



# SOMERSET TOWN JOURNAL

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



Volume 61 • No. 11

November | 2016

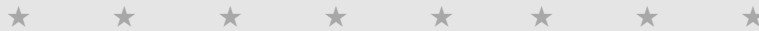
Date of Publication: October 31, 2016

★ ★ ★ Election Day Is Tuesday, November 8 ★ ★ ★



## Make Your Voice Heard!

In addition to the presidential race, important state and local issues are on the ballot this year. Get out and vote!  
**Tuesday, November 8, from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., at Somerset Elementary School**



Mountain of candy on its way to our troops

## The Great Pumpkin Is Coming: Let's Collect Candy for Our Troops!

By Matt Zaft, Dorset Avenue

Many of you may recall the Great Pumpkin descending on Somerset for the last few years. Back in 2009, I started the Great Pumpkin, also known as Candy for Our Troops. It began with the idea of limiting my daughters' intake of candy on Halloween while doing something nice for our troops. On Halloween night, my daughters leave out all the candy they collect except for a few choice pieces. The Great Pumpkin comes, takes the candy, leaves them a present in return, and sends the candy to the men and women all over the world who are protecting us, and to their families. The actual organization is named Operation Gratitude which, among other things, puts together care packages for our troops, first responders, and their families. I shared this idea with my office and encouraged everyone to bring in their leftover/unwanted candy, which was then sent to Operation Gratitude. In 2009, I collected a measly 20 pounds as I was late in telling people about the activity. It got better in 2010, totaling almost 56 pounds. The first really big year was 2011, when more than 326 pounds of candy were sent to Operation Gratitude. In 2012, through the collective efforts of the Town of Somerset, Somerset Elementary School, Maret School, Temple Sinai Nursery School, Morgan Stanley's DC/Annapolis complex, and Merrill Lynch's DC office, over 670 pounds of candy were donated. In 2013, we collected over 980 pounds, and 2014 saw us break 1,000 pounds. In 2015 we surpassed 1,800 pounds. We're aiming for 2,000 pounds this year!

I will once again handle the collection, storage, and sending of the candy, and will be doing this until **November 11**. Candy can be dropped off at **4820 Dorset Avenue** anytime – our only ask is that you separate chocolate from all other candy. Feel free to contact me at **410-961-5961** with any questions.

## Calendar

### Sunday, November 13

Artists' Reception at Town Hall

### Saturday, November 19

Ball Machine Day at Tennis Courts

### Sunday, November 20

Ladysmiths Jewelry Show

### Monday, November 28

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](http://www.townofsomerset.com) and click on **Town Calendar**.

The Preliminary Agenda for each month's Town Council meeting is posted on the Town website ([www.townofsomerset.com](http://www.townofsomerset.com)) seven days prior to the meeting. A copy is also posted on the bulletin board on the Town Hall porch.



## On My Mind

### A Tribute to Town Attorney Norman Knopf

By Mayor Jeffrey Slavin

It never ceases to amaze me how far and wide our Town's excellent reputation is known—across the Metro area, the country and even worldwide. National organizations, blogs and social media outlets have recognized a number of our strengths. So many people are attracted to our lovely municipality.

#### To what can we attribute this?

Of course, our remarkable, caring, accomplished populace plays a major part as does the outstanding elected leadership we have had for a generation, especially now. (Thank you, Council!) And we have always been blessed with dedicated, long-serving town employees who contribute to our high quality of life on a daily basis.

But there has been one individual who has toiled for decades, mostly under the radar, whose contributions to our successes and our progress cannot be overestimated—and that person is recently retired Town Attorney Norman Knopf.

Norman's brilliant handling of practically all of our legal needs for decades has provided us with the ability to make the best decisions possible. His vision for what Somerset should be and how our strengths could be preserved are nothing short of amazing. The number of hours he has worked for the Town is mind-boggling, and we all are thankful for his willingness to make us a priority. This is a man who could have sought fame and fortune in much bigger venues but was always there when we needed him most. In particular, Norman's understanding of the County's complicated land-use law – an understanding like no other – gave us the tools we needed to successfully fight proposed over-development on numerous occasions in the general area, thereby preserving and protecting our community.

