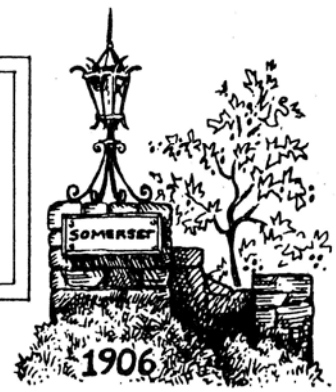




# SOMERSET TOWN JOURNAL



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## Mayor's Den

by Walter J. Behr

### **“Be READY, Make a PLAN”**

Preparing for emergencies may seem to be an overwhelming prospect, but an excellent way to start is to complete the personal and medical preparedness plan included with this month's Town Journal. "Be READY. Make a PLAN." is a handy device to help prepare for a possible terrorist attack or natural disaster. It was produced by the 12 jurisdictions of the National Capital Region.

Please don't put it aside. Fill it out, discuss it with your family and make copies for each member old enough to understand. Then be sure each person carries their plan wherever they go. The medical information should, of course, be completed for each individual.

As the pamphlet says, during an emergency, you will probably be instructed to seek shelter wherever you are – at home, work or school. At home, you are advised to have the following as a minimum:

- Three days' supply of bottled water, one gallon per day per person
- Three days' supply of non-perishable food
- Extra supply of prescription drugs
- Flashlight, battery radio and extra batteries
- First aid kit, can opener, blankets

For more advice on how to prepare for an emergency, call the Montgomery County hotline at (240) 777-4200. Also, go to the County Web site: [www.montgomerycountymd.gov](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov) and click on the link for emergency preparedness.

A few extra copies of "BeREADY. Make a PLAN." are available at the Town Hall.

## Burglar Grabs Computers, Camera, Cash

A resident of the 4500 block of Dorset Avenue returned early from work on the morning of October 17<sup>th</sup> to find that someone had pried open a sliding glass door in the rear of the house and taken two computers, a digital camera and some currency. The alarm system in the house had not been activated.

What lessons can be learned from this incident? Obviously, turn on the alarm if you have one. Second, install a charley bar or other security device for sliding doors. A third tip, from a Bethesda police station detective: "Buy a dog with a mean bark."

## Election Board, History Committee Terms Expire

Terms are about to end for a member of the Board of Supervisors of Elections and three History Committee incumbents. Applications for the positions, which should include qualifications, must be received in the Town office by **Monday, November 14**. If e-mailed, applications should be sent to [mayor@townofsomerset.com](mailto:mayor@townofsomerset.com). Appointments are made by the Mayor with approval of the Town Council.

To be eligible for the Elections Board, a resident must be a qualified voter in the Town and must not hold, or be a candidate for, any elective office during tenure on the board. The group is in charge of registration of voters, candidate forums and Town elections. Recently, they tabulated and summarized responses to the street light survey.

Election Board members are Tracy Truman, chair, whose term is expiring, Ellie Fink and Bonnie Thomson. Tracy has stated that she will apply for another three-year term.

The three members of the History Committee whose terms are expiring are Lesley Simmons, chair; Donna Harman, and Zola Schneider. All plan to apply for another three-year term. The other members of the History Committee are Joan Weiss and Ursula Dehejia.

## County Dog Law Catches Up With Somerset

The August Town Journal explained that the Maryland General Assembly passed a law which, for the first time, requires contractors to have a Maryland tree expert license in order to cut down a tree in the State. Somerset has had a similar rule for many years.

Now, Montgomery County is following Somerset's lead in regard to dog control. Again, for many years, Somerset has required dogs not on the owner's property to be leashed. Until now, County law did not require a leash if the pet was immediately responsive to verbal or non-verbal direction. However, as of September 27<sup>th</sup>, County law specifies that when a dog "is off the owner's premises, it must be on a leash or harness and under the control of a person who is at least 18 years old and is physically able to restrain the animal...An owner must prevent the owner's animal from having unwanted contact with a person or another domesticated animal at all times." The leash rule does not apply in the County's three designated dog exercise areas, which are in Wheaton and Black Hill Regional Parks and Ridge Road Recreational Park.

Another provision of the County law requires vaccination against rabies of cats, dogs and ferrets older than four months.

### Calendar

**Friday, October 28** – Flu Shots at the Town Hall

**Monday, October 31** – MVA's mobile office in Friendship Heights

**Sunday, November 6** – "Wild Washington"  
Book Signing

**Monday, November 7** – Town Council Meeting and Sale of Town History book

**Saturday, November 12** – Hazardous Waste Disposal, Bethesda

**Thursday, November 17** – Journal Deadline, Ads

**Friday, November 18** – Journal Deadline, Copy

**Sunday, November 20** – Somerset Art Exhibition and Sale

**Wednesday, November 23** – Deadline for submitting Information for Town Directory

## ‘Where We Live’

Thanks to Council member and History Committee Chair Lesley Simmons for suggesting the Washington Post feature Somerset and our upcoming 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary in its “Where We Live” column, the lead story in the real estate section. If you missed the article, which appeared on September 24<sup>th</sup>, you can get a copy from the Town Hall.

