

TOWN NOTES

News from La Plata Town Hall



MAYOR'S CORNER

SCHOOL IS OUT and summer is now in full swing which means La Plata becomes much livelier. A new energy electrifies our town. This is a great opportunity to take advantage of some of our outdoor activities such as the Farmers' Market; Friday night concerts, rec programs, or our local parks. Challenge yourself to put down your electronic devices, go outside and enjoy the sites and sounds of Southern Maryland!

DID YOU KNOW...?

KEVON WILLIAMS WAS NAMED JUNIOR MAYOR OF LA PLATA:

On May 28th, there was a new Mayor in Town – Kevon Williams. Kevon was one of 2,900 4th graders who participated in the Maryland Municipal League's statewide essay contest, "If I Were Mayor I Would..." Although he did not win on the state level, he definitely won locally. A committee read over eighty 4th grade essays from Matula and Mitchell Elementary Schools and chose Kevon's essay as the winning submission. Some of the issues Kevon would tackle *If He Were Mayor*, include implementing safety initiatives such as adding more sidewalks as well as adding more stop signs and speed limit signs within the neighborhoods. He would also work side by side with the residents to pick up litter and keep our Town clean.

As Junior Mayor, Kevon Williams received VIP treatment. He was picked

Continued on page 2



Beautification Grants



Beautification Grants were awarded to several neighborhoods in La Plata at the May 28 Council Meeting. Councilwoman Paddy Mudd presented Beautification Grants to Landons Ices and Creams, Children's Learning Tree and Hawthorne Greene neighborhood.



2019 Junior Mayor

Mayor James is pictured with the 2019 Junior Mayor, Kevon Williams. Kevon helped Mayor James conduct the May 28 Council business meeting. Kevon was chosen among Town of La Plata 4th grade students that participated in the essay contest "If I were Mayor I would..."



TownofLaPlata



LaPlataPD

MAYOR'S CORNER (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

up at school by the Chief of Police, Officer Johnston, Office Madison and me. Junior Mayor Williams, along with a friend, was then escorted in a motorcade procession, complete with the running lights and sirens, to Chick-fil-a for lunch where owner, John Flatley, treated him like a King. That evening, Junior Mayor Williams presided over the Council Meeting. He was quite confident calling for motions; listening to the Department Head's reports and asking questions; and banging the gavel. He most certainly has a future in politics. Congratulations on a job well done, Junior Mayor Williams!

COMMUNITY CENTER IS OPENING SOON: It's taken some time, but I am excited to announce that the Dorchester Community Center should be open and operational very soon! Please be on the lookout for more information.

LA PLATA BUSINESS BUZZ:

ISLAND MUSIC NAMED ONE OF THE TOP 100 MUSICAL INSTRUMENT RETAILERS IN THE WORLD!

Congratulations to Keith Grasso and his Team for being named a Top 100 Dealer by NAMM Show once again! This award spotlights music product retailers that have gone above and beyond in reaching customers, growing their business and positively impacting their community. A huge Thank You to Island Music for all they do for our Community and Southern Maryland!

THE WILLS GROUP, INC. CELEBRATES THE OPENING OF THEIR NEW HOME:

On June 13th, The Wills Group celebrated the opening of their new headquarters at 102 Centennial Street. In addition to offering guided tours of their new building, they entertained their guests with live music and refreshments. We congratulate The Wills Group as they celebrate their company, community and collective commitment to doing good in Southern Maryland and across the Mid-Atlantic region.

"THE CHARLES" VOTED BEST NEW RESTAURANT IN MARYLAND!:

The Restaurant Association of Maryland recently honored the winners of the 2019 Stars of the Industry Awards. The Charles was named 2019 Favorite New Restaurant (Statewide). The Charles opened in September 2018 and was recognized for their top-notch menu, impeccable service and amazing atmosphere. CONGRATULATIONS!

NEW BUSINESSES:

We are pleased to announce the opening of several businesses.

BARK OF THE TOWN PET SPA:

Located at 305 Centennial Street, Bark of the Town is a family-owned pet grooming spa that uses only natural and/or organic products on your furry family members.

COLD STONE CREAMERY:

Cold Stone Creamery is an Ice Cream Shop that serves the highest quality ingredients using their signature process of preparing your custom ice cream creation on a frozen granite stone. They are located next to Chipotle at 105 Drury Drive.

LANDON'S ICES & CREAMS:

Located in the heart of Town at 505 Charles Street, Landon's Ices & Creams is a family-owned business that offers unique ice creams that are locally sourced, all natural and HOMEMADE! Currently they have over 30 ice cream flavors and are still creating! They also offer allergy-friendly flavors and dairy-free.

