



# SOMERSET TOWN JOURNAL

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



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## Save the Date:



### Annual Somerset Flu Clinic on Friday, October 21

2:45 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. (by appointment) at Town Hall

Please call Nicole Ventura at the Town Hall at 301-657-3211 to reserve a specific quarter-hour time slot for your appointment.



MedStar Visiting Nurse Association nurses will be at the Town Hall to provide the seasonal flu vaccine to residents ages 4 and over. Pneumococcal vaccines will also be available; it is recommended that everyone over the age of 65 receive one of each of the pneumococcal vaccines (Pneumovax and Prevnar), spaced one year apart. Check your records or contact your doctor if you are unsure of your pneumococcal vaccine history.

Costs are covered for Medicare participants enrolled in Medicare Part B if a Medicare card is shown at the time of service. Persons not enrolled in Medicare Part B must pay the following charges:

**Standard flu vaccine** – \$32.00

**High dose flu vaccine** (ages 65 and over) – \$65.00

**Pneumovax 23** – \$100.00

**Prevnar 13** – \$200.00

(Note: Flu Mist is not being produced this year.)

Individuals who participate in a Medicare PPO, HMO, or another type of Medicare replacement plan (e.g. Kaiser, Medicare Advantage, Cigna) must pay via check at the time of service. Checks are payable to MedStar VNA. MedStar cannot accept Medicaid or any other type of insurance; individuals in those plans must submit a copy of their vaccination record to their insurer for reimbursement.

**Please remember to bring your Medicare B card to your appointment and wear a short sleeved top to assist the nurses as they do their work.**

If you would like to volunteer for a two-hour shift at the clinic, please contact **Barbara Marblestone** (Uppingham) at [dbmarblestone@verizon.net](mailto:dbmarblestone@verizon.net) or 301-652-2485.

## Calendar

### Saturday, October 15

Tennis Round Robin

### Sunday, October 16

Back to School Classic Race

### Friday, October 21

Flu Clinic

### Saturday, October 22

A Wider Circle Pickup

### Monday, October 24

Bulk Refuse Pickup

### Monday, October 24

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.



# On My Mind

## Preserving the Past in Somerset

By Mayor Jeffrey Slavin

Young people will inevitably ask: why do we study history? They don't always understand the relevance. Here in Somerset, I have asked myself in a similar manner from time to time: why do we bother keeping records and storing artifacts? Is it really worth the effort and expense?

So, because it's the 21st century, the first place I turned to was the internet. There I found answers to these questions and an abundance of information on this topic.

I focused on four excellent reasons for preserving Somerset's past. They are: (1) to build community, (2) to understand change, (3) to create better public policy, and (4) to provide an (all-important) identity.

Accordingly, now is the time to re-invest in our municipality's history, so I am proclaiming a call-to-action. I would like to re-invigorate our History Committee and re-institute our History Day. I would like us to collect all the records and artifacts in residents' homes and establish policies and procedures for storing and maintaining them as well as those we already have.

Sometime this fall, I will meet with our dedicated History Committee Chair **Donna Harman** (Dorset) to begin this new initiative. In the meantime, I am asking residents to search their homes for documents, antiques and photos that are specific to Somerset. We will also be looking for more volunteers, especially, but not exclusively, those with library science, archival and record collection backgrounds.

Thank you for considering participating in what I believe will be a rewarding experience. All ideas are welcome.



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

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Monday thru Friday  
301-657-3211  
Fax: 301-657-2773  
TTY users call Maryland Relay

## General Permits



### Tree Removal Permits

5701 Warwick Place, 1 White Oak  
5519 Uppingham Street,  
1 Black Cherry and 1 Silver Maple

### Dumpster Permit

4900 Cumberland Avenue



## Back to School Classic Race Scheduled for Sunday, October 16

By Jeff Mascott, Race Director, Surrey Street

The Back to School Classic 8k and 2k race is one of the signature events in the Town of Somerset and the surrounding elementary school community. Proceeds from the race are used to help teachers and students at Somerset Elementary. This year's race is set for Sunday, October 16th and you can register to run either the 8k race or the 2k fun run at [somersetrace.com](http://somersetrace.com).