While I think the writer did a good job in general, she may have not understood my position on a community center. I am opposed to building a community center in Somerset because I think the Town is too small to make it viable. In addition to the huge cost of a building and equipment, we would have to employ at least one full-time employee to operate it. Furthermore, a community center with a gym on the Hecht’s site will open within the next two years.

I am in favor of improvements to the bathhouse and swimming pool site, including a canopy, pavilion or room for swimmers to wait when the pool is closed during a threatened or actual storm.

## In Defense of New, Old Fence Proposal

Two recent fence applications involved installing new solid fences in back yards inside old chain link fences on the same property. I have drafted an amendment to the Town Code that would require the applicant to remove the old fence if it can be seen by one or more neighbors.

The amendment was introduced at the October Town Council meeting and is scheduled for action by the Council on November 7.

## Income Tax Rebate from State \$415 Per Capita

As reported in last month’s Town Journal, approximately two-thirds of Town income consists of a portion of State income taxes paid by residents that is rebated by the Comptroller. For Fiscal Year 2004, the payment averaged \$415 per capita.

Because of a typographical error in the column headings, the comparison of Somerset with nearby towns may have been difficult to understand, so here is a restatement in slightly revised format:

	<u>REBATE</u> <u>PER CAPITA</u>	<u>% OF TOTAL</u> <u>TOWN REVENUE</u>
Chevy Chase Village	\$710	48.7
Town of Chevy Chase	610	73.8
Chevy Chase Section 5	441	81.9
Somerset	415	63.7
Martin’s Additions	313	76.0
Drummond	310	59.3
Chevy Chase Section 3	310	70.4
North Chevy Chase	247	59.4
Chevy Chase View	233	67.7
Glen Echo	194	27.7
Kensington	183	24.9
Friendship Heights	156	45.1
Garrett Park	134	10.2

## Still Time to Sign Up for Flu Shot

If you haven’t reserved a spot for a flu shot in the Town Hall on Friday, October 28, you can still do so. Times before noon are all taken, but there are still slots between noon and 2 p.m. Call Tom Carter at the Town Hall to get your name on the list.

If you are on Medicare, be sure to bring your Medicare card with you, and there will be no charge. For others, the cost is \$35, payable, preferably, by check.

Another opportunity for those 50 or older to get a flu shot will be on Wednesday, November 2, from 9 a.m. until noon at the Bethesda Vital Living Center, 4805 Edgemoor Lane, second floor. Cost: \$30; free with Medicare Part B. For further information, call Teresa Simmons at (301) 255-4217.

### **Editors' Note:**

The County is Sponsoring Three Flu Vaccination Clinics for County residents, as follows:

Wednesday, November 2 from 9 a.m. to 12 noon at  
Dennis Avenue Health Center  
2000 Dennis Avenue, Silver Spring

Monday, November 14 from 9 a.m. to 12 noon at  
Silver Spring Health Center  
8630 Fenton Street, 10th floor, Silver Spring

Wednesday, November 16 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at  
Germantown Health Center  
Upcounty Regional Services Center  
2900 Middlebrook Road, Germantown,

Vaccinations will be given on a first-come, first served basis at a cost of \$20 per person. Individuals with Medicare should bring their Medicare card. Children under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian. For more information, call the Immunization Information Line at (240) 777-1050.

### **Callahan Pipeline Monthly Water Main and Sewer Report**

By Jason Hipkins, Director of Operations, Callahan Pipeline Inc.

#### **Work Completed This Month**

With the installation of the new water main on Dorset Avenue finished we are now at 99 percent complete on the installation of new water mains. We have good pressure and chlorination test results for Warwick Place and half of Essex Avenue and have begun to hook up individual houses starting at the bottom of Warwick Place. We had completed twelve of these as of Tuesday October 18<sup>th</sup>. The permanent paving patch has been installed on Warwick Place in front of the school down to Dorset Avenue.



#### **What's Next?**

Ninety-six house connections (water and sewer) remain to be completed along with about 800 feet of sewer main to replace, and sixty manholes to install. As we complete the house connections we will patch the trench area with permanent paving. All of this will take place from November - January.

#### **SHUTDOWN CONCERNS**

We know there have been questions about why we have had to shutdown water supply in certain areas. Much of this has to do with the way the old main was installed -- there are very few valves that allow us to isolate certain areas. There are twenty-one new valves to install on the new mains. We can install two valves, at most, in one day so we expect two more shutdowns for those of you on Dorset Avenue, Essex Avenue, Warwick Place, Surrey Street, and Falstone Avenue.

