



SOMERSET TOWN JOURNAL

*“Where People Have Deep Roots
and Grow Strong”*



Volume 60 • No. 2

April | 2015

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Save the Date: Brown Bag Lunch on Wednesday, April 22nd



Celebrate Earth Day at Town Hall | By Mayor Jeffrey Slavin, Warwick Place

Come celebrate our beloved planet at our second quarterly **Brown Bag Lunch** of 2015, on **April 22, from 12 noon to 1:00 p.m.** As always, Council Members and I will host anyone from Town interested and available to talk about issues or share a story of two.

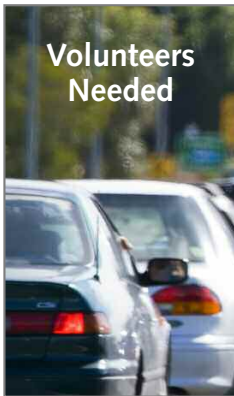
Remember to bring a sandwich or dish to share—and a friend. Beverages, plates and utensils are provided. Email me at mayor@townofsomerset.com if you have any questions.

Volunteers Needed for Somerset Traffic Count

By Council Member Catherine Pickar, Dorset Avenue, and Council Vice-President Marnie Shaul, Uppingham Street

Many residents have expressed concern about the amount of perceived cut-through traffic in Somerset and justifiably fear that surrounding development will only contribute to a growing problem. If you share this concern or if you simply want to exercise some civic duty, “Hit the Road, Jack” and volunteer your time to collect data as described below.

The Town Council is asking for adult Town resident volunteers to collect traffic data on a weekday, to be determined in late April, during the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. (the same times used for the 2013 data collection). We will need two to three volunteers at a minimum of three and possibly five different intersections. If some folks can only cover one of the two times, we will potentially need as many as 30 volunteers.



Sabra, Wang and Associates, the engineering firm that conducted an origination-destination study for the Town in 2013, will train the volunteers on how to conduct the counts and will provide data collection sheets. The data collected will include vehicle colors, last three digits of license plate numbers, turn directions, and time of day. Sabra Wang will then analyze the collected data to determine the percentage and origin of cut-through traffic, similar to their 2013 study. The complete traffic study from 2013 can be found on the Town’s website, [townofsomerset.com](http://www.townofsomerset.com), under Community/Traffic and Utility Reports.

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Calendar

Wednesday, April 7

Street Sweeping

Saturday, April 18

Earth Day in Somerset

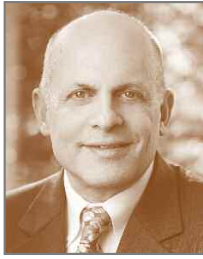
Wednesday, April 22

Brown Bag Lunch

Monday, April 27

MVA Mobile Office

Don’t forget to check the Town website throughout the month for an up-to-date calendar. Go to www.townofsomerset.com and click on **Town Calendar**.



On My Mind

By Mayor Jeffrey Slavin, Warwick Place

Somerset . . . or Chevy Chase?

Not a day goes by when I am not asked, "Are you the Mayor of Somerset . . . or Chevy Chase?" I would assume that elected officials in Martin's Additions, Chevy Chase Village, and Friendship Heights get similar queries. Of course the

reason for this confusion is obvious: for mailing purposes, Chevy Chase is made up of several villages and towns, of which Somerset is one.

I tried to find the reason for this situation, but it is lost in the mists of history. While this situation is mostly an annoyance, it actually does cause us problems. It muddles our identity and prevents us from taking advantage of our status and accomplishments when we are in the public arena. We lose countless opportunities to take advantage of our hard-earned municipal status.

Accordingly, I personally use Somerset, Maryland as my listed address wherever possible, even on letters and stationery. Yet this can get complicated when credit cards or my driver's license is involved. Needless to say, I am very proud that our jurisdiction is one of Maryland's 157 independent entities!