Every participant in this year's Back to School Classic is guaranteed to set a personal record. Why so confident you might ask? This year we are updating the 8k course, so everyone who runs the race will set a new course best! The race starts at the corner of Warwick and Dorset. It snakes around Somerset, crosses into Kenwood, loops around Kenwood, and then crosses back into Somerset to a finish on Dorset near Warwick.

Why did we update the course this year? The old course used one lane of busy multiple-lane streets (Willard, River, Bradley and Wisconsin) and traveled through multiple busy intersections. The Montgomery Country Police urged us to make the course safer for participants – especially since many elementary students run the 8k. As a result, we have made some changes to the course that we hope will enhance the race experience. Here are some of the new features

- The new 8k and 2k course will allow spectators who are located at the start and finish line to cheer runners *multiple times* during the race.
- We've designed the 8k and 2k courses so that runners will cross the finish line at the same location on Dorset.
- In the last mile, 8k runners will run up the big hill on Dorset, crest the top, and then down to the finish before the Warwick intersection. We're calling this new signature feature the Dorset Demon.

The new 8k course map is included as an insert in this edition of the Town Journal.

If you are around on October 16th, I hope you will take a moment to register for the race or sign up to volunteer at [somersetrace.com](http://somersetrace.com).



## Council to Consider Closing Cumberland Avenue on Halloween Night

By Mayor Jeffrey Slavin, Warwick Place

As practically everyone in Town knows, Halloween is traditionally a big night in Somerset, and we get many trick-or-treaters. In particular, Cumberland Avenue takes on the appearance of a street festival and most houses report several hundred visitors! In order to look out for children's safety, we have begun to assign one or two of the Town's police officers to oversee the area from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on Halloween night.

Given that we have received a number of requests to officially close Cumberland on Halloween night, akin to how we close some streets during the Somerset Back to School Race, the Council, at its October meeting, will consider whether to close Cumberland to all traffic on Halloween night.

The Council would like to have input from all interested residents on this issue so please call, write or email your opinions as soon as possible.



## Bulk Refuse Collection Date and A Wider Circle Pickup

We have set our fall pickups for bulk collection and donations. The **bulk refuse** collection will be on **Monday, October 24th** and the collection by **A Wider Circle** will be scheduled for **Saturday, October 22nd**.

Pickups from A Wider Circle must be scheduled in advance by Monday, October 17th. You can contact them either by phone at **301-608-3504** or via email at [furnish@awidercircle.org](mailto:furnish@awidercircle.org).



We strongly encourage you to donate your items!

## Flu Shot Clinic Reminder

Please see the article in this month's Town Journal on the annual flu shot clinic, which will be held at the Town Hall on **Friday, October 21, 2016**.



## Leaf Collection Starting in Late October

Fall is upon us! Leaf collection is scheduled to begin around the end of October. Please see the insert in this month's Journal for general collection guidelines arranged by street. You can also view this schedule on the Town's website at [townofsomerset.com](http://townofsomerset.com).

## WSSC Project in Town Parkland

A project that has been several years in the making was approved several months ago. An agreement was finalized between the Town and WSSC to complete a restoration project in the Town parkland adjacent to Wisconsin Avenue. A pre-construction meeting is scheduled sometime during the first half of October, 2016. Please follow the Town Journal and email notices for updates on this important infrastructure project.

## Pool Construction Project at the Close of the 2016 Pool Season

At the August 1 Council meeting, the Town Council approved a contract for construction work to take place at the conclusion

of the 2016 pool season. The work will commence shortly after the closure of the pool, and will take place on the pool plaster itself as well as on the baby pool. A full scope of the project can be obtained by contacting the Town Hall. Please see future email blast notices for progress reports.



## Somerset Elementary School Race on Sunday, October 16

Please see the article in this month's Journal on the annual Somerset Elementary School race. Note that the course has changed this year. I have worked with the school to obtain a map of the race route, and it appears as an insert in this month's Journal. For further details, please visit the Town's website at <http://www.somersetrace.com/>



## Halloween 2016

Please see the article in this month's Journal by Mayor Slavin outlining a proposal for closing Cumberland Avenue for several hours on the night of Halloween, October 31. This item is on the October 4 Town Council agenda for discussion and consideration.