So thank you, Norman, not only for a job well done but for your friendship and your loyalty to the Town. You are a shining star in the legal profession and a man whose principles and values set an outstanding example to all Somerset residents.

### Save the Date:

Somerset's annual **Community Service Day** will take place on **Saturday, December 3**, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Town Hall. We'll work together as a community to prepare sandwiches to be distributed at a shelter and to assemble cat and dog toys for the Humane Society. Join your neighbors and have fun helping our surrounding community!

## In This Issue

- All About People .....9
- Artists' Reception at Town Hall .....7
- "Ball Machine Day" Comes to Somerset Tennis Courts .....8
- Classified Ads .....10
- Council Meeting Actions .....5
- Election Day Is Tuesday, November 8 .....1
- From the Mayor's Desk .....7
- General Permits .....6
- Improving Lighting on Somerset's Streets and Sidewalks .....6
- Ladysmiths Jewelry Show .....7
- Manager's Corner .....4
- On My Mind .....2
- Planning Board Supports Citizens on Traffic .....3
- Preliminary Agenda .....11
- Save the Date: Community Service Day .....2
- Save the Date: Pre-Holiday Brown Bag Lunch Monday, November 7 .....3
- Somerset's Helping Hand .....10
- The Great Pumpkin Is Coming .....1

Mary Wisniewski, Guest Editor – [mary.p.wisniewski@gmail.com](mailto:mary.p.wisniewski@gmail.com)

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  
[www.townofsomerset.com](http://www.townofsomerset.com)

If you prefer to receive the Journal via email, please provide your request to [manager@townofsomerset.com](mailto: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.

#### MAYOR

**Jeffrey Z. Slavin**, 5706 Warwick Place  
301-654-6767  
Town Hall Telephone: 301-657-2229  
[mayor@townofsomerset.com](mailto:mayor@townofsomerset.com)

#### MEMBERS OF THE TOWN COUNCIL

**Marnie Shaul**, Council Vice President  
5509 Uppingham Street  
301-913-5973  
[mshaul@townofsomerset.com](mailto:mshaul@townofsomerset.com)

**Barbara Condos**, 4706 Falstone Avenue  
301-656-0461  
[bcondos@townofsomerset.com](mailto:bcondos@townofsomerset.com)

**Dudley Fowlkes**, 4904 Falstone Avenue  
202-351-9398  
[dfowlkes@townofsomerset.com](mailto:dfowlkes@townofsomerset.com)

**Franny Peale**, 5521 Uppingham Street  
301-652-9695  
[fpeale@townofsomerset.com](mailto:fpeale@townofsomerset.com)

**Barbara Zeughouser**, 5412 Trent Street  
301-951-8560  
[bzeughouser@townofsomerset.com](mailto:bzeughouser@townofsomerset.com)

**TOWN MANAGER**  
**Richard Charnovich**  
301-657-3211  
[manager@townofsomerset.com](mailto:manager@townofsomerset.com)

**TOWN ARBORIST**  
**Tolbert Feather**  
[town@townofsomerset.com](mailto:town@townofsomerset.com)

**TOWN HALL**  
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



## Planning Board Supports Citizens on Traffic

By Marnie Shaul, Council Vice President, Uppingham Street

The Montgomery County Planning Board held a hearing on September 29 on a request by the Washington Episcopal Day School (WES) to subdivide its property to allow a developer to build a 121-unit, age-restricted property on one acre of the WES 11-acre site. In 2007, the Citizens Coordinating Committee on Friendship Heights (CCCFH) negotiated in good faith with the school to allow a 97-foot building and subdivision of the property into two lots, one acre for the high rise and the remainder for WES. In return WES agreed to keep both entrances to the school open – Landy Lane at River Road and on Little Falls Parkway – and to support the installation of a traffic signal at Landy Lane and River Road. Citizens thought a traffic light would discourage cut-through vehicles on Dorset through Kenwood and Somerset and improve pedestrian safety at the River Road crosswalk. The economic recession eventually put the developer's project on hold. Several years later, the school closed the gate at Landy Lane, alleging safety concerns, and currently has only one entrance for parents to use, the one off Little Falls Parkway.