Ultimately I have found my own way to respond when asked where I live. Depending on context, I say "Washington," "Metro DC," "Montgomery County," or "Chevy Chase." If I am around hipsters I will use the newly minted "the DMV." My most preferred response, though, is pretty easy to understand. I tell people I live in the Town of Somerset *in Chevy Chase!*

Save the Date: Earth Day in Somerset Saturday, April 18, from 9:00 a.m. to

11:30 a.m.

By Patty Friedman, Chair, Parks and Natural Resource Committee, Grantham Avenue

Please join the Parks and Natural Resource Committee in an Earth Day celebration in the woods, helping to rid the trees of invasive English Ivy, pulling up garlic mustard and cleaning up the trash in the stream. In addition, we will be looking at the early signs of spring, including Trout Lily, Spring Beauty, May Apples, Blood Root and more.

We will meet in the Pool parking lot at 9:00 a.m. If you can only come later, call my cell phone at 301-442-6555 to find out our location. It is important to wear long pants and closed toe shoes, and bring garden gloves and clippers if you have them. Children under the age of 12 should be accompanied by an adult. Service learning hours are available if you bring me the form. Sunday, April 19th, is a possible rain day if we get rained out.

Barbara Marenus, Editor – bmarenus@gmail.com

The **Town Journal** is the official publication of The Town of Somerset, Montgomery County, MD.
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www.townofsomerset.com

If you prefer to receive the Journal via email, please provide your request to manager@townofsomerset.com or call the Town Hall at 301-657-3211.

Deadline for copy and ads is the 15th of the month at 4:30 p.m.

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Open: 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Monday thru Friday
301-657-3211
Fax: 301-657-2773
TTY users call Maryland Relay



An Update on County Happenings

By Barbara Condos, Council Member, Falstone Avenue

A lot of activities are currently underway in the County – transportation planning, building projects and infrastructure planning. Over the last few weeks, I attended a number of meetings dealing with these issues. On February 28, the kick-off meeting for the Montgomery County Rapid Transit System Corridor Advisory Committee (CAC) was held in Rockville. I serve on the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) MD 355 South Corridor Committee. The corridor runs from the Rockville Metro station to the Bethesda Metro station. The other corridors are MD 355 North, Colesville Road and Veirs Mill Road. The project is in the very early design stage. Several county officials spoke as well as a nationally known BRT expert. Our role is to serve as a conduit between the planners and the community. The next meeting will be held on April 16. The website address for the committee is www.MontgomeryCountyMD.gov/RTS.

The Washington Episcopal School held a community meeting on March 3 to present its development plans prior to submission to the Montgomery County Planning Board. The latest proposal calls for an 8 story senior housing building consisting of 121 apartment units or 70 to 80 condo units on the school property, and an auditorium addition to the school. The school confirmed its commitment to supporting and contributing to the cost of a traffic light at the intersection of Landy Lane and River Road, and to having car pool access to the school site from River Road,

as well as from Little Falls Parkway. This should help limit cut-through traffic in Somerset and Kenwood. Truck traffic will enter only from River Road. Although the project was proposed in 2008, it is just coming to fruition. The School intends to submit its plans in the next two weeks.

On March 7, Montgomery County Councilmember Roger Berliner hosted a program “Infrastructure and Growth: Are We Keeping Pace” at BCC High School. The program focused on projected County growth – the need to provide for the expanding school population, maintain and update existing schools, smart use of school property inventory, and transportation planning to support the expanding population. All speakers stressed the never ending need for money to accomplish these goals.