Thank you for choosing La Plata as your new home and we wish you all much success!

LA PLATA BUSINESS ANNIVERSARIES:

The following businesses are celebrating milestone anniversaries in La Plata:

CHICK-FIL-A LA PLATA IS 10 YEARS OLD!:

They opened their doors at 107 Drury Drive in July of 2009 with the intention of being the meeting place of La Plata. They strived to be the place where moms can relax while their children play; where everyone gathers after a sporting event; where the seniors come to do life together. They have achieved that goal and so much more. They are a restaurant

that cares. They are a positive influence in our community and have given so much to our residents, businesses and organizations. Every day they live by their motto: "It truly is Our Pleasure to serve you!" Congratulations to John Flatley and his team on their anniversary and making a positive difference in our community.

HOUSE BOUTIQUE CELEBRATES THEIR 10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY:

Congratulations to Audra Atkinson and her staff on celebrating their 10 year business anniversary. Their boutique has a little something for everyone! You are bound to find a unique treasure in this quaint place. Be sure to stop by 6 St. Mary's Avenue and congratulate them on this milestone anniversary.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY CHICK-FIL-A and HOUSE BOUTIQUE! We wish you continued success.

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

IN OTHER NEWS:

If you have some extra time on your hands and are passionate about our Town, you might consider volunteering to serve on one of our town's committees. We are currently looking for board member to serve on The Board of Appeals as well as the Main Street Program Committee. If you are interested in finding out more about serving on either Board, please give Town Hall a call.

We 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. If you are interested, please let me know. *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!

Town Hall Closed

The Town Hall will be closed on the following days:

Thursday, July 4, 2019 (Independence Day)

No Trash pick up (pick up 7/5/19)

Monday, September 2, 2019 (Labor Day)

No Trash pick up (pick up 9/3/19)

COUNCIL COLUMN

Councilman Matthew Simpson, Ward I

For the next few months, some of my goals as your councilman are to improve the Quailwood Homeowners situation, continue working towards the water and sewer infrastructure in the south-west quadrant, increase the grant applications for Ward 1 neighborhoods, and to continue to oversee the development of our downtown.

I look forward to working with you, the residents of the Town to accomplish some of these goals in the next quarter.

The south-west quadrant, which was annexed over 20 years ago, finally shows some momentum. I myself, support the use of the USDA Loan and Special Taxing District to build the water and sewer infrastructure needed in partnership with the Stagecoach Crossing Development.

I feel that this project is long overdue and if we are to manage our growth, then we must grow now, rather than be forced to with fewer options if we continue to kick the can down the road.

All residents should take note of the upcoming public forums that are part of the Horizon Comprehensive Plan process. This is your chance to have your voice heard and help us manage the growth we will experience over the next 10 years and beyond.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact me at msimpson@townoflaplata.org

Councilwoman Paddy Mudd, Ward IV

Summer has begun in Town with our Friday Concerts and Kids Summer Shows well under way and our 4th of July celebration coming very soon. The Historic Preservation Commission opened our Train Station Museum for Celebrate La Plata Day after many dormant years with a historic plaque dedication by Evelyn and Katie Bowling. The girls are the great granddaughters of Evelyn Bowling, our first councilwoman, and granddaughters of Mayor Vic Bowling. The Museum, telling the story of the beginnings of our "railroad town" to today, will be open for visitors on July 4th and on Saturdays in July and August 10AM-3PM. Our plan includes extending our exhibits to include model trains and a real life in the caboose story for kids. We also plan to be open throughout the year when there are other activities going on that bring visitors to Town as well as for school groups that wish to visit.

Your Council and all our staff members have been hard at work with the tedious jobs that make our Town work. Our 2020 budget begins July 1 after many long hours of preparation. Also, in addition to the day to day decisions made on your behalf, we have made some bold decisions that will affect La Plata in future years. Please come out to our Work Sessions, the 2nd and 3rd Mondays of each month at 6PM and Business Meeting the 4th Monday at 7PM. There is a public forum at every meeting. The schedule and agendas are published online. We would like to have your input - please contact me at pmudd@townoflaplata.org or (301) 934-8421.

La Plata Receives Banner Town Designation!



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, 2018 and May 27, 2019. The Council has already begun working toward next year's requirements.

50th Annual Municipal Clerks Week

May 5-11, 2019 celebrated the 50th Annual Municipal Clerks Week. It is week where we recognize the importance of the Clerk's office with its professional link between the citizens and the elected body.



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

Director of Legislative Services/

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

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.