As always, we appreciate your patience. If you have questions or concerns don't hesitate to contact me, Jason Hipkins, at [jason@callahanpipeline.com](mailto:jason@callahanpipeline.com)

## Motion to Renovate the Somerset Town Hall and Pool

by Council Members Lesley Simmons and Jeffrey Slavin

At the end of its discussion on the Town Hall Renovation Committee's proposals, the Council stated that it wanted to see the results of the Pool Survey before making a decision about the future of the Town Hall. The Survey results indicated that while there is a demand for improvements to the pool house and its facilities, there is no overwhelming desire for the Town Hall to be physically moved to the Pool site (even if that should be feasible). We therefore believe it is time for the Town to move forward with plans to renovate its Town Hall, which is in dire need of essential repairs. The Town Hall Renovation Committee, of which Jeffrey was a member, and Lesley a regular participant, concluded that it would be foolhardy to progress with repairs when the need for a major renovation to meet our Town's long term administrative and convening needs is immediate. We are persuaded by their careful work and argument.

By investing in our Town Hall we invest in our community, not just in terms of the financial asset the building provides, but in terms of the less tangible infrastructure that allows much of what makes Somerset a desirable and sought after community to take place.

Our swimming pool is the nerve center of our community and family activity in the summer months (and the home of the Dolphins swim team of which we are so proud). It too is worthy of investment for future generations and in great need of updating. We are less far along in terms of our planning of what exactly is needed and wanted. Our proposal will thus, while setting aside funding for the pool in the Town's budget, establish a planning exercise much like that performed by the Town Hall Renovation Committee, to determine specific improvements that will be undertaken.

We will provide full details, including a financing plan and timetable next month when we formally introduce this motion, and we will write an article for the Town Journal. This note is to alert the Council and residents of our intention to try to move this long-awaited proposal forward.

## Town Hall Tidbits

By Tom Carter

### Found

A tennis racket was left near the practice court in late September. If you think it belongs to you, call Tom Carter at (301) 657-3211.

### Recycle Your Phone Books

Old telephone books can be placed in paper bags in your blue bins every Tuesday for recycling.

### Leaf Pickup Underway

Vacuuming of leaves piled on the grass near the curb has begun and will continue into December. PLEASE DO NOT PUT LEAVES IN THE STREET. KINDLY INFORM YOUR LAWN SERVICE OF THIS REQUEST.

We also ask that you ensure the piles consist only of leaves - NO STICKS, STONES, BRICKS OR OTHER DENSE OR SHARP DEBRIS. These materials will damage the machinery blades.



We are following the same procedure as in previous years. Each morning the maintenance men survey the Town streets and start vacuuming where the biggest piles exist. They then move on to the next biggest piles, and so on. Through streets will still be done regularly to keep the traffic moving smoothly.

Residents who prefer to bag their leaves or dispose of them in a mulch pile in their yards are urged to do so. Leaves in PAPER BAGS or REUSABLE CONTAINERS will be picked up on TUESDAYS AND FRIDAYS by our trash company, J&J Inc. Please place in front yards near the curb. Plastic bags may NOT be used. Leaf burning is PROHIBITED!

**Town Maintenance Vehicles**

Please use caution when driving behind the Town tractors and trucks. They are often moving very slowly as the men work alongside or in front of the vehicles. Kindly resist riding on their bumpers; give them some space and yourself room to see around them so you are sure it is safe to pass. Now, during leaf season, the vehicles will often be stopped while picking up leaves. It is not feasible for them to move out of the way immediately. If they did, they would never finish their work. You might save time by using another street to go around them.

**DO YOU WANT TO BE LISTED IN THE TOWN DIRECTORY OR DOES YOUR LISTING IN THE 2005 DIRECTORY NEED TO BE UPDATED?**

It's time for us to begin working on the 2006 Town Directory. If you are new to Somerset or if you wish to amend your family's entry, please send us an email containing the information you wish to be included in your listing. You can use the format in the current directory as your guideline; otherwise, we suggest you consider including the following as applicable:

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Children \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Tel # \_\_\_\_\_ Fax # \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Please provide the information in an e-mail to reach me no later than Wednesday November 23, which hopefully will ensure the accuracy of the listing. Our e-mail address is: [clerk@townofsomerset.com](mailto:clerk@townofsomerset.com).

**2006 CALENDARS**

2006 League of Women Voters calendars are still available at the Town Hall for \$6, or call Nancy Soreng at (301) 986-1916.

**MVA Mobile Office**

The MVA's mobile office will be in Friendship Heights on Monday, November 21, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**PERMITS GRANTED**

The following permits were issued by the Mayor during the past month. (Building permits are approved by the Town Council.)

Trees: Matthew and Ellanor Fink, 4514 Dorset Avenue, to remove a large, hollow, leaning sycamore in their back yard.

Stephen and Caroline Springer, 4824 Dorset Avenue, to remove a dead wild cherry in their side/front yard.

Gopi Vaswani, 5501 Trent Street, to remove two misshapen and leaning arborvitaes.

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# Legislation

At the October 5 meeting, the Council:

1. Took no action on a proposed amendment to the Town Code to increase the size of the Swimming Pool Committee to 16 members and, thus, also none on the confirmation of Jeff Aron, Michele Friedman, Sandra Hughes and Caroline Springer as members. (Vote: Kessler, Simmons, Slavin for no action; Frankel abstained.)
2. Postponed action on an amendment to the Town Code, Section 5-303, Swimming Pool Committee, to clarify the length of the chair's term, modify terms of members and include a swim team parent and pool users as members of the committee.
3. Took no action on a proposed Town Code amendment to authorize residents to contract for limited trimming of Town street and park trees.
4. Introduced a Town Code amendment to require the removal of existing fences outside of new fences when the former are visible from a neighbor's property.

## Council Activity

At the October 5 meeting, the Town Council:

1. Authorized the Mayor to write a letter to the County Executive asking that the Minkoff agreement regarding development of a rest area at the intersection of the Capital Crescent Trail and River Road in exchange for parking rights be terminated.
2. Asked the Street Lighting Committee to get bids for changing all Town street lights to high-pressure sodium bulbs.
3. Heard the police report regarding enforcement during September.
4. Decided against purchasing pedestrian reflectors.
5. Established the height of the hedge at the corner by 5410 Trent Street to be kept at three-and-a-half feet and that bamboo and shrubs be kept very low to ensure traffic and pedestrian safety.
6. Postponed discussion of a proposed change to the Pool Rules to eliminate the hourly 15-minute swim break for children because of the absence of Tom Eldridge, the proponent for the change.
7. Approved the recommendation of Davey Tree to remove declining tree #395, a green ash at 4807 Falstone Avenue.
8. Authorized the Mayor to send a letter to the County Council endorsing County Council Bill No. 26-05, Stormwater - Drainage and Runoff.
9. Authorized the Mayor to send a letter to the County Council endorsing proposed County Zoning Text Amendment No. 03-27 limiting the height of houses in residential zones.
10. Heard a report by Lesley Simmons and Jeffrey Slavin informing the Council that they planned to provide them with a timetable and financing plan for renovations of the Town Hall and for establishing a planning exercise for improvements to the pool and associated budgeting data at the November meeting.



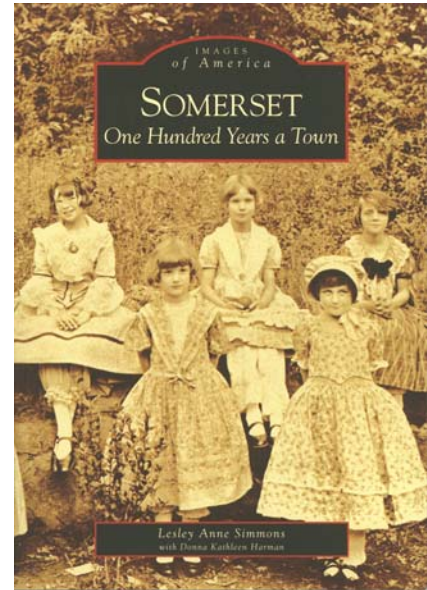


## Annual Dog Swim a Huge Success

Summer officially came to an end for Somerset residents when the town pool closed at 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, October 2. Shortly thereafter Phil Young (Greystone) captured the scene as Somerset's four-footed residents had their hour in the sun. He couldn't get any of the canine revelers to give the Journal a quote about their opinion of the event but, as the saying goes, "a picture is worth a thousand words".

## Town History to be Published

*Somerset: One Hundred Years a Town* published by Arcadia Publishing in the "Images of America" series will be in libraries and book stores the week of October 31. You can purchase your own copy of this fascinating look at our Town at the Town Hall prior to the November 7 meeting of the Town Council -- from 7:00 to 7:30 p.m. Bring \$20 cash or a check made out to "Town of Somerset".



## Somerset Founder Daniel Elmer Salmon in the News!

Our thanks to Patrick M. Reynolds, author of "Flashbacks" -- which can be found in the Sunday comics section of the Washington Post -- for allowing us to reproduce his informative story about esteemed Town Founder, Dr. Daniel Elmer Salmon. The cartoon, in full color, appeared in the October 16 edition of the Post.

By Patrick M. Reynolds

**FLASHBACKS** by Patrick M. Reynolds

**Name Your Poison**

IN 1876 DANIEL ELMER SALMON OF MOUNT OLIVE, NEW JERSEY WAS THE FIRST PERSON TO RECEIVE A DOCTORATE IN VETERINARY MEDICINE FROM CORNELL UNIVERSITY.

HE SETTLED IN WASHINGTON AND IN 1884 WAS PUT IN CHARGE OF THE BUREAU OF ANIMAL INDUSTRY IN THE AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT. HE HELD THE JOB UNTIL 1905.

AT THE TIME A CONTAGIOUS LUNG DISEASE CALLED PLEURO-PNEUMONIA WAS PLAGUING CATTLE.

DR. SALMON LAUNCHED THE FIRST FEDERAL MEAT INSPECTION PROGRAM.

SALMON'S TEAM ERADICATED THE MALADY BY 1897.

IN 1892 HE FOUNDED THE NATIONAL VETERINARY COLLEGE AT 1227 R STREET NW IN WHAT BECAME GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY.

HE BUILT A SUMMER HOUSE CALLED CLOVER CREST AT 4728 DORSET AVENUE IN CHEVY CHASE, MARYLAND.

POST SCRIPT - DR. SALMON'S NAME LIVES ON BECAUSE IN 1895 HE DISCOVERED A BACTERIA THAT CAUSES FOOD POISONING. THAT GERM IS CALLED SALMONELLA.

Source—The Name's Familiar Vol. 1—How certain people gave their names to various things by Laura Lee \$17.95 1/08s 1 & 2 \$33.90 from the Red Rose Studio, 358 Flintrock Drive, Willow Street, PA, 17584. Call toll-free 1-888-838-6273. Website: www.redrosestudio.com.





**Figure 1: Somerset residents look for treasure at the yard sale.**

## **Somerset Residents Help Hurricane Katrina Victims**

by Dana Macher

The Somerset yard sale and bake sale to benefit Bay St. Louis was a huge success realizing more than \$2,800 for the small, Mississippi town devastated by Hurricane Katrina. Held at the home of Laura Will and Joe Lipscomb (Dorset) on October 15 -- in perfect weather -- the crowds were out en masse. Many, many thanks to everyone who baked, sold and bought. This was truly an event made successful by the many caring and giving residents of our town.

If you were unable to participate and would like to help you can still make a tax deductible contribution to:  
Gulf Coast Community Foundation  
Rebuild Bay St. Louis Fund  
P.O. Box 446  
Fairhope, AL 36533



**Figure 2: While Dan Macher sells cookies, cakes and muffins to benefit victims of hurricane Katrina**

# Residents' Letters

## Survey Results No Basis for Action on Changing Town Streetlights from Alan Proctor (Cumberland)

The "results" of the streetlight survey conducted over the summer and reported on page 5 of last month's Journal are not a sufficient basis for the Town to spend \$30,000 to replace our current streetlights.

The survey was biased in design, distributed with a highly skewed "fact sheet," and effectively asked just one question: "If you (*oops ... the Town will only print 150 words and with this note, I'm out of space. The proponent(s) of the streetlight change have had thousands of words printed in the Journal over the past two years in support of their recommendation, but opponents are limited to 150 word sound bite. Please see separate insert that I've paid to have printed for distribution with the Journal for the conclusion of my letter and a fuller discussion of the "other side" of the issue.*)

## The Compromise on Street Lights from Andrew Resnick (Grantham)

Town politics is all about compromise and keeping the streetlights we have is a compromise.

I was happy growing up in a suburb that had no street lights, but I don't demand that we tear down all of Somerset's street lights. Making all of Somerset seem bright as day all night long will disrupt the natural ecosystem, confuse migrating birds, and make me feel my night time walks are in an industrial park.

If people want more light around their yard and house they can install it. An alternative compromise to brighter bulbs would be to get human sized lighting on short poles that puts the light where people want it. That would be costly so I propose to compromise with the street lights we have.

## Book Signing from Cathy Abramson (Uppingham)

Please join us for a book signing and reading for *Wild Washington: Animal Sculptures A to Z* with author Nancy Arbuthnot, and illustrator, Cathy Abramson at the Town Hall on Sunday, November 6, from 4-6 p.m.



*Wild Washington* is for longtime residents of the Washington, DC, area. It contains poems, stories, and illustrations for each letter of the alphabet (except "Y"; alas, Washington lacks yaks). This reading is for everyone -- kids and adults alike. The book has been featured in *The Washington Post*, *The Washington City Paper*, and on WAMU's "Metro Connection."

## Update on Traffic Regulation Enforcement

by Council Member Tom Eldridge

The Somerset public safety campaign, involving use of Chevy Chase Village Police to patrol Somerset, began in mid-September. Statistics on the number and type of citations, warnings or other actions for the first two weeks of the campaign were as follows:

- 1 warning and 4 citations for "NO PARKING ANYTIME"
- 4 warnings and 1 citation for "FAILURE TO STOP AT A STOP SIGN"
- 1 each citation for driving on a suspended out of state license and driving while suspended

Further statistics, including details as to whether those involved in the police activity were Somerset residents or not, will be available at the end of October, and will be reported at the meeting of the Town Council and in the November issue of the Town Journal. Until then, please walk and drive safely.

## **Somerset Community Safety Campaign Safety Tip**

by Council Member Lesley Simmons

As the days grow shorter Somerset residents may find themselves walking to and from school and work in the dark. Remember to wear light clothing and wherever possible walk on a sidewalk, not in the road. Reflectors can help make pedestrians and bicyclists more visible to motorists and Howard Byron (Essex) has drawn our attention to "TALMU reflectors" which come in all shapes and colors – from pink hearts to green dinosaurs -- that appeal to all ages. These reflectors can be ordered from the company website at [www.pedsafe.com](http://www.pedsafe.com) at a cost of \$3.99 each.

# *County News*

## **Volunteer Opportunities**

County Executive Douglas M. Duncan is seeking applicants to fill two vacancies on the Montgomery County Ethics Commission. The closing date is October 26<sup>th</sup>.

The Bethesda-Chevy Chase Rescue Squad is recruiting volunteer emergency medical technicians, paramedics, and firefighters. For information call (301) 657-5557 or e-mail [membership@bccrs.org](mailto:membership@bccrs.org)

Volunteers are needed for the Telephone Reassurance for Caregivers Program To register or to receive more information, call the Volunteer Center at (240) 777-2600.

Details of all these opportunities are posted on the Town Hall bulletin board.

## **Forum to Discuss Fertilizer Impact on the Bay**

November 16, 2005 -- first Urban Nutrient Management Forum "From Our Backyards to the Bay" -- will focus on what is known about urban fertilizer applications and its impact on the water quality of local tributaries, rivers and the Chesapeake Bay. A special emphasis will be placed on what individual behavior changes are needed to reduce water quality impacts from the urban and suburban portions of the Potomac and Bay Watersheds. For registration information contact Claudia Donegan at [cdonegan@dnr.state.md.us](mailto:cdonegan@dnr.state.md.us) or (410) 260-8767.

## **Nominees Sought for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Humanitarian Awards and Children of the Dream Awards**

Montgomery County's Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Committee is seeking nominations for its annual Humanitarian and "Children of the Dream" awards. Award nominees must be Montgomery County residents who have demonstrated, through deeds and activities, their commitment to perpetuate the goals and ideals communicated by Dr. King. Nominees for each of the awards must have been actively involved in a program or activity within the past year to qualify. The awards will be presented at the County's annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day event to be held on January 16, 2006 at 3 p.m., at the Bethesda North Marriott Hotel & Conference Center.

Further information and nomination forms can be obtained by calling (240) 777-2500.

## All About People

by Council member Jeffrey Slavin



Belated congratulations to **EVAN JOHNSON**, 25, son of **BARBARA JOHNSON** (DEAL) and the late **MARK JOHNSON**, who was married in Falls Church last August to **GENIE BRINKEMA**, a Yale classmate. The couple are living in Providence, Rhode Island where they are both teaching and working towards their PhDs...Also in August **GORDON and DIANE SMITH** (Dorset) became parents of their first child, **DON TENNANT SMITH**, who weighed in at 8 pounds, 11 ounces and was 21 inches long. Best wishes to all three Smiths...

Pianist **LOUISE KUPELIAN** (Falstone) reports to me that her October 16 "gig" at Grand Oaks Assisted Living, 5901 MacArthur Boulevard, NW, was postponed and will now take place on Sunday, November 13 at 4 p.m. It will include a sing-along with her trio that includes **DR. FRED HENDRICKS** on clarinet and **DEBBY EVANS**, soprano. Hope many will attend...Photographer **DICK LASNER** (Essex) will have a solo show at Creative Partners Gallery, 4600 East West Highway in Bethesda from November 8 until



December 3. The name of the exhibit is *Italia Misteriosa* and features 17 new iris prints of Italian images, mostly from the regions of Piedmont and Tuscany. The opening reception is Friday, November 11 from 6 to 9 p.m. and all are welcome. Sounds very inviting....



Another talented Somerset resident, artist **JIM WILSON** (Warwick) will have an opening at the Town Hall on Saturday November 5, from 5 to 9 p.m. to display his recent oil paintings. He will show large and miniature abstract paintings as well as land and seascapes. Jim has been exhibiting his work in the metro region for over 25 years and has quite a following so please stop by and see his latest works...**ROHIT KHANNA** (Falstone) has written to remind me that the Somerset 5th grade girls soccer team recently won the MSI Congressional Cup tournament in the U-11 girls category. Congratulations to team members **CAROLINE KHANNA** (Falstone), **RILEY CHRISTOPHER** (Cumberland), **MEGAN PURITZ** (Essex) and **TAYLOR JOSEPH** (Surrey)...**CYNTHIA WORD** (Uppingham) has completed the certification program for the National Dance Institute (NDI), founded by **JACQUES D'AMBROISE**. NDI is an arts education model that is based on performance, with no audition or fee, open to any child who wants to dance. It is usually done in a school during a year long residency. Cynthia says it has been an inspiration to literally thousands of youth and for more

information, contact her directly at [cynthia@worddance.org](mailto:cynthia@worddance.org)

Kudos also go to **BRIDGET COWIE** (Uppingham) who ran the Chicago Marathon on October 9 in 3:49:07, which is a qualifying time for Boston. Whew! So, now we must all wish Bridget luck when she runs the Boston Marathon next April...So many of our residents volunteer to help others, especially in trying times, and Katrina relief is no exception. For example **KATHERINE LACY** (Cumberland) has been in Louisiana "doing the Red Cross volunteer thing". She started in Baton Rouge but has since moved to St. Charles Parish across the river from New Orleans, helping people apply for financial assistance. She says that while there is nothing dramatic about what she's been doing, she has heard lots of interesting stories...Another locale where Town residents have made an impact is closer to home, at the nearby Washington Episcopal School (WES) off of Little Falls Parkway. In September **WES** had a ribbon cutting ceremony for its new Early Childhood Science Center, dedicated to "The Spirit of Wonder." This innovative new facility was made possible by the generosity of **WES** parents **TED and SAMIRA WOODINGS** (Dorset). As part of **WES**'s early childhood curriculum, students in nursery, pre-K and kindergarten will use the new space to investigate topics such as



electricity, the human body, and the plant life cycle...**FLORA and MAURY ATKIN** (Uppingham) are delighted to announce the birth of their fourth *great* grandchild, **REBECCA LEAH BERKELEY**, born on September 16. "Becca's" grandfather, **JOSEPH ATKIN**, grew up on Uppingham while her father **STEVE BERKELEY** grew up in Chevy Chase Village. Rebecca lives with her parents and her two year old brother in Glencoe, Illinois...



There is lots of grandchildren news, too: **TED and TRACY TRUMAN** (Essex) now have a third, **MALCOLM TRUMAN WOOLETT**, born September 28, 7 lbs, 6 oz, 22 inches, the first child of daughter **TINA TRUMAN** and son-in-law **IAN WOOLETT**. The family moved to Norfolk, Virginia in August from Providence, Rhode Island...**DICK and MARY ALLEN** (Cumberland) are delighted with their first grandchild, **HENRY AMSDEN PUTNAM**, born in Toronto, Ontario on October 1. Mary tells me they recently celebrated the birth with Henry's great grandfather **HERBERT BROOKHOUSE**, age 93...**LARRY and BARBARA HOOVER** (Cumberland) also had their third and son **MATTHEW** and wife **LAURA** were blessed with their first child **EDWARD**. The delighted Hoovers are confident that the boy will become a great swimmer like his dad...

A unique distinction has been bestowed upon **CATHY BERNARD** (Greystone) who was nominated for the annual **ATHENA** Award, as one of Montgomery County's 25 Achieving Women for 2005. Cathy was feted at the 9th annual Women in Business Celebrate Success! Gala Luncheon late this month, hosted by Women Business Owners of Montgomery County...And finally, mark your calendars for Saturday, November 19 and Sunday, November 20 for the Jewish Folk Arts Festival, chaired by our own **SARAH MORSE** (Dorset). The weekend includes a Saturday night concert at Tifereth Israel and a free arts festival on Sunday at the Shady Grove Campus of the University of Maryland in Rockville from 12 to 6 p.m. Sarah says the festival will be a lot of fun with music, dance, children's activities, etc and even a challah taste off (the public gets to sample challah from area bakeries and vote for the



"people's choice"). E-mail Sarah at [morsekathan@earthlink.net](mailto:morsekathan@earthlink.net) for details. She also reports that son **TOBY KATHAN**, 17, is working to improve the Somerset stream area -- he's had his Eagle Scout project approved to do some trail work in the park including rebuilding the steps going down to the street crossing and building some boardwalks to go across muddy places. Toby has been working closely with architect and former Council member **BILL BRENNER** (Surrey) to assess what needs to be done.



# Classifieds

## SERVICES

PIANO & FLUTE LESSONS (with THEORY) Wash. Post music critic. CBS RECORDINGS writer. FACULTY: G.W.U., MARYLAND U., SIDWELL. Music Degrees: A.B. Harvard; M.A. Columbia; Ph.D. Maryland. Studied: PEABODY CONSERVATORY & BERLIN (GERMANY). 30 years teaching all ages, levels. Call Cecelia Porter, 301-654-2165.

WE HAVE A GREAT HOUSECLEANER who is available on Mondays to come to your house. If you would like a reference, please call Sharon Bray at 301-758-0565 (cell) or 301-718-3565 (home).

## SERVICES

ACADEMIC TUTOR: 20 years experience teaching all ages, subjects. Math through Algebra II. Reading comprehension and writing. Test preparation, organizational/study skills. M.A. in Biology and Special Ed. Call Sheryl Gilbert, 301-656-1753.

HOME REPAIR CONTRACTOR. We have been very pleased with contractor - carpentry, dry wall, cabinet repair, painting, roof repair. Call us for a reference. Howard Simkowitz or Katherine Lacy, 301-656-5637.

## SERVICES

HOUSE CLEANING HELP available every other Friday. Grace has worked for us for over 10 years. She is reliable, speaks and reads English fluently and is looking for five hours alternate Fridays. Call Karren Doniger, 301-654-3558.

## MISCELLANEOUS

NEED A HOUSE SITTER for the Thanksgiving holiday? We have a pet-knowledgeable family coming in who would be happy to house or pet sit. Call Tanya, 301-656-1909.

**Ads are printed as a courtesy to Town residents. The Town makes no representations as to quality, safety or otherwise regarding the goods and services advertised. Readers should make their own inquiries. TO PLACE AN AD, submit typed or neatly printed copy to the Clerk-Treasurer. \$1 for 25 words or less; \$2 for 26-50 words. Check or exact change. MUST INCLUDE A SOMERSET PHONE NUMBER.**

The Town Journal is the official publication of the Town of Somerset, Montgomery County, MD.  
Post Office address: 4510 Cumberland Avenue, Chevy Chase, MD 20815. This issue edited by Lesley Simmons.

### MAYOR

Walter J. Behr, 4809 Grantham Ave., 301-654-1258/654-0224

### MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

Richard Kessler, Council V.P., 4914 Cumberland Ave., 301-654-2699  
Tom Eldridge, 5605 Warwick Pl., 301-656-3354  
Judy Frankel, 5528 Uppingham St., 301-657-8875  
Lesley Simmons, 4723 Cumberland Ave., 240-497-1876  
Jeffrey Slavin, 5706 Warwick Pl, 301-654-6767

### CLERK-TREASURER

Tom Carter

### TOWN HALL

Open 9 to 4:30  
301-657-3211/Fax 301-657-2773  
Web site: [www.townofsomerset.com](http://www.townofsomerset.com)  
E-mail: [clerk@townofsomerset.com](mailto:clerk@townofsomerset.com)  
TTY users call Maryland Relay

**Deadlines: Ads November 17, Copy November 18**

# PRELIMINARY AGENDA

## REGULAR MEETING OF TOWN COUNCIL

*MONDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2005 - 7:30 P.M.*

1. Approval of minutes of the October 5 regular meeting – 7:30.
2. Presentation of FY 05 annual audit by Jim Lindsey and Bob Diss of Lindsey & Associates – 7:35.
3. Discussion of financial report for fiscal year to date – 7:55.
4. Fact finding hearing and action on applications by Richard Feldman, 5517 Uppingham Street, to expand the kitchen and family room and add a deck to the rear, add a portico to the front and remove three trees – 8:00.
5. Action on extension of building permit for Fauzia Najm, 4602 Dorset Avenue, to complete addition of a foyer to the front, a second story to the west side and extension of the living room to the rear – 8:15.
6. Fact finding hearing and action on applications by Josh Rozen and Thuyhoa Nguyen, 5525 Uppingham Street, to add one-story additions to the front and south side, a second story to part of the existing house and replace the driveway apron – 8:20.
7. Fact finding hearing and action on building permit application by Tom and Jennifer Joseph, 5604 Surrey Street, to add a screened porch and two-story addition to the rear of their house – 8:35.
8. Mayor's report – 8:50.
9. Developments/plans in the vicinity of Somerset – 9:00.
10. Suggestions and questions from residents – 9:10.
11. Action on recommendation of Street Light Committee to replace all Town mercury vapor street lights with high-pressure sodium lights at a cost not to exceed \$30,000 – 9:20.
12. Discussion of proposal by Council members Lesley Simmons and Jeffrey Slavin to move forward with plans for major renovation of Town Hall and establish a plan to determine specific improvements to swimming pool/bathhouse – 9:30.
13. Report by Tom Eldridge on Chevy Chase Village police enforcement in Somerset – 9:45.
14. Action on amendment to Town Code Section 5-303, Swimming Pool Committee to clarify length of chair's term, modify terms of members and include a swim team parent and pool users as members of the committee – 9:55.
15. Action on Town Code amendment to require removal of existing fences outside of new fences when former are visible from neighbor's property – 10:10.
16. Introduction of Town Code amendment removing section allowing residents to prune Town trees with permit – 10:15.
17. Introduction of Town Code amendment to eliminate option of insurance for contractors to cut down a tree as a result of new State law requiring them to have a Maryland tree expert license – 10:20.
18. Action on resolution authorizing Town 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Task Force – 10:25.
19. New business – 10:30.
20. Adjournment – 10:35.

## DRIVE CAREFULLY ON HALLOWEEN!

Monday October 31<sup>st</sup> will see Somerset streets teeming with Harry Potter, pirates and princesses, ghosts and witches and heroes of the day all holding bags open to catch the candy or other goodies that neighbors will drop in. So: Watch for ghosts, drive carefully and don't eat too much candy!

P.S. Better stock up on some loose change for those little orange UNICEF boxes that many trick or treaters bring with them.