This past year, the developer revived the project and in its application to the Planning Board, WES said it did not want to open the Landy Lane entrance. CCCFH mobilized communities and many citizens testified. Mayor Slavin and I testified that we continue to believe that opening Landy Lane is critical for reducing cut-through traffic, and that without an open gate, the State Highway Administration (SHA) would continue to say that traffic was not sufficient to warrant a light at that intersection. Imagine the residents of the new units attempting to turn left on River Road. Most likely they would turn right on River, right on Brookside, then go down Dorset through Kenwood and Somerset to Wisconsin Avenue. With a traffic light, they could make a left turn. Currently parents use the only entrance available to them on Little Falls. One morning I watched cars leave the school, go left on Little Falls, and then turn right on Dorset and continue through Somerset. Queueing of afternoon traffic is another concern. If WES grows as it plans, its student population will increase and there would not be room on the school property for cars waiting to pick up students. They sometimes park on parkland now. Former Council Member **Cathy Pickar** (Dorset) sent testimony to the Planning Board stating that she has seen cars queueing on Little Falls Parkway. Somerset also testified that students going to Westland and others crossing River Road would be safer with a traffic light. The Chair of CCCFH and representatives from surrounding communities such as Kenwood, Kenwood Condominium, and Springfield also testified in favor of having two entrances open for parents to use and in support of the traffic light.

After hearing all the testimony, the Planning Board subsequently voted to require that WES open the entrance on River Road for four hours a day – during student drop-off and pick-up times. This should provide enough support for a traffic light at the intersection. The importance of a traffic light was recently underscored when, within days of the Planning Board vote, a pedestrian was struck in the crosswalk at Landy Lane. SHA repainted the crosswalk shortly after the accident.

### Save the Date:



## Pre-Holiday Brown Bag Lunch Monday, November 7

By Mayor Jeffrey Slavin, Warwick Place

Let's all get excited about the upcoming holidays at the fourth quarterly Brown Bag Lunch of the year set for **Monday, November 7**, from noon to 1:00 p.m. at the Town Hall. As always, members of the Council and I will host anyone from Town interested and available to talk about issues or tell a story or 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](mailto:mayor@townofsomerset.com) if you have any questions.



## Leaf Collection Is Underway

Fall is here! Leaf collection has

commenced. Please see the insert in last month's Journal that provides a general guideline by street. You can also view

this schedule on our Town website. Please keep in mind that it is really important to limit street parking during leaf collection because it helps our staff to collect the leaves at the curb. It is also important to make sure branches are not in the leaf piles. If they are, damage will be done to the leaf-collecting machine.



## Annual Community Service Day

Please mark your calendars for the Somerset's annual Community Service Day which will be held on

December 3, 2016, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the Town Hall. Please look for further email communication for details on the event. Each year, we make lunch bags for the homeless and also toys for pets at local shelters. Students are eligible to earn SSL hours for participating.



## Stop Signs in the Community

I periodically am contacted by residents who inform me they notice motorists not stopping at stop signs in the community. It is essential that we make every effort to obey traffic signs and speed limits. This is especially essential during times when kids are walking to and home from school. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.



## Keep Your Cars Locked!

Here are examples of vehicle anti-theft prevention:

- Lock all your doors and close the windows.
- Remove all valuables from inside the vehicle, including GPS systems, or lock them in your trunk.
- Do not leave electronic devices or accessories visible.
- Keep the registration in your wallet or purse rather than the vehicle.
- Park in a well-lighted and populated area.