## Keep Cars Locked!

Here are examples of strategies for preventing vehicle theft:

- 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 a visible anti-theft device that has a visible indicator (about \$20 to \$50). They 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/ call 911, non-emergency/call 301-279-8000.**



# Council Meeting Actions

The Town Council met in regular session on September 6, 2016. The Town Council took the following actions:

1. Approval of the August 1, 2016 Closed Meeting Minutes.
2. Approval of a replacement HVAC unit application at 5525 Surrey Street.
3. Approval of a replacement HVAC unit application at 5412 Surrey Street.
4. Approval to set the 2016 flu shot clinic day and time for October 21, 2016 from 2:45 p.m. to 6:00 pm in the Town Hall.
5. Approval to set the revised fall bulk pickup date for Monday, October 24, 2016.
6. Approval of a building permit request submitted for 4718 Cumberland Avenue to renovate the existing studio accessory building.
7. Approval of the removal of the following Town trees as recommended by the Town Arborist:
  - Dogwood 6” dbh Tree# 46 at 4712 Cumberland Avenue
  - Red Maple 11” dbh Tree# 29 at 4701 Cumberland Avenue
  - Mulberry 15” dbh No tag at Vinton Park corner of Wisconsin and Dorset
  - Sycamore 42” dbh Tree# 870 at Capello Park
  - Black Locust 19” dbh Tree# 881 at Capello Park
  - Norway Spruce 11” dbh Tree#920 at Capello Park
  - Red Maple 17” dbh Tree#689 at 5407 Uppingham Street
  - Norway Maple 10” dbh no tag at 5545 Warwick Place (Pool Parking Lot)
  - Pin Oak 29” dbh Tree# 347 at 4917 Essex Avenue
  - White Oak 2” dbh no tag at 5801 Warwick Place
  - River Birch 20” dbh Tree #69
  - Tulip Poplar 46” in Town parkland
8. Approval of a payment to Mark Jones, tennis court construction consultant, in the amount of \$3,036.80 for consulting services in relation to the tennis court resurfacing and drainage project.
9. Approval to set the date for the January, 2017 Council meeting for Tuesday, January 3, 2017.
10. Mayor Slavin presented his monthly report. Town Manager Charnovich was not at the meeting to present the August Financial Report or the FY16 summary. The Mayor and Council discussed further dates to hold Town Code workshop sessions. Once the dates and times are determined, they will be publicized.



Richard Siegman artwork at Town Hall

## New Art Exhibit at Town Hall through October 16

By Barbara Zeughauser, Council Member, Trent Street

As part of the Town Hall modernization project, the Town renovated the meeting room to also function as an art gallery. Since then, we've had numerous successful art shows held there by our local resident artists.

**Richard Siegman** has acted as our art advisor, and has installed all of the displayed pieces for each show with care and consideration for the piece and the artist. Richard is a well known artist in his own right, and he is now the featured artist at the Town Hall through October 16th. Richard was born in Uniontown, Pennsylvania in 1949, studied art at Penn State University, and has lived and worked as a painter, sculptor, and photographer in the Dupont Circle area of Washington, DC since 1973.

In 1996, Richard established Pass Gallery, a venue showcasing Washington artists and photographers creating abstract, minimal, pop, conceptual, and digital art. For 40 years, Richard Siegman's work has been shown at many national and area galleries, art centers, alternative art spaces, and universities.

Please stop by the Town Hall to enjoy Richard's work.

Opening Soon:

## Dehejia Art Show at Town Hall Starts on October 18

Long time Somerset residents, **Ursula** and **Mak Dehejia** (Surrey), will be exhibiting some of their recent art work at the Town Hall from October 18 through December 2, 2016. Come and meet the artists and enjoy wine and cheese at a **reception** at the Town Hall on **Sunday, November 13 between 2:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m.**

Ursula Dehejia took up watercolor painting after retiring from full time employment. She received art instruction from Susan Abbott of Vermont, and continued to study watercolor with well known local artists, Bonny Lundy and Gwen Bragg.

More recently, Ursula began creating collages with her own hand-painted papers as well as with acrylic abstracts. She enjoys the creative freedom that the collage process makes possible. She notes: "I can concentrate more on creating shapes and color juxtapositions rather than depicting objects. My deep interest in nature provides much of the inspiration for the designs in my work."

Mak Dehejia took up painting after retiring from a long career in engineering and finance for industry. Although he has painted with oil based and acrylic paints, his preferred medium is watercolor because of its transparency and ability to mix wet-on-wet on paper producing unexpectedly interesting results.