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:

Thursday, July 4, 2019
Monday, Sept. 2, 2019

Trash will be picked up on:

Friday, July 5, 2019
Tuesday, Sept. 3, 2019

Yard Waste Pick Up

Friday, July 5, 2019
Monday, Sept. 2, 2019

No Pick Up
No Pick Up

Recycling Pick Up:

Wednesday, July 3, 2019
Wednesday, Sept. 4, 2019

Pick Up as scheduled
Pick Up as scheduled

Special Pick Up:

Monday, July 1, 2019
Monday, August 5, 2019
Monday, Sept. 2, 2019

LA PLATA TRAIN STATION MUSEUM

The La Plata Train Station Museum officially opened for business April 27 2019 as part of the Celebrate La Plata festivities. The opening represents the culmination of many months of effort by the La Plata Historic Preservation Commission, supported by Mayor James, town staff and the volunteer efforts of railroad enthusiasts to breathe new life into one of La Plata's most historic and iconic structures. The museum's opening featured a caboose, displays of historic images of the Pope's Creek Line of the Baltimore and Potomac Railroad, antique luggage including items once shipped through the station when it was still serving railway passengers, items belonging to Joe Sanders who one of the longest serving ticket agents based at the station, pictures of La Plata's early history and development, an expertly crafted HO scale model of the station and models of many of the earliest buildings on La Plata's main street.

Outside many visitors were delighted to see "G" scale model trains operating on the museum's grounds thanks to the efforts of Washington Virginia Maryland Garden Railway Society. Plans are in development to feature other model railroad displays in and around the museum during special events, as well as collecting additional artifacts and pictures to expand the more permanent displays inside the train station and caboose. Anyone wishing to donate or lend items to the museum should contact the La Plata Historic Preservation Commission. Items of interest include pictures and anything relating to the operation of the La Plata train station, the freight station, the Pope's Creek Line or the Baltimore and Potomac Railroad. The museum also seeks artifacts, pictures and stories relating to early La Plata's business, residential, political, municipal and social development. Pictures of items and copies of original images are also welcome for those who may not wish to part with originals. Please understand the museum has very limited display and storage space and the Commission must be selective in what it will accept and display. Many stories are waiting to be told. With your help we will tell them.

A plaque marking the station as one of La Plata's officially recognized historic structures was unveiled by La Plata residents Evelyn and Katherine Bowling after a brief speech by Mayor James, who thanked the Commission members and the hard work of the town's staff making repairs and preparing the station for visitors. The Historic Preservation Commission plans to mark additional buildings, both commercial and residential, with similar plaques highlighting their significance to the development and unique character of the town. The plaques are one of several ways the Commission plans to highlight La Plata's history as an integral part of experiencing La Plata.

Plans to operate the museum depend heavily on volunteer docents. Docents act as guides, provide tours, protect displays and answer questions. The museum plans to be open every Saturday between July 1 and August 31. Docents are asked to help between the hours of 10AM and 3 PM. Please contact the Historic Preservation Commission or the Town of La Plata if you are interested in helping.



LA PLATA POLICE DEPARTMENT

From the Desk of the Chief

It is the mission of the La Plata Police Department to provide quality service to every individual our officers' encounter. In an effort to meet this mission, the agency has placed an emphasis on training officers on how they may be able to better interact with those who are suffering from mental illness. Over the past few years, most La Plata police officers have attended the 40-hour Southern Maryland Crisis Intervention Training Course.

Crisis intervention training (CIT) is a national model that helps police officers better serve and interact with their community through understanding and learning about mental illness. CIT training provides law enforcement officers, communications staff, and corrections officers with the skills they need to identify those who are exhibiting signs of a mental illness. In addition, police officers are trained in how to de-escalate potentially dangerous conditions involving those in a



mental health crisis when responding to calls. Seating for this valuable training comes at a premium, thus LPPD will continue to have officers attend this valuable instruction until all officers are trained.

LPPD has also teamed up with Pathfinders for Autism to provide training on first responder interactions with individuals with autism and other intellectual and developmental disabilities. As Pathfinders for Autism describes the training, "Pathfinders provides a balance of factual information and practical tips and strategies, along with personal stories that both entertain and provoke thoughtful consideration. Our curriculum focuses on functional ability (rather than specific diagnosis) that incorporates the most prominent developmental disabilities law enforcement and first responders may encounter. The program addresses how to identify disabilities and their characteristics and make necessary accommodations."

Providing quality service to everyone we encounter is the mission!

See you on the road!

Chief Carl Schinner

National Police Week

May 12 -18, 2019 was National Police Week. It was a time when we payed tribute to officers who have made the ultimate sacrifice and to recognize police for their efforts in keeping our communities safe.



PLANNING DEPARTMENT UPDATES

The Planning Department is looking for experienced Planners at all levels. Offers for positions available could be a Planner I, Planner II or Senior Planner within the Town's position classifications based on experience, qualifications and education. All planning positions require professional planning experience with a ranging variety of complexity. The salary will be based on qualifications, experience and education. The Town offers a very generous benefits package which includes health care insurance with Care First Blue Cross Blue Shield with no premiums to the employee or family, free dental coverage for employee, a defined retirement plan with the Maryland State Retirement System, paid holidays, personal, annual and sick leave, life insurance equivalent to 1 year's salary, long term disability and a variety of other benefits. Just too many to name!

Interested persons may obtain an application and supplementary information at the La Plata Town Hall, 305 Queen Anne Street, La Plata, MD or www.townoflaplata.org. The Town of La Plata is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Please return a completed Town application, resume, and cover letter stating which position you believe you have qualifications for to the attention of the Director of Planning. Position is open until filled.

Comprehensive Plan Update:

For the most up to date information, please check the Town's Comprehensive Plan update webpage bit.ly/ToLPCompUpdate

Bird City USA

The Town of La Plata is interested in becoming a designated Bird City U.S.A. This program provides direction, technical assistance, public attention, and national recognition for municipalities and communities throughout the United States. Being designated will provide many opportunities which include: environmental improvement, economic benefits, citizen pride, public relations, recognition & publicity and community engagement and education.

To learn more about the Bird City U.S.A. program you can go to the Sustainability Council's website: <https://www.thesustainabilitycouncil.org/bird-city-usa.html>

The Town will be partnering with the Southern Maryland Audubon Society and the Port Tobacco River Conservancy to promote environmental education and public outreach.

If you are interested in learning more about birds stay tuned for upcoming events!

TOWN OF LA PLATA – 2020 BUDGET

Town of La Plata – Fiscal Year 2020 Proposed Budget & Capital Improvement Plan

Over the past several months, the Town of La Plata has held work sessions to discuss the Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 (July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020) Proposed Budget & Capital Improvement Plan. This budget includes the Town's General Fund and Enterprise Funds with appropriated funds for both operating and capital projects. Reflected in the budget is the guidance provided by Town Council, Department Heads, Staff, Community Groups, and La Plata residents. The proposed General Fund Budget for FY 2020 equals \$9,578,280 which represents a growth over the FY 2019 budget of \$1,443,150 or 18%. This large increase is mainly attributable to capital projects funded through fund balance. The proposed Enterprise Funds Budget for FY 2020 equals \$9,549,673 which represents a growth over the FY 2019 budget of \$193,713 or 2%.

This will be the first year the Town is incorporating a capital improvement plan (CIP) into its budget and budget process. The Town will focus on FY 2020 in the current CIP and expand to a more comprehensive five-year plan in the FY 2021 budget. The CIP is proposed at \$3,925,000 with \$1,295,000 appropriated to the General Fund and \$2,630,000 to the Enterprise Funds. The CIP is funded through \$156,000 pay-as-you-go, \$120,00 assigned fund balance and \$3,649,000 in unassigned fund balance. Taking advantage of the Town's strong fund balance allows no new debt to be incurred for capital projects in FY 2020. Implementing a long view CIP will allow the Town to face challenges and meet opportunities in a planned and logical manner.

The proposed budget reflects no increase in the property tax rate as it remains constant at \$0.32 per \$100 of assessed value. The other two types of property tax the Town levies and collects are business personal property and public utility personal property. Business personal property taxes are levied on the reported assessed value of personal

property owned and used by Town based businesses. Public utility personal property taxes are assessed using the unit method of valuation which considers both the value of their real and personal property. Due to the demand for increased Town services and the scope of the public utility personal property tax, the FY 2020 Proposed Budget represents an increase of \$0.75 to \$1.50 per \$100 of assessed value. The business personal property tax rate will remain constant at \$0.75 per \$100 of assess value. For the FY 2020 Budget, business personal property taxes account for \$179,860 in total revenue while public utility personal property taxes account for \$155,600.

As with most municipalities, La Plata faces significant challenges in the coming years due to aging infrastructure. Additionally, the Town has an MS4 Permit from the State that mandates La Plata to meet certain standards. This permit requires the Town to make significant upgrades to untreated impervious surfaces to current storm water standards. The cost to be in compliance with the MS4 permit puts an enormous amount of current and future costs on our Storm Water fund. The Town strives to set water and sewer rates based on the actual cost to deliver services. Due to the increase in costs and aging infrastructure the Town is proposing an increase in sanitation, water and sewer. The FY 2020 proposed budget includes a 3.5% increase in trash and recycling, a \$0.10 increase in water rates, and a \$0.35 increase in sewer rates. These rates are being increased in a gradual manner to avoid large, one-time rate increases. The Storm Water rate is increasing by \$3.30 per quarter due to the cost of following the MS4 Permit mandates, aging infrastructure, and increase maintenance costs.

The Town intends to adopt the FY 2020 Proposed Budget & Capital Improvement Plan at a Council meeting on Monday June 10th. Copies of the proposed budget can be found on the Town's website and at Town Hall. Once adopted, copies of the final budget will be available to the public after July 1st on the Town's website and at Town Hall.

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Hello La Plata! It's Summertime!

Vicki Kelly, Parks and Recreation Commission Chair

This is one of the Parks and Recreation Commission's favorite times of the year, because we are all outside more, enjoying the fresh air, the lapse in hectic schedules (thanks to vacations and kids being out of school for the summer), and some of the great parks and recreation amenities in La Plata! To make sure you don't miss a thing this summer in La Plata, we've put together a Summer Bucket List for your reference, whenever you're looking to fit some outdoor time into your busy schedule!

1. Take a stroll around Tilghman Lake and use any of our exercise stations positioned around the lake to help stay fit! We just added some new stations this spring! Bring along your dog to tire him out (but please remember to "pick up" after him so everyone can enjoy the park! Trash cans are located around the lake for your convenience).
2. Grab your fishing pole for some great "catch and release" fishing off the floating dock at Tilghman Lake.
3. Play Pickleball at Silver Linden Park or Wills Park, where our courts were recently repaired and re-stripped, and await you and your friends! Don't know how to play? Visit here: <http://www.rulesofsport.com/sports/pickleball.html>
4. Bring the little ones to cool off in our Splash Pad, located to the rear of Town Hall. New this summer: outdoor portable restrooms for your convenience!
5. Enjoy a visit to the La Plata Farmer's Market on Wednesdays from 8:00 to 5:00 and Saturdays from 8:00 to 3:00.
6. Take in a free concert on the Town Hall lawn on Friday nights and visit with other town residents!
7. Lastly, be safe, wear sunscreen, and drink plenty of water while you're spending time outdoors! We look forward to seeing you at our parks!



Dock at Tilghman Lake



May 24 concert featuring Back Fin



National Public Works Week

May 19 – 25, 2019 was National Public Works Week. It was time for us to come together to celebrate and honor our public works department and the differences they make to our Town in managing and operating the heart of our local community and in building the quality of life.



July 2019

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

1	Yard Waste Pick Up Special Pick Up, please call by 4:00 pm on 6/28	2	Planning Commission Meeting; 7:00 pm	3	 Farmers Market; 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Recycling Pick Up as scheduled	4	Town Hall Closed No Trash Pick Up; Pick Up 7/5 4th of July Watermelon Bash; 10:00 am to 1:00 pm Train Station Museum open; 10:00 am to 3:00 pm	5	 Farmers Market; 8:00 am to 3:00 pm Train Station Museum open; 10:00 am to 3:00 pm Household Hazardous Waste Collection	6
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7	Yard Waste Pick Up Town Council Work Session; 6:00 pm	8	Crime Watch Council Meeting; 7:00 pm Kids show: "Dino Rock"; 10:00 am	9	 Farmers Market; 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Design Review Board Meeting; 9:00 am	10	Yard Waste Pick Up Concert: "Ryan Forrester Band"; 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm	11	Yard Waste Pick Up Concert: "Ryan Forrester Band"; 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm	12	Yard Waste Pick Up Concert: "Ryan Forrester Band"; 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm	13	 Farmers Market; 8:00 am to 3:00 pm Train Station Museum open; 10:00 am to 3:00 pm
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14	Yard Waste Pick Up Town Council Work Session; 6:00 pm	15	Crime Watch Council Meeting; 7:00 pm Kids show: "Dino Rock"; 10:00 am	16	 Farmers Market; 8:00 am to 5:00 pm	17	Yard Waste Pick Up Concert: "U.S. Naval Academy Band Navy Blues and Gold Blues; 7:00 pm	18	Yard Waste Pick Up Concert: "U.S. Naval Academy Band Navy Blues and Gold Blues; 7:00 pm	19	Yard Waste Pick Up Concert: "U.S. Naval Academy Band Navy Blues and Gold Blues; 7:00 pm	20	 Farmers Market; 8:00 am to 3:00 pm Train Station Museum open; 10:00 am to 3:00 pm
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21	Yard Waste Pick Up Town Council Business Meeting; 7:00 pm	22	Kids Show: "Mr. Skip"; 10:00 am	23	 Farmers Market; 8:00 am to 5:00 pm	24	Yard Waste Pick Up Concert: "Funkzilla"; 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm	25	Yard Waste Pick Up Concert: "Funkzilla"; 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm	26	Yard Waste Pick Up Concert: "Funkzilla"; 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm	27	 Farmers Market; 8:00 am to 3:00 pm Train Station museum open; 10:00 am to 3:00 pm
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28	Yard Waste Pick Up	29	Kids Show: "Mr. Skip"; 10:00 am	30	 Farmers Market; 8:00 am to 5:00 pm	31	Yard Waste Pick Up Concert: "Funkzilla"; 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm
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SEPTEMBER 2019