- Use an anti-theft device that has a visible indicator (about \$20 to \$50). These devices lock the steering wheel in a fixed position so the vehicle cannot be driven.
- Use an alarm system.
- Do not leave money in your vehicle.
- Do not hide a key in your vehicle.
- **Report suspicious activity to the police: Emergency 911, non-emergency 240-773-6700.**



## Halloween Safety Reminders from the Montgomery County Police Department

The Montgomery County Police Department offers the following important Halloween safety reminders:

### Homes

- Welcome trick-or-treaters with porch and exterior lights on.
- Make sure that your yard is clear of items that might trip children, such as hoses, toys and flower pots.
- Keep pets indoors.

### Motorists

- Drive slowly, turn on headlights, and use extra caution through neighborhoods.
- Reduce distractions in your vehicle so that you can concentrate on the road.
- Drive sober. Plan ahead – choose a designated driver or call a taxi.

### Trick-or-Treating

- Trick-or-treat only in neighborhoods that are familiar to you and stop only at homes with outside lights on.
- An adult or older sibling should always accompany younger children.
- Carry a flashlight.
- Older children should discuss their trick-or-treating route with their guardians and set a time to return home, trick-or-treat in a group, and carry a cellphone.
- Trick-or-treaters should walk (not run), use sidewalks when available, cross the street at a corner or crosswalk, and watch for vehicles.
- An adult should inspect treats before they are eaten.

*continued on page 5*

# Council Meeting Actions

The Town Council met in regular session on October 4, 2016. The Town Council took the following actions:

1. Approval of an HVAC unit replacement application for 5515 Surrey Street.
2. Approval of an HVAC unit replacement application for 5519 Uppingham Street to replace 2 HVAC units.
3. Approval of an HVAC unit replacement application for 4805 Dorset Avenue.
4. Approval of an HVAC unit replacement application for 5412 Surrey Street.
5. Approval of the following permits at 5504 Surrey Street: demolition, building, dumpster, 1 tree removal, wall, and reforestation plan to plant 3 canopy trees.
6. Approval of the following 2016 fall tree plantings:

1 London Plane Tree Capello Park	1 Flowering Cherry 4811 Falstone Avenue
1 Sugar Maple Capello Park	1 Willow Oak 5804 Surrey Street
1 Red Maple 4701 Cumberland Avenue	1 London Plane Tree 5410 Trent Street
1 Redbud 4712 Cumberland Avenue	1 Red Maple 5407 Uppingham Street
1 Blackgum 4801 Cumberland Avenue	1 Yellowwood 5608 Warwick Place
1 White Oak 4718 Essex Avenue	1 White Oak 5801 Warwick Place
1 Red Maple 4701 Falstone Avenue	2 American Holly 4701 Willard Avenue
1 Flowering Cherry 4710 Falstone Avenue	
7. Approval to confirm the closure of the following intersections for the Somerset Elementary School race on October 16:  
Dorset and Wisconsin, 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.  
Greystone and River, 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.  
Dorset and Little Falls, 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
8. Approval to award a contract to Zoe Vulgaropulus, PhD student intern, in the amount of \$5,000, to complete a project and provide a report on "A Year in the Life of a Storm Drain." The project will measure water flow in the outlet near the bridge by the Town Pool.
9. Approval to close all three tennis courts on October 15 from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. for a Round Robin tennis event as recommended and sponsored by the Tennis Committee.
10. Mayor Slavin presented his monthly report. Town Manager Charnovich presented the September Financial Report and a brief summary on the final FY16 budget numbers. Discussion of Halloween night and trick or treating on Cumberland Avenue took place. It was determined that things would proceed as they have been in prior years, and the Town would do its best to secure part-time police to work in this area from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on Halloween evening.



## Manager's Corner (Halloween Safety Reminders) from page 4

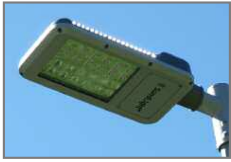
- Any suspicious activity should be reported to police. The police non-emergency number for the Second District is **240-773-6700**. **Dial 911** in the event of an emergency.