Mak's landscapes reflect his early childhood experiences. He grew up in rural India where dust storms routinely created glorious sunsets and where streams and ponds provided welcome relief from the hot sun. Reflections in water fascinate Mak and are a favorite theme in his paintings.

Mak is a member of the Yellow Barn at Glen Echo where he took his first lessons in watercolor painting. He also belongs to the Gaithersburg Fine Arts Association, the Baltimore Watercolor Society, and the Art League of Alexandria and was recently elected a member of the Potomac Valley Watercolorists. He has exhibited regularly in the DELMARVA region and has won several awards.



Venice Molivadas (Greystone), Alice Champlin (Greystone) and Dorothy Rose (Surrey) gather at the Ice Cream Social



Lila Snow (Essex) shares stories of Somerset



Marian Scheiner (Falstone) and Lucy Freeman (Dorset) enjoy the party

## Somerset's Ice Cream Social Honors Nonagenarians

By Barbara Zeughauser, Council Member, Trent Street

**Dolores Bartning** (formerly Surrey), a long-time resident of Somerset (who recently moved to California to join her family), started the lovely tradition of celebrating and honoring Somerset's nonagenarians with an ice cream social.

On Thursday, September 15, the Town continued this wonderful tradition. The weather was spectacular and the company was truly delightful. Six of our 16 nonagenarians attended: **Florence Gang** (Falstone), **George Harman** (Dorset), **Venice Molivadas** (Greystone), **Dorothy Rose** (Surrey), **Marian Scheiner** (Falstone) and **Alice Champlin** (Greystone). **Mayor Jeffrey Slavin** (Warwick) gathered the guests for conversation and reminiscences of Somerset life over the decades.

Special thanks to **Phyllis Wiesenfelder** (Cumberland), who organized the party with the help of Council Member **Barbara Zeughauser** (Trent) and **Lucy Freeman** (Dorset). In addition, many thanks to **Council Member Barbara Condos** (Falstone), **Council Vice President Marnie Shaul** (Uppingham) and **Bruce Tulley** (Warwick) for their support.



By Mayor Jeffrey Slavin (Warwick)

We are getting many compliments on the new publication, *A Guide to Somerset: Handbook and Directory*, which is a redesign and complete upgrade to the Town directory. Kudos are in order to the Ad Hoc Communications Committee so ably chaired by **Town Journal Editor Barbara Marenus** (Surrey) and consisting of **Cinzia Furlanetto** (Dorset), **Ilene Heller** (Uppingham), **Diane Horn** (Surrey) and **Mary Wisniewski** (Greystone). Because of these dedicated volunteers our residents will be so much better informed over the next year! Congrats are also in order for **Kathryn** and **Ed Schwartz** (Essex)—particularly Chair Kathryn—for their leadership in making our recent Newcomers’ Welcome such a big success. And finally thanks to **Tennis Committee Chair Frank Joseph** (Warwick) and his crew for organizing a memorable event to celebrate the grand opening of our completely new tennis courts. I am so glad to see how much the use of the facility has increased.

Once again I was a participant in the region’s Car Free Day, which the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB) organized on September 22. On this day, citizens of the D.C. region are encouraged to go car free for 24 hours by using public transportation, bicycling or walking – or at the very least going “car lite” and/or carpooling. The aim is to improve air quality, reduce traffic congestion and parking demands, and conserve energy. It is part of an international celebration that took place in more than 1,500 cities in 40 countries. I hope that more of us will help save the planet in 2017 and make a pledge to go car free by visiting [www.carfreemetrodc.org](http://www.carfreemetrodc.org).

As mentioned in my On My Mind column, in the near future I will be starting a campaign to ramp up our Town history programs and collections. I need everyone's help. There are a number of you who have Somerset records and memorabilia in your homes that we would like to identify and collect if possible. I would also like to revive the History Day that had been so memorable for many of us in the past. We also need to establish policies and procedures for storing and maintaining our documents and antiques. I am looking for additional volunteers, so those of you with backgrounds in archiving, library science and event planning are especially needed but anyone can help. I will work closely with **History Committee Chair Donna Harman** (Dorset) who has contributed so much to our municipality for many years.

As I am always looking for good sources of local news, each month I continue to enjoy reading The Agenda News online, which always has lots of info you cannot get elsewhere. The publication is published by area resident Bob Joiner and is available as a free subscription if you go to the website at [www.theagendanews.com](http://www.theagendanews.com).