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

1

Town Hall Closed
No Trash Pick Up;
Pick Up 9/3
No Yard Waste Pick Up

2

Planning Commission
Meeting; 7:00 pm
Trash Pick Up from 9/2
First Day of School for
Students

3



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

4

Recycling as scheduled

5

6

Yard Waste Pick Up



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

7

8

Special Pick Up (call
before 4:00 pm on 9/6)
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

12



Beautification
Committee
Meeting; 10:00 am
Yard Waste Pick Up

13



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

19

Yard Waste Pick Up

20



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

21

22

Yard Waste Pick Up

23

24



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

25

26

Yard Waste Pick Up

27



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

28

29

Yard Waste Pick Up

30

PRIOR EVENTS

Ice Cream with the Easter Bunny

Kids enjoyed yummy ice cream sundaes from Dairy Queen and one last visit with the Easter Bunny on Monday, April 22nd.



Youth Fishing Derby



Burkey Boggs and the winners from the Burkey Boggs Annual Clarks Run Youth Fishing Derby on Saturday, May 25 at Redwood Lake.

Mini-Grant Awardees Photos

The Villages of Steeplechase –
Memorial Day Pool Opening Block Party May 26th



La Plata High School Champions!



Mayor James and Junior Mayor 2019 Kevon Williams presented proclamations to the La Plata High School boys baseball team and girls softball team at the May 28 Council business meeting. Each team won the Class 2A state championship in their respective sports.

PRIOR EVENTS (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12)

Celebrate LA PLATA!

Beautiful day was on hand to Celebrate the Town of La Plata on Saturday, April 27th. The community enjoyed a day of family fun at Town Hall. 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.

Celebrate La Plata has full of family friendly activities at Town Hall. Children had fun creating their own masterpiece at the Art Smart Studio Tent. Flippin' Eyelids rocked out the crowd with live music of crowd favorites and Uncle Devin got the children dancing along with his show on the concert lawn.



2019 La Plata Bed Races

The La Plata Bed Race teams were ready to roll when the races started at 3 pm. The competition was tough to see who would win become the Bed Race Champion.

Congrats to the Winners!

1st Place Team

Catherine Foundation Love Life

2nd Place Team

Sherry's Angels

Best Decorated Bed

The Spacey Librarians from the Charles County Public Library

Best Decorated Team

We Make Kids Smile Superheroes

Golden Bed Pan

Chick-fil-A La Plata and Friends

Thank You to the 2019 Teams:

301 Derby Dames

Catherine Foundation

Chick-fil-A La Plata and Friends

"Fun Happens Here" Charles County Recreation, Parks & Tourism

Coca-Cola

CSM Hawks

The Historic McConchie

One Room School

Our Place Waldorf

Port Tobacco Players

Sherry's Angels

The Southern Maryland House of Nerf

The Spacey Librarians from the Charles County Public Library

We Make Kids Smile Superheroes



Catherine Foundation Love Life



Sherry's Angels



Port Tobacco Players vs. Our Place Waldorf



301 Derby Games



The Spacey Librarians from the Charles County Public Library



Coca-Cola



We Make Kids Smile Superheroes



"Fun Happens Here" Charles County Recreation vs. We Make Kids Smile Superheroes



Chick-fil-A La Plata and Friends

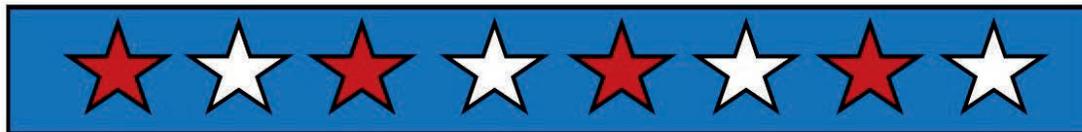


CSM Hawks vs. The Historic McConchie One Room School



Sherry's Angels vs. The Southern Maryland House of Nerf

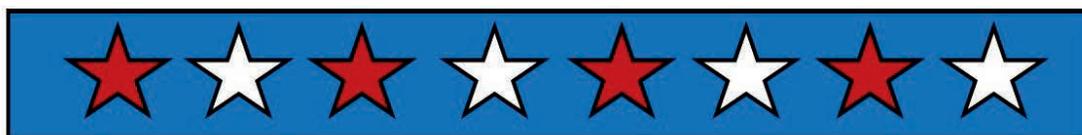
UPCOMING EVENTS



Celebrate the 4th of July at Town Hall!

Thursday, July 4th
10:00 am to 1:00 pm

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



Summer Fun 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 July 9th: 10 AM
Dino Rock: Dinosaur Babies
- Tuesday July 23rd: 10 AM
Mr. Skip
- Tuesday August 13th: 10 AM
Bay K-9
- Tuesday August 20th: 10 AM
Rainbow Rock Band

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 with 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.

UPCOMING EVENTS (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14)



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 30th: 6 PM to 9 PM

Sam Grow with opening act

Country

Neighborhood Event Mini Grant

In this busy age where we run to work, school and extra-curricular activities, you may be home hardly long enough to see your family much less your neighbors. One great way to connect with your neighbors is by planning a block party. Apply today for the Town of La Plata Neighborhood Event Mini-Grant and receive funds to help make your block party a success!

The 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. Deadline to submit application is September 6, 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.



Sunday, October 13th: 12 PM to 3 PM

*Family Fun for All! Live Music by Funkzilla, Trackless Train,
Moon bounce, Craft and Food Vendors!*

14th Annual Scarecrow Festival sponsored by the Charles County Chamber of Commerce and the Town of La Plata! Register to be part of the fun! Winners will be announced at Town Hall during La Plata Town Festival, Sunday, October 13th. Registration Deadline is Friday, September 27th. For more information contact the Charles County Chamber of Commerce at 301-932-6500.

Town of La Plata 2018 Drinking Water Quality Report



PWSID: 008-0025

Important Information Concerning Your Drinking Water

We are pleased to present to you the Annual Water Quality Report for 2018. This report is designed to inform you about the water quality and services we deliver to you every day. The Town of La Plata operates the water treatment facility and prepared this report in conjunction with the Maryland Environmental Service.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulates Public Water Systems and the contaminants found in water through the implementation of the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). The SDWA sets regulations and guidelines for how public water systems operate and identifies several hundred drinking water contaminants, establishes monitoring frequencies and limitations. The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) is responsible for the enforcement of the SDWA and routinely conducts sanitary surveys, inspections and monitoring for all public water systems. The Town of La Plata provides safe dependable operations of the water system and is dedicated to consistently providing high quality drinking water that meets or exceeds the SDWA standards.

If you have any questions about this report or have questions concerning your water utility, please contact **Bobby Stahl at 301-934-8421, e-mail bstahl@townoflaplata.org** or mail at Town of La Plata, P.O. Box 2268, 305 Queen Annes Street, La Plata Maryland 20646

For More Information:

For the opportunity to ask more questions or participate in decisions that may affect your drinking water quality, please contact the Director of Operations for **La Plata Water Treatment Plant at 301-934-8421**.

The water for the Town of La Plata is pumped from five wells, each is over 1000 feet deep. Four wells are located in the Lower Patapsco aquifer and the other well is located in the Upper Patapsco formation. After the water is pumped out of the well we add disinfectant to protect against microbial contaminants. The Maryland Department of the Environment has performed an assessment of the source water. A copy of the results is available. Call Town of La Plata at **301-934-8421**

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Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the **Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791)**.

Town of La Plata Treated Water Quality Report 2018

Definitions:

- ◆ **Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)** - The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
- ◆ **Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)** - The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
- ◆ **Action Level** - The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
- ◆ **Treatment Technique (TT)** - A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
- ◆ **Turbidity** - Relates to a condition where suspended particles are present in the water. Turbidity measurements are a way to describe the level of “cloudiness” of the water.
- ◆ **NTU - Nephelometric Turbidity Units.** Units of measurement used to report the level of turbidity or “cloudiness” in the water.
- ◆ **pCi/l** - Picocuries per liter. A measure of radiation.
- ◆ **ppb** - Parts per billion or micrograms per liter.
- ◆ **ppm** - Parts per million or milligrams per liter.

Special points of interest:

The Town of La Plata Drinking Water met all of the State and Federal requirements. Drinking Water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some compounds. The presence of these compounds does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the **Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA’s) Safe Drinking Water Act Hotline (1-800-426-4791)**.

Important information about Gross Alpha Emitters:

Alpha emitters are naturally occurring radiations in soil, air and water. These emitters generally occur when certain elements decay or break down in the environment. The emitters enter drinking water through various methods including the erosion of natural deposits. There are no immediate health risks from consuming water that contains gross alpha, however some people who drink water containing alpha emitters in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer. Currently, the highest level of gross alpha detected is 7.2 pCi/l which is below the 15 pCi/l MCL.

The following table lists all the drinking water contaminants that were detected during the 2018 calendar year. The presence of these compounds in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in the table is from testing done January 1 – December 31, 2018.

The State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year.

Town of La Plata Treated Water Quality Report 2018

Contaminant	Highest Level Allowed EPAs MCL	Highest Level Detected	Ideal Goal (EPA's MCLG)
Regulated at the Treatment Plants			
Fluoride (2018 Testing)	4000 ppb	800 ppb (Range: 800 to 800 ppb)	4000 ppb
Source: Erosion of natural deposits and discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories			
Barium (2018 Testing)	2000 ppb	34.9 ppb (Range: 34.9 to 34.9 ppb)	2000 ppb
Source: Erosion of natural deposits, discharge from metal refineries			
Gross Alpha (2016 Testing)	15 pCi/l	7.2 pCi/l (Range: 6.7 to 7.2 pCi/l)	0 pCi/l
Source: Erosion of natural deposits			
Combine Radium (226 & 228) (2015 Testing)	5 pCi/l	0.5 pCi/l*	N/A
Sources: Erosion of natural deposits			
Gross Beta (2010 Testing)	50 pCi/l*	8.4 pCi/l**	0 pCi/l
Source: Erosion of natural deposits			
Notations: * EPA considers 50 pCi/l to be the level of concern for beta particles			
** Because the beta particle results were below 50 pCi/l, no testing for individual beta particle constituents was required. Typical sources of contaminant: Erosion of natural deposits.			
Regulated in the Distribution			
Chlorine Water additive used to control microbes *Average result	4 ppm	1.28 ppm* (Range: 1.08 to 1.79 ppm)	4 ppm
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (2018 Testing)	80 ppb	27 ppb	n/a
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (2018 Testing)	60 ppb	21 ppb	n/a
Typical Source of Contamination: By-product of drinking water disinfection			
Regulated in the Distribution			
	Action Level	90th Percentile	Ideal Goal
Copper (2017 Testing)	1300 ppb	277 ppb	1300 ppb
Typical sources of contaminant: corrosion of household plumbing			
Lead (2017 Testing)	15 ppb	1.12 ppb	0 ppb
Source: Corrosion of household plumbing fixtures and systems			

Contaminants That May Be Present in Source Water:

Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife. Pesticides and Herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses. Inorganic Contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming. Organic Chemical Contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems. Radioactive Contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

Sources of Drinking Water

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain compounds in water provided by public water systems. We treat our water according to EPA's regulations. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.



Lead Prevention

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The Town of La Plata is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your drinking water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the **EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791** or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Advanced technology available to consumers

The Town of La Plata has invested in several innovative technologies in order to help conserve our natural resources and to help meet future needs. A new Automated Metering Infrastructure (AMI) was installed in August 2012 to automate the Town's water meter reading and billing system. This system allows residents to access their account information over the internet and set alerts to notify them of potential leaks. In addition, the Town now has the ability to detect leaks in system mains to reduce major problems of leaking pipes under Town roadways. Utility customers who would like to be able to access their accounts using this new technology will be able to do so after contacting the Town at 301-934-8421 or emailing cjohnson@townoflaplata.org to set up their account.

Radon

The result of the March 2014 radon sample was 265 pCi/l. Radon is a radioactive gas that you cannot see, taste, or smell. It is found throughout the U.S. Radon can move up through the ground and into a home through cracks and holes in the foundation. Radon can build up to high levels in all types of homes. Radon can also get into indoor air when released from tap water from showering, washing dishes, and other household activities. Compared to radon entering the home through soil, radon entering the home through tap water will in most cases be a small source of radon in indoor air. Radon is a known human carcinogen. Breathing air containing radon can lead to lung cancer. Drinking water containing radon may also cause increased risk of stomach cancer. If you are concerned about radon in your home, test the air in your home. Testing is inexpensive and easy. There are simple ways to fix a radon problem that are not too costly. For additional information, call your state radon program or call EPA's Radon Hotline (800-SOS-RADON).

If you have any questions about this report or your drinking water, please call Bobby Stahl at 301-934-8421 or email your request to bstahl@townoflaplata.org.

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.

FALL FESTIVAL

**Sunday, October 13th
12 PM to 3 PM
La Plata Town Hall**

Family Fun For All!

**Craft & Food Vendors
Music from Funkzilla
Moonbounce
Trackless Train**

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