### Costumes

- Wear brightly colored costumes or reflective clothing.
- Consider using face make-up instead of wearing a mask. Masks can obstruct vision.
- Keep costumes short to avoid falling and tripping.
- Wear a flame-resistant costume.

# Improving Lighting on Somerset's Streets and Sidewalks

By Council Vice President Marnie Shaul, Uppingham Street



For many years, Somerset has discussed improving lighting on our streets and sidewalks, and the Town has participated in two street light experiments. More than 10 years ago, high pressure sodium lights were installed on much of Trent Street between Falstone and Uppingham streets. You can identify these lamps from their yellowish cast.

The late former Council Member Alan Proctor championed converting Somerset's street lights to LED lamps and former Environment Committee Chair **Mike Hill** (Dorset) spent hours talking to PEPCO in an attempt to get a reasonable price for the current obsolete mercury-vapor fixtures which you see on most Somerset streets. As a result of Somerset's interest in an LED conversion, about five years ago PEPCO chose Somerset as one its four pilot locations for LED lights. You can see two kinds of LED lights on Dorset from Surrey Street to Little Falls Parkway. These bulbs are now older technology and newer bulbs can be specified in a color range that is warmer and viewed as being healthier.

Many think that LED lights are the best choice for street lamps because they reduce energy use substantially and thus contribute to a greener environment. In addition, they provide good color differentiation at night and their color can be made warmer rather than bluish. LED lights can also provide an opportunity for the Town to control the level of light depending on external conditions. In addition, operations and maintenance costs should be reduced because LED bulbs are projected to last about 15 years compared to about three for our current mercury-vapor lights.

Somerset's Environment Committee has taken the lead on the lighting issue. Two members walked several streets with a lighting company that measured light on three points across the roadway. Some places were very dark either because not all poles had lights or more likely because the lamp was in the tree canopy. In addition, the committee has been following the city of Takoma Park's research on this topic. Takoma Park is currently in the process of deciding what route to choose to install LED street lights on all of its streets. Its staff has been able to gather and assess options and its Council will soon make a decision. Somerset can learn from their experience. If you are interested in details, you can read background material on the Takoma Park Council website for its September 21 meeting and you can watch the council discussion on its archived council meeting video site. Based on Takoma Park's research, the cost of converting all of Somerset's street lights may be in the neighborhood of \$200,000. If Somerset decides to invest in LED street lights, among the options Somerset could consider is installing LED lamps one street at a time or financing a complete installation through PEPCO.

At this time, the Town will be considering options. The Council allocated funds in the FY17 budget to hire a consultant to help assess lighting on our streets and help us determine how to replace lamps. Once the Environment Committee learns how Takoma Park plans to proceed, it is likely to make a recommendation to Somerset's Town Council about whether to hire a consultant and move forward. In addition, the Town may ask its arborist to look at some trees to determine if limited pruning could be helpful in increasing light on streets and sidewalks. Because LED conversion would be a considerable capital investment, it would be helpful for all of us to participate in this important conversation about street lighting.

## General Permits



### Tree Removal Permits

5818 Surrey Street, 1 Red Maple  
5807 Surrey Street, 1 Pin Oak  
4728 Dorset Avenue, 1 Copper Beech  
and 1 American Holly  
4717 Essex Avenue, 1 Flowering Cherry  
4823 Dorset Avenue, 1 Dogwood

### Fence Permit

4900 Essex Avenue,  
replace existing  
fence in both side  
yards and rear yard

### Pod Permit

5522 Uppingham Street  
5528 Greystone Street

### Dumpster Permit

5527 Uppingham Street  
4718 Cumberland Avenue



By Mayor Jeffrey Slavin, Warwick Place

We are going to be a lot healthier this winter because so many Somerset folks had their flu shots at the Town's annual clinic held in late October. Many thanks to **Barbara Marblestone** (Trent) for her leadership each year in organizing this clinic, which is conducted by the MedStar Visiting Nurse Association. We could not do it without the many volunteers who worked in two-hour shifts. Whether you received a flu shot or not, we must all remember to thoroughly wash our hands and get our rest and exercise so that we can avoid coughs and colds throughout the year.