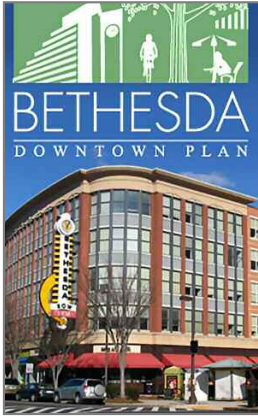
I also attended the March 10 monthly meeting of the Friendship Heights Transportation Management District Advisory Committee of which I am vice chair. Tom Pogue, County Department of Transportation, spoke about the MD 355 South BRT corridor. It was announced that Bike to Work Day will be on May 15. Last fall, the committee recommended installation of metered parking along Willard Avenue and Friendship Boulevard fronting the Geico property and non-rush hour metered parking along the east side of Wisconsin Avenue from Wisconsin Circle to Somerset Terrace. These meters should be installed this spring



Volunteers Needed for Somerset Traffic Count *from page 1*

Members of the Town Council are very aware of the sensitive and complex issues that are inherent with any type of traffic control. Public input and dialogue are critical, as are the data at the center of the dialogue. Without the data, we cannot proceed with an informed dialogue.

To volunteer your time, please call or email Nicole Ventura at Town Hall at **301-657-321** or at townofsomerset.com and give her your name and contact information. This is an important activity and it can only be accomplished with the assistance of Town residents.



Downtown Bethesda Sector Plan: Community Concerns

By Council Vice-President
Marnie Shaul, Uppingham Street

Somerset is a member of the Coalition of Bethesda Communities (CBC), which represents 18 community groups

within or near the planning area for Downtown Bethesda. Downtown Bethesda is currently undergoing a sector plan update similar to that for the Westbard-River Road area. The planning process started several months before Westbard and covers a much larger area. In addition, Downtown Bethesda is a more urban area than Westbard. However, adjacent residential communities have similar concerns about the effect of development on their quality of life.

At the end of February, the coalition sent Casey Anderson, the Chair of the Montgomery County Planning Board, a letter detailing some ongoing concerns and asking for more information on several key issues. The first issue is density and building height. The latest plan would allow for more commercial and residential development, and CBC has requested information about where this would be located. CBC is concerned that tall buildings will be located not only near the Metro stops but also on both sides of Wisconsin Avenue as far south as Bradley and along Bradley Boulevard. During the planning process, the public expressed a preference for 3-story town houses and 5-7 story buildings, but current staff proposals have 120-foot buildings, approximately 50 to 70 feet. The second issue on which CBC would like more information is how the future demand for office and residential space might be affected by development in neighboring communities such as the Pike District, Chevy Chase Lake, and Westbard. Without understanding how development in other areas might affect the economy of Downtown Bethesda, it is possible that too much additional office and residential space might be approved.

Finally, CBC is concerned about the overcrowding of schools and roads. Some of the proposed residential development could increase the number of students in the Bethesda-Chevy Chase cluster. CBC pointed out that although studies to address these concerns are planned, no results are yet available. Without that information, it seems premature to propose a single set of numbers for residential and office space.

As of the deadline date for this edition of the Journal, the CBC had not received a response from the Planning Department but expects that once the Chair is able to ascertain the status of various studies being undertaken by the Planning Department, a response will be forthcoming. For more details on the Downtown Bethesda Sector Plan, see the Montgomery County Planning website at http://www.montgomeryplanning.org/community/bethesda_downtown.

Town of Somerset Street Tree Planting Spring 2015

PEPCO Installations

- 4818 Cumberland Avenue, 2 Serviceberry trees
- 4900 Cumberland Avenue, 3 Dogwood trees
- 4902 Cumberland Avenue, 2 Dogwood trees
- 4910 Cumberland Avenue, 1 Redbud tree
- 4909 Falstone Avenue, 2 Serviceberry trees
- 4816 Grantham Avenue on Greystone Street,
2 Serviceberry tree
- 5413 Surrey Street, 1 Dogwood tree
- 5415 Surrey Street, 2 Dogwood trees
- 5501 Surrey Street, 2 Dogwood trees
- 4707 Trent Court, 1 Flowering Cherry tree
- 4715 Trent Court, 2 Flowering Cherry trees
- 5510 Trent Street, 1 Flowering Cherry tree
- 5503 Uppingham Street, 2 Serviceberry trees
- 5702 Warwick Place, 2 Redbud trees
- 5706 Warwick Place, 2 Dogwood trees
- 5812 Warwick Place, 3 Dogwood trees

Town of Somerset Installations

- 4519 Dorset Avenue rear screening on right of way,
4 Nellie Stevens Holly trees
- 4914 Dorset Avenue, 1 Willow Oak tree
- 5526 Greystone Street, 1 Yellowwood tree
- 5410 Surrey Street, 1 Red Oak tree
- 5712 Surrey Street, 1 Red Oak tree
- 5545 Warwick Place, 1 American Beech tree
- 5601 Warwick Place, 1 Blackgum tree
- 5613 Warwick Place, 1 Red Oak tree
- 5800 Warwick Place on Dorset Avenue,
1 Yellowwood tree



Mayor Slavin's Five-Year Fiscal Plan

In March each year, the Town Code calls for the Mayor to present a five-year fiscal plan. This month, the five-year plan is included as an insert to your Journal. The five-year plan has been developed through a collaborative

effort by myself, the mayor, members of the Town's budget committee, and the Town Council. The plan sets forth to the best of our current knowledge the revenues we expect to receive in future years, spending in the operating budget, and capital investments. To help residents read the insert, I have put together the following explanation of some of the key line items in the budget. A copy of the more detailed five-year plan can be obtained by contacting the Town Hall.

Revenues

41000 Property Tax

Represents the real estate tax revenue Somerset receives.

42000 Intergovernmental

Includes state income tax, Somerset's largest source of revenue and also one of the most volatile categories. Also includes revenue sources such as State of MD Highway User Revenues, Montgomery County Revenue Sharing, Cable Franchise Fees, and Fines.

43000 Recreation

Revenue the Town receives associated with the Town Pool, Tennis Courts, and Batting Cage.

45000 Rental Fees

Fees associated with the rental of the Town Hall by residents.

46000 Permit Fees

Revenue received in relation to various permits the Town of Somerset issues, such as building permits.

Operating Expenses

61000 Personnel

Covers Town personnel and fringe benefit expenses including administration and maintenance staff.

62000 Professional Services

Includes professional consultants of the Town, such as the Arborist, Auditors, Code Enforcement Officer, Part-Time Police Officers and Town Attorney.

68000 Streets and Sidewalks

Major expenses in this category include snow and ice removal for streets and sidewalks and street light electricity costs.

69000 Trees, Grounds, and Parks

These are expenses related to trees owned by the Town for pruning and removals, if necessary.

70000 Sanitation

Expenses related to the refuse and recycling contract as well as the annual leaf removal program contract.

71000 Recreation

Expenses related to the operation and management of the Town Pool.

73000 Debt Service

Annual debt expense related to the pool house renovation project that was completed in 2011.

Capital Expenses

67000 Town Hall/Garage

Includes capital expenses in relation to the Town Hall and Maintenance Garage.

68100 Streets

Includes any resurfacing or curb improvement projects on streets owned by the Town.

69000 Trees, Grounds and Parks

Includes trees the Town will plant each year as well as any equipment necessary to maintain Town-owned property.

71000 Recreation

This includes capital work on recreational facilities, such as the tennis courts, Town Pool and the bridge crossing the creek near the Town Pool.

76000 Budget Contingency

This is a budgetary contingency included every year. It could be used if, for example, snow removal costs exceed the budgeted amount.

In addition, money is set aside for a Rainy Day Fund. In 2014, the Town Council approved a Resolution adopting a Rainy Day Fund to strengthen our financial reserve position in case of an unexpected decline in revenues and the need to protect the level of services Town residents have come to expect. The amount the Town will strive to have in the Rainy Day Fund at the end of each fiscal year is located at the bottom of the five-year budget plan. The Rainy Day Fund can only be used if there is a revenue

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Manager's Corner from page 5

shortfall and no other reserves are available. The long-term target is to have a Rainy Day Fund equivalent to 12 months of operating expenses.