## Tennis and Fall . . . A Perfect Combination!

By Frank Joseph, Chair, Tennis Committee, Warwick Place

With temperatures cooling and leaves turning, fall and tennis go together. Grab a racquet and see what’s up at the courts.

### *Somerset’s First Annual Fall Round Robin*

Join the friendly fray! You’ll be paired with players of comparable ability in an event that’s both competitive and social. There’s no fee, and guests are welcome (though in case of a crowd, first priority goes to registered Town tennis players). There will be refreshments on hand and prizes for the winners. It’s a great opportunity to meet new people, get some exercise, have fun . . . and maybe even earn bragging rights. The event goes on until winners are declared. You can figure on one to three hours depending on the number of participants.

Haven’t played in a round robin previously? Not a problem. **Kathy Wenger** (Cumberland), one-time organizer of Virginia Slims and Carter Barron tourneys, will be on hand to explain how play goes and oversee the proceedings.

**Date:** Saturday, October 15 (Rain date Sunday, October 16)

**Time:** 3:00 p.m. or sign up now! Contact **Kathy Wenger** directly at [kathywenger@me.com](mailto:kathywenger@me.com).

### *Weekend Tennis Instruction*

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

**Saturday 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. – Beginner adults**

**Sunday 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Intermediate kids**

**Saturday 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. – Beginner kids**

**Sunday 2:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Intermediate adults**

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

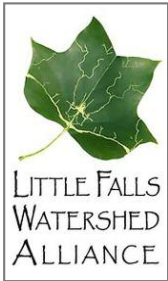
### *Instruction on Your Own*

Organize your own group or individual instruction. Dara Mirala is available ([daramirala@outlook.com](mailto:daramirala@outlook.com)) or bring 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>.



# Historical Research Reveals Forgotten River Road Community

By Paige Whitley, Cumberland Avenue



Through recent volunteer work with the Little Falls Watershed Alliance (LFWA), I have learned a great deal about the history of the area surrounding Somerset. I was amazed to learn of a vibrant African-American community that existed here from pre-Civil War times until post-segregation development changed the character of the area. Here are some highlights of the LFWA research.

## *You probably know . . .*

- the Capital Crescent Trail is built on the old rail line of the Georgetown spur of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, which was originally completed in 1910 and was operated as a minor freight spur from 1889 until 1985.

## *But did you know . . .*

- at the end of Allendale Lane, across from the Greystone Street entrance to Somerset, is a private home that operated as a trading post in the 1700s and later served as the home of the Loughborough family of Milton Plantation, a huge tobacco plantation?
- after the Civil War, freed slaves from Milton Plantation were given small plots of land on what is now the site of the condominium at the corner of River Road and Little Falls Parkway, and that the community gradually grew to both sides of River Road?
- there was a River Road School for “colored” children from 1916 to 1955 at the site of the current radio tower, and that this school actually received money from the Rosenwald Foundation to build a new three-teacher school in 1925?
- that in 1911 White’s Tabernacle, an African-American fraternal organization, bought land off River Road and in 1922 received permission from Congress to move an African-American cemetery from Tenleytown to “out of the District”?
- not only the former slaves of the Milton Plantation but other African-Americans moved to the area after 1910, including Cleveland, William and Isaac Clipper, for whom the current Clipper Lane is named?
- one of the Clipper brothers deeded his home to the Macedonia Baptist Church, which still exists on River Road?
- a semi-professional black baseball team called the River Road Lions played in the 1920s and 1930s on a diamond located near what is now Washington Episcopal School?

The LFWA is conducting historical research to confirm whether the African-American cemetery once existed on land behind the current MacDonald’s and Talbert’s. Research is also being carried out to determine whether graves were moved after the sale of the land in 1958 by White’s Tabernacle to Dr. Leo Furr of Minnesota (who turned out to be a nephew of William Carrington, a real estate guru in Chevy Chase who also bought up more adjacent land to the cemetery) or if human remains might still be interred under the tarmac. If research proves that the cemetery had NOT been moved, Equity One, the developers, then needs to conduct a cemetery delineation before moving forward with future construction. Records of deaths and burials for African Americans during the time period are woefully absent. Anyone in the community who has any information or possible leads regarding the cemetery should contact me at [lpwhitley@me.com](mailto:lpwhitley@me.com).

The LFWA and Maryland–National Capital Parks and Planning Commission propose that the Westbard development plan should include a natural stream and historical park that highlights the rich history of the African American community in our area.

## 2016 Dog Swim

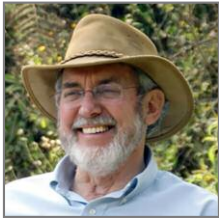


Best day of the year for dogs!



Quite a crowd at the 2016 Dog Swim





## All About People

By Alan Dock, Falstone Avenue

I finished last month's column by congratulating the Dolphins on their very successful swimming season. My last paragraph referred to the photo finish win of **Yasha Fotoohi** (Warwick) in his event against the previously undefeated team of Calverton. For the record, here is the photo captured by **Ellen Globokar** (Dorset).



” Yasha Fotoohi wins again in a successful Dolphin season

“ Welcome to Our Autumn Newcomers!

News from **Ellie Fink** (Dorset). She writes their son **Owen** and his family have moved to North Bethesda, and Owen is now a veterinary surgeon. He is practicing his skills at the Hope Advanced Veterinary Center in Rockville, so if your “Golden” needs a new hip, or your pet has other tricky issues, contact Owen!

Last month, the Town hosted the annual welcome party for new residents of Somerset. The event was organized this

year by **Kathryn** and **Ed Schwartz** (Essex). The event took a refreshingly different path when it came to introducing the new residents. Have you heard the NPR program on a Saturday morning called *Wait Wait Don't Tell Me*? It involves guessing which are true and which are false statements about celebrities on the program. Sufficient to say when the game was applied to our new residents, the most improbable lines were found to be true! Thank you, Kathryn and Ed, for all your hard work on such an enjoyable occasion!



This year more than fifteen families moved into Somerset, and many of them turned out for the welcome party at the pool and were formally welcomed by **Mayor Jeffrey Slavin** (Warwick). The many longer term residents who were on hand reinforced the message that Somerset is first and foremost a *community*.



Somerset welcomes our new neighbors

I wandered through the party of 40 or 50 people, listening to the first reactions of new residents and some of the fresh ideas that old and new residents were exchanging. One idea that seemed popular was the possibility of extending the use of the pool area as a community center for the month before the pool opens, and again in October after the pool closes. The gas grills could be used by residents who want a gathering area in the evenings. The area might need additional fencing to isolate it from the pool, and an individual would need to be responsible for ensuring security and tidiness in the grill area. I don't believe the costs or organization would be insurmountable, and I hope the new Social Events

Committee (soon to be announced by the Mayor) will consider this possibility. While on the subject of committees, our various committees always welcome additional volunteers, so have a look at the list in the new and very helpful Town publication, *A Guide to Somerset: Handbook and Directory*, produced by the Ad Hoc Communications Committee. Choose a topic that interests you and get involved.

Following the Newcomers' Party, the Town hosted its annual ice cream social for nonagenarians in our community who have reached that reflective age. This select group of residents enjoyed the ice cream with a fair number of Somerset residents in their 70's and 80's. Over 90's included **Alice Champlin** (Greystone), **Florence Gang** (Falstone), **Dorothy Rose** (Surrey), **Marian Scheiner** (Falstone), **Venice Molivadas** (Greystone) and **George Harman** (Dorset), while **Lila Snow** (Essex) is just one year away!

Someone produced old photograph albums of Somerset, and there were many tales told of those early years. **Alice Champlin** remembered driving to Baltimore in the sixties with then Mayor Warren Vinton to sign the contract for the construction of the Town Pool. Mayor Vinton had a great deal to do with the design of the pool, and insisted that it include walk-in steps at the shallow end for small children and older residents.

From among the other guests, **Jim** and **Ginny Mahoney** (Cumberland) reminisced about the early days when River Road was two lanes, and Little Falls Parkway did not exist. When you have time on your hands, browse the Town website at [townofsomerset.com](http://townofsomerset.com) for more historical information.

The story that gave rise to the most chuckles was when **Florence Gang** remembered that in the late fifties the Town was known as “little Peyton Place!” As she added dryly, maybe because it was a quiet and sharing town.



## 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).

**HOUSE FOR RENT – UPPINGHAