown paper bags or a separate container marked "yard waste", container shall not exceed thirty-two (32) gallons in size. The Town will not pickup yard waste that is in plastic bags or that has household trash, dirt or rocks mixed in it.

Bulk trash pick up must be scheduled by the Friday prior to the first Monday of the month, items must be roadside by 7:30 a.m. on the pickup day.

Brush or branches must be no longer than 4 foot sections, must be bundled and tied and weigh no more than 50 lbs., must be placed roadside for pickup.

Loose leaf pickup, residents must rank leaves to roadside, crews will not go onto the property to get them. Pickup schedule will be posted in the Oct./Nov./Dec. newsletter.

Christmas tree pickup services are for 2 weeks after Christmas Day. Trees must be placed roadside.

Household hazardous waste collection occurs on the first Saturday of each month from April through December in the parking lot of the Charles County Department of Public Works building, located at 10430 Audie Lane, off Radio Station Rd. in La Plata.

The town reserves the right to refuse pick up of any refuse that is not in the issued container and any yard waste or brush that does not meet the criteria that is listed.

TOWN OF LA PLATA

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

NEVER MISS ANOTHER TOWN EVENT
PULL OUT THE CALENDAR ON PAGES 7, 8 & 9. PUT ME
ON YOUR REFRIGERATOR FOR EASY REFERENCE.

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

Celebrate La Plata!

Saturday, April 27th
12 PM to 4 PM
La Plata Town Hall

Free Family Fun!

Craft & Food Vendors

Face Painting

Kids' Art Activities

Moon bounces

Music by Flippin Eyelids

Uncle Devin Show



La Plata Bed Races start at 3 PM!