Street Sweeping April 7

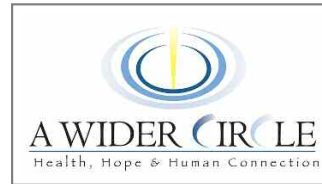
Please be advised that a contractor will do street sweeping activities throughout the Town on Tuesday, April 7, 2015. Street sweeping will begin at approximately 8:00 a.m. and should last the majority of the business day. It is essential for residents to limit street parking as much as possible to ensure that an effective sweep can be accomplished. We will be posting NO PARKING signs. Please contact Town Hall if you have any questions.

Tax Season Crunch Time



Somerset's largest source of revenue is the portion of State income tax paid by Town residents. Unfortunately, Somerset will not get its share of income taxes unless our name appears on the Maryland income tax form in the box marked, "City, Town or Taxing Area." Please do not forget to complete this section when filling out your taxes.

Bulk Refuse Pickup on May 4



The next bulk refuse collection will be on Monday, May 4, 2015. We will be partnering with A Wider Circle for this event. They will be collecting in

Somerset on Saturday, May 2. You will need to schedule a pick-up with them in advance by April 27. You can contact A Wider Circle either via phone at 301-608-3504 or via email at furnish@awidercircle.org.

Directory Update

We are currently working on the 2015 Town Directory, and we know there may be incorrect email addresses in the current one. Please email any changes to town@townofsomerset.com. If you are new to Somerset, or you wish to amend your household's entry, please send us an email containing any updated information for your listing. You can use the format in the current directory as a guideline. The deadline for revisions is May 15, 2015.

E-Journal Sign-Up

We would like to urge as many residents as possible to receive their Town Journal electronically. As a Tree City USA and a PLANT Maryland Community, Somerset wants to reduce its impact on the environment by encouraging residents to receive their copy of the Town Journal by email. If you are not currently on the Town Journal email distribution list and would like to receive an electronic copy, please contact the Town Hall manager@townofsomerset.com or at 301-657-3211.



Council Meeting Actions

The Town Council met in a regular session on March 2, 2015. The Council took the following actions:

1. Approval of a 2015 Arbor Day Proclamation.
2. Approval to tentatively set the bulk refuse pickup for May 4, 2015.
3. Approval of the January 5, 2015 Council Meeting Minutes.
4. Approval of the February 2, 2015 Council Meeting Minutes.
5. Approval of demolition, building, curb, dumpster, tree removal permits and reforestation for 5607 Warwick Place.
6. Approval of a 3-foot variance from the front yard setback at 4901 Dorset Avenue.
7. Approval of a permit application submitted for 4901 Dorset Avenue for building, shed, porch, generator, fence, wall and tree removal permits.
8. Approval of the Council acting as the Local Advisory Panel to the Historic Preservation Commission on an application submitted for 4712 Cumberland Avenue for the proposed construction of a wall in the rear yard.
9. Approval of a site plan amendment at 4511 Dorset Avenue confirming the construction of geo-thermal tanks for the project.
10. Approval of a proposal to convert the Town owned park bench near the intersection of Wisconsin and Dorset Avenue to make it ADA accessible.
11. Introduction: To consider renaming the private drive at the Town Hall near the tennis courts in memory of former Mayor Walter Behr.
12. Introduction: To consider renaming the picnic area at the rear of the Town pool site in memory of former Council Member Alan Proctor.
13. Mayor Slavin and Town Manager Charnovich presented their monthly reports. Town Manager Charnovich summarized the 5-year fiscal plan for this year. A summary of the plan will be in the next edition of the Journal. Council Members Peale and Condos provided an update on the Town Code and Charter project with General Code.



By Mayor Jeffrey Slavin

Once again, the Maryland Municipal League, of which Somerset is an extremely active member, is sponsoring an essay contest for all of Maryland's 4th graders. "If I Were Mayor, I Would . . ." is the yearly theme. The deadline for submission is the end of this month. Several weeks ago, three Council members and I visited with all the fourth graders at Somerset Elementary School, as we do every year, to encourage the students to participate. There will be a contest winner from our region and our Town has it's own contest-within-a-contest just for our school. Additionally, the Council and I want to publicize that ALL 4th graders in Maryland can participate—those who attend local private and parochial schools—and those who are home schooled—can and should be a part of this fun and educational project. Further information and applications are available at www.mdmunicipal.org.

With the release of the Mayor's Five Year Plan at the March Council meeting, a subsequent productive Council budget session, and the release of our annual budget at the April Council meeting, our annual fiscal review is in full swing. While Somerset overall is still fairly prosperous, there are a number of capital projects on the table and not enough funds available to do everything at once. Therefore I am asking all residents to pay close attention to the budget discussions this year and weigh in on what you believe are the priorities. Examples of what is being discussed include total renovation of the tennis courts, restoration of the second floor of the Town Hall, street and curb improvements, more police service, traffic calming possibilities, and more upgrades at the pool. The Council and I look forward to hearing from many of you.

While I am always appreciative of the popularity and "liveliness" of our Town-authorized-yet-independent list serv, I want to remind everyone that specific questions or service requests for the Manager, Council or me should be directed to us at our townofsomerset.com addresses. This is the best way to obtain a timely response and accurate information. In addition, none of us monitors the list serv as closely and frequently as we do individual emails.

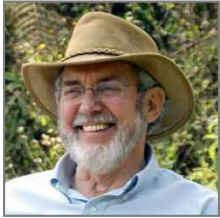
In response to the numerous letters and calls we have received about the marked increase in cut-through traffic on Dorset Avenue, the Council and I met recently with State and County transportation officials to get information on what our options are for potential changes, and to obtain an update on some ongoing projects in the vicinity of Town. As promised, we will be holding a public hearing on this topic in the near future. Stay tuned for the announcement of date and time.

General Permits



Tree Removal Permit

4814 Falstone, 1 oak tree, tree is hazardous



All About People

By Alan Dock, Falstone Avenue

Well for once I was correct . . . since the time I wrote the March column in mid- February, the snow has come and gone, temperatures are climbing and, as I write the April column in mid-March, dare I say it, spring has sprung!

“
Welcome to
Springtime in
Somerset!

”

Let’s start with some grandparent news: **Frank Joseph** (Warwick) is taking his grandson **Kai** to the Nationals’ spring training in Florida. Frank writes this is the second such visit, and he boasts (grandparents are allowed), that ‘Kai-ster’, a 14 year old super slugger, dreams of joining the Nationals himself one day!

Another piece of news from proud grandparents **Zola** and **Irv Schneider** (Warwick). Their grandson, **Paul Schneider**, a graduate of Somerset, Westland and B-CC, now a second-year Teach for America social studies teacher, took 52 students from his Bellevue Middle School classes in Memphis, Tennessee to the 50th anniversary re-enactment of the Selma, Alabama “Bloody Sunday”

march across the Edmund Pettis Bridge. Paul raised money for the bus and meals for the all day trip with contributions from friends and family. Paul also arranged for his students to visit and eat lunch at the Alabama State University campus where Martin Luther King, Jr. had stayed after his house was bombed in 1956. The journey was an adventure in history for the students, many of whom had never been outside of Memphis.

In a recent posting on the listserv, **Carrie Wofford** (Essex) was mulling over the pros and cons of bringing solar power into her home. **Sarah Morse** (Dorset) provided an informative reply:

*“We have had Solar PV for about 7 years now. I believe we were the first in Somerset! It’s maintenance free, and the panels contribute much of the electricity we use. We own our panels, but there are lots of business models to choose from now. A good resource is <http://solar-estimate.org/> There is at least one geo-thermal house in town – **Sally Rosenberg** (Warwick). We had a Green Tour of Somerset some years ago and she showed off her system. Geothermal runs a heat pump, so it’s good for heating and air, but only if you have an HVAC system. It won’t work on radiators. Several people also have solar hot water panels – the **Kreislers** (Falstone) and **Surkos** (Uppingham) are two that I know of.”*

We have also been thinking of looking at a solar installation for our house on Falstone, so those of you who have made this step, how about a short piece for next month’s **All About People** column to help those of us sitting on the fence make a decision? If we get a good response, maybe we can persuade the editor to make it a separate piece in the Journal!

Now for Somerset “Fox News” . . . many of you have used the listserv to report reported fox sightings in our neighborhood over the past months. In February, **Melba Carr** (Trent) described the fox as a “magnificent animal” that she and her family have seen several times. **Steven Spiegel** (Warwick) and his son saw “a beautiful and surprisingly large red fox traipsing through their backyard early on the morning of February 22nd,” and **Jossine Josz** (Falstone) wrote “the red fox is a regular visitor at our house, outside the kitchen every night. He’s very polite and always wags his bushy tail.” **Diane Bruning** (Trent) was lucky enough to see Mr. and Mrs. Fox during the last snowstorm. “They were frolicking and playing together in the Trent cul de sac.”

I’m sure there have been many other sightings and on Wednesday the 11th of March, I saw Mr. Fox myself, loping up Falstone at 9:30 in the morning, as bold as brass!

How about a photograph or two for the next column?

Enjoy the spring!



Classified Ads



Miscellaneous

BOZEMAN, MONTANA: Ski Big Sky & the Bridgers! Enjoy our furnished four-bedroom+ home on 20 acres with spectacular 360 degree vistas. Only ten minutes from downtown Bozeman, 30 from skiing at Bridger Bowl, and 60 from Big Sky Ski /Resort. Hiking/biking trails everywhere! And then there's the fishing! Weekly/monthly rentals. Contact **Birdie Pieczenik** for more details at srpvacationhomes@gmail.com or 301-652-1207.

PARIS, FRANCE: Paris is affordable again. Enjoy our furnished, one-bedroom, well-located apartment in the heart of historic Paris. Walk to the Louvre, the Pompidou Center, the Seine and two Metro stops. Available to rent on a weekly or monthly basis. For additional information, contact **Birdie Pieczenik** at srpvacationhomes@gmail.com or 301-652-1207.

Shereen's PEACE OF MIND SOAP: Homemade soap in the neighborhood! Essential oils and dazzling colors make these soaps the perfect and unique "feel good" gift for friends and family. Also popular for teachers, bar/bat mitzvah hotel bags, wedding/bridal/baby shower favors, office parties, etc. You can choose the fragrance and color to match your occasion! Call **Shereen Rubenstein** at 301-613-3838.

LIFESTYLE AND WELLNESS COACHING: Would you like to get unstuck and upgrade your lifestyle and wellness habits? Small changes can make a lasting difference. If you are curious to see if coaching is right for you, contact Certified Wellness Coach **Diane Horn** RDH CHHC at 301-654-0310 or at diane.b.horn@gmail.com.

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. Ads must include a Somerset phone number.

Price: \$5 per advertisement per issue. Check or exact change. **Fifty word** limit per advertisement.



Somerset's Helping Hand Is Just a Phone Call Away

If you need a ride, someone to pick up some groceries or a prescription, or even if you just want to get to a friend's house, give us a ring. We have a list of 30 Somerset volunteers who can help. Call **Zola Schneider** at 301-654-7481 or **Council Member Barbara Zeughauser** at 301-951-8560 and we will set it up.

Preliminary Agenda

Regular Somerset Town Council Meeting

Somerset Town Hall, April 6, 2015 – 7:30 p.m.

The Somerset Town Council will meet in regular session on Monday, April 6, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. at the Town Hall. Agenda updates are posted on the Town website: www.townofsomerset.com.

Council Work Session: 7:00 p.m.

Council Meeting Convenes: 7:30 p.m.

Swearing-In of 3 Council Members

Election of Council Vice President

Comments: Public Comment Period: 7:35 p.m.*

CONSENT

NON-CONSENT

1. **Discussion:** Town Manager's March Financial Report – 7:40 p.m.
2. **Discussion:** Introduction of Mayor Slavin's FY16 budget – 7:45 p.m.
3. **Public Hearing/Motion:** To consider approval of a site plan amendment as submitted by Sandy Spring Builders at 4712 Cumberland Avenue to construct a wall in the rear yard – 7:50 p.m.
4. **Public Hearing/Motion:** To consider approval of an application for a replacement HVAC Unit as submitted by Larry Sampas and Christina Bradley, 4715 Trent Court contingent upon the unit passing the required noise levels – 7:55 p.m.
5. **Public Hearing/Motion:** To consider the following spring tree plantings as recommended by the Town Arborist and Parks and Natural Resources Committee – 8:00 p.m.

PEPCO Installations

4818 Cumberland Avenue, 2 Serviceberry trees
4900 Cumberland Avenue, 3 Dogwood trees
4902 Cumberland Avenue, 2 Dogwood trees
4910 Cumberland Avenue, 1 Redbud tree
4909 Falstone Avenue, 2 Serviceberry trees
4816 Grantham Avenue on Greystone Street, 2 Serviceberry tree
5413 Surrey Street, 1 Dogwood tree
5415 Surrey Street, 2 Dogwood trees
5501 Surrey Street, 2 Dogwood trees
4707 Trent Court, 1 Flowering Cherry tree
4715 Trent Court, 2 Flowering Cherry trees
5510 Trent Street, 1 Flowering Cherry tree
5503 Uppingham Street, 2 Serviceberry trees
5702 Warwick Place, 2 Redbud trees
5706 Warwick Place, 2 Dogwood trees
5812 Warwick Place, 3 Dogwood trees

Town of Somerset Installations

4914 Dorset Avenue, 1 Willow Oak tree
5526 Greystone Street, 1 Yellowwood tree



Council Members: Barbara Zeughauser, Cathy Pickar, Marnie Shaul, Franny Peale, Barbara Condos

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Preliminary Agenda *from page 11*

5410 Surrey Street, 1 Red Oak tree
5712 Surrey Street, 1 Red Oak tree
5545 Warwick Place, 1 American Beech tree
5601 Warwick Place, 1 Blackgum tree
5613 Warwick Place, 1 Red Oak tree
5800 Warwick Place on Dorset Avenue, 1 Yellowwood tree
4519 Dorset Avenue, 4 Nelly Stevens Holly (by Town Hall parking lot/tennis courts)

6. **Public Hearing/Motion:** To consider bids received and to award a bid for a refuse, recycling, and composting contract – 8:05 p.m.
7. **Public Hearing/Motion:** To consider approval entering into a contract with Camp Summerset for use of the Town Pool for the 2015 season – 8:15 p.m.
8. **Public Hearing/Motion:** To consider approval entering into a contract with Camp Summerset for use of the Town Tennis Courts for the 2015 season – 8:20 p.m.
9. **Discussion:** 4701 Willard Project Update – 8:25 p.m.
10. **Discussion:** General Code Project Update – 8:30 p.m.
11. **Discussion:** Mayor’s Report – 8:45 p.m.
12. **Adjourn:** – 8:50 p.m.

Key

Public Hearing Item: Agenda item where public comment is permitted.

Discussion Item: Agenda item limited to discussion among the Council, Mayor and Town Staff.

Motion Item: Agenda item requesting action, limited to Council discussion.

Comments: Opinions and Questions from Town residents.

* Residents who wish to be present for a particular Agenda item are advised to arrive 20 minutes ahead of the item’s scheduled discussion time since discussions sometimes run ahead of schedule.

This is a preliminary Agenda prepared to meet the Journal press deadline, which typically is two to three weeks prior to the next Town Council meeting. During this period, there will likely be changes to the timing of items, and some items may be added or deleted. Please contact Rich Charnovich at Town Hall if you are interested in what has been added, or consult the bulletin board on the Town Hall porch or the Town website/email blasts for the most up-to-date Agenda.