Halloween is always a fun and festive day in Town and we are grateful to host lots of trick-or-treaters. For those at home during that holiday, the traditional Somerset Elementary School parade around the blocks close to the school is exciting to watch. This year a proposal – requested by a number of parents – to close heavily “treated” Cumberland Avenue to traffic (the “big” part comprising the 4700 to 4900 blocks) during the hours of 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. was considered by the Council, but they declined to act. Instead, we again scheduled a police presence. While I understand the arguments on each side of this issue, I think it would be good to try it once and then evaluate afterward. Sometime soon the Council will conduct a survey and perhaps the idea of closing Cumberland Avenue on Halloween evening will be considered again in 2017.

As a reminder to all, and especially to our newcomers, everyone is eligible to purchase a special Town of Somerset license plate from the State of Maryland. You may have seen these plates with their distinctive low numbers on many cars, including mine, around Town. With these plates, you can show your pride as a resident of one of our state's most active, welcoming and engaged municipalities. Contact Nicole at Town Hall for more information.

Practically every decision made in Town is based on citizen input. The best way such information is organized and communicated is through our active system of Town committees. I want to encourage everyone to join a committee at least once during their residency. There are a number of vacancies on committees at this time, so I urge everyone to go to the Town website to learn more. Please contact me with questions or to request an appointment to a specific committee.

The Town Council feted retired Town Attorney Norman Knopf recently at a delicious lunch at Town Hall, and many wonderful stories were shared. Norman is now living next door in the Village of Friendship Heights, and the Council and I hope he will remain active in the numerous community initiatives that all of us care about.



## Ladysmiths Jewelry Show

Following their successful show last year, The Ladysmiths will be back at the Town Hall again this year for “**The Ladysmiths at Somerset Town Hall**” Jewelry Show and Sale. There will be eight artists showing their work and each will be making one piece to give away as a door prize. The show is on **Sunday, November 20 from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.** Please drop by and see the talented Ladysmiths’ wares!



## Artists' Reception at Town Hall

Somerset residents **Ursula and Mark Dehejia** (Surrey) are currently exhibiting their recent art works at the Town Hall, through December 2. Come meet the artists and see their work at a wine-and-cheese reception at the Town Hall on **Sunday, November 13, from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.** No RSVP necessary!



Ursula and Mark Dehejia with their works



## “Ball Machine Day” Comes to Somerset Tennis Courts

By Frank Joseph, Chair, Tennis Committee, Warwick Place

Ever practice against a tennis ball machine? It’s a great way to perfect your shots and raise your game. The machine is consistent, continuous, and best of all, *non-judgmental*. Now you can get ball-machine practice on the Somerset tennis courts, and it’s free.

**Mark your calendar for our first “Ball Machine Day”**

**Saturday, November 19, 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. (rain date: Sunday, November 20)**

The event is open to all Somerset tennis-card holders of any skill level. Whether you’re a total novice or a 5-rated hotshot, an hour spent with the ball machine is bound to sharpen your shots.

### Tennis Instruction in Somerset

Weekend clinics with popular pro **Dara Mirala** remain underway every Saturday and Sunday, weather permitting. Here’s the schedule:

**Saturdays 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.:** Beginner adults

**Saturdays 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.:** Beginner kids

**Sundays 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.:** Intermediate kids

**Sundays 2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.:** Intermediate adults

Drop-ins are permitted, or sign up for the series. For sign-up information, rates and more, contact Dara Mirala directly at [daramirala@outlook.com](mailto:daramirala@outlook.com).

You can also organize your own group or individual instruction with Dara Mirala or the pro of your choice. There are time restrictions on group lessons, so make sure to read the Tennis Rules and Etiquette Code first. Find them on the Town website at <http://townofsomerset.com/2207/Recreational-Facilities>.

### Plenty of Tennis Weather Ahead

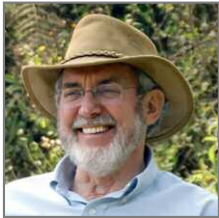
As I write this, it’s mid-October and temps are heading into the 80s. As you read this, it’s early November and the leaves are turning, with plenty of cool crisp days lying ahead before the snow starts to fly. I hope you’ll spend some of them enjoying tennis on our newly renovated Town courts.

## Somerset Elementary Back-to-School Classic – October 16, 2016



Photo credit: Jon Aldale, Alessandra Tassara





## All About People

By Alan Dock, Falstone Avenue

As I write this, the leaves are turning golden and tumbling down in all directions. I guess fall is really with us at last. The steady flow of folks coming back home to Somerset after vacations and visits to all parts of the world is stopping, and we are preparing for what old man winter has in store.

“  
Have a  
Safe & Happy  
Halloween!

One flow that does not stop is the flow of new families moving into our community. Joining the group on Warwick Place are **Peter Capozza** and **Mary Selvaggio** and their son **Jamvel** who is 21 – congratulations! Over on the corner of Cumberland and Wisconsin, **Aubrey Moss** is joining us. Welcome to you all. We hope you will soon find friends and see yourselves as part of the community of Somerset.

”

In an item of vacation news, **Barbara Levine** (Uppingham) makes the point that it is truly a “small world.” She writes: “on our final night in Taos, New Mexico, **Phil** and I were leaving our table when we heard someone say they were from Chevy Chase. When we indicated that we too were from Chevy Chase, they asked where we lived. I asked them if they knew of the Town of Somerset. Turns out they knew it well . . . they were **Mack** and **Ursula Dehejia** from Surrey Street!”



Here is an item of news from **Barbara Shea** (Surrey): **Thomas** and Barbara’s daughter **Katie** is home again after earning a Master’s degree in computer science from the Imperial College London. Katie plans to be here for a few months, interviewing for jobs, and spending time catching up with all her friends – of which there are many in Town. The invitation is out to her friends, call or stop by on Surrey Street to say hello and catch up.

Did many of you get around to the Ladysmiths jewelry show and sale in the Town Hall this time last year? If you didn’t, you have a second chance: eight artists will soon be displaying and selling a wide variety of crafted jewelry. The show is on Sunday, November 20, from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. and there will be door prizes! Make this the start of filling your gift list for the coming festive season!



Catherine Smith is an American Girl

It’s not often that “All About People” includes a cover girl, but this time we do. **Liz Smith** (Trent) emailed me that their daughter **Catherine** is featured in the September/October issue of *American Girl*. The story began when the family was trying to come home from a skiing trip through a snowstorm last winter and saw a small half-buried animal in a roadside snowdrift. They stopped and Catherine and her brother **Perry** got out of the car and recovered what turned out to be an almost frozen piglet! They took the piglet back to the hotel where they were waiting out the storm, and then brought Wee Wee, as they now called him, home. Eventually, the family reluctantly, and with some sadness from the children, left Wee Wee in the company of lots of other friendly animals at the Poplar Springs Animal Sanctuary in Poolesville, Maryland. Catherine wrote up the story for *American Girl* and was interviewed by the magazine. Liz thought that since so many neighbors came to visit Wee Wee and sent nice notes, they would want to know the end of the story. Now you understand why we have a cover girl this month!



## 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](mailto: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](mailto:srpvacationhomes@gmail.com) or **301-652-1207**.

**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 [diane.b.horn@gmail.com](mailto:diane.b.horn@gmail.com).

**HAVING TROUBLE WITH TECHNOLOGY?** Let me untangle it for you. Hire your own personal technology concierge, who helps you figure out what to buy, how it works, and keep it working. I am available for any question or issue. Call **Jonathan Horn** at **202-557-1151** or email [Jon.m.horn@gmail.com](mailto:Jon.m.horn@gmail.com).

**DON'T HAVE THE TIME OR INCLINATION TO TACKLE ALL YOUR TO DO'S?** Please let me help you troubleshoot, research and resolve those problems hanging over your head. Think of me as an extra set of hands to complete whatever projects need attention. Contact **Rob Albert** at **202-436-1115** or email [Rob@DependableDad.com](mailto:Rob@DependableDad.com).

**THE LADYSMITHS AT SOMERSET TOWN HALL JEWELRY SHOW AND SALE** will take place on November 20 from 11:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. There will be 8 local independent jewelers showing their work. We'll also have door prizes, music and refreshments. Don't miss it! For more information contact **Sandra Zacharia** at **301-657-3696** or email [artjewelsz@gmail.com](mailto:artjewelsz@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** (Warwick) at **301-654-7481** or Council Member **Barbara Zeughauser** (Trent) at **301-951-8560** and we will set it up.

## Spooky Somerset Celebrates Halloween



## Preliminary Agenda

### Regular Somerset Town Council Meeting

Somerset Town Hall, Monday, November 7, 2016 – 7:30 p.m.

The Somerset Town Council will meet in regular session on Monday, November 7, 2016 at 7:30 p.m. at the Somerset Town Hall. Agenda updates are posted on the Town website: [www.townofsomerset.com](http://www.townofsomerset.com).

**Council Work Session – 7:00 p.m.**

**Council Meeting Convenes – 7:30 p.m.**

**Comments: Public Comment Period – 7:30 p.m.\***

#### CONSENT

1. **Motion:** To consider approval of the August 1, 2016 Council Meeting Minutes.
2. **Motion:** To consider approval of the September 6, 2016 Council Meeting Minutes.
3. **Motion:** To consider approval of the October 4, 2016 Council Meeting Minutes.
4. **Motion:** To consider approval of a HVAC replacement application submitted for 4811 Cumberland Avenue.
5. **Motion:** To consider adoption of a Resolution proclaiming November to be Municipal Government Works Month.

#### NON-CONSENT

6. **Public Hearing/Motion:** To consider approval of the FY16 Audit as recommended by the Town Audit Committee – 7:40 p.m.
7. **Discussion:** Town Manager's October Financial Report – 7:45 p.m.



**Council Members:** Barbara Zeughauser, Franny Peale, Dudley Fowlkes, Marnie Shaul, Barbara Condos

*continued on page 12*

Preliminary Agenda from page 11

8. **Public Hearing/Motion:** To consider a recommendation of the Town Council acting as the Local Advisory Panel to the Historic Preservation Commission on an application submitted by Sandy Spring Builders, LLC for 4721 Essex Avenue. The applicants are requesting to construct a two-story addition, detached garage and tree removals – 7:50 p.m.
9. **Public Hearing/Motion:** To consider approval of the following Town tree plantings for the fall of 2016 as recommended by the Town Arborist and Parks and Natural Resources Committee: – 8:00 p.m.  
1 Flowering Cherry 4803 Falstone Avenue  
1 Red Maple 5406 Trent Street
10. **Public Hearing/Motion:** To consider approval of the removal of the following tree in the Town right of way as recommended by the Town Arborist: – 8:05 p.m.  
1 Cornelian Cherry Dogwood, 5504 Greystone Street
11. **Discussion:** General Code Project Update – 8:10 p.m.
12. **Discussion:** Mayor’s Report – 8:15 p.m.
13. **Adjourn:** – 8:20 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 blast for the most up-to-date Agenda.*

*The Mayor and Town Council may entertain a motion during the open meeting to close a portion of the meeting, in accordance with Section 3-305(b)(1)(7) of the Open Meetings Act (Maryland Code, General Provisions Article), to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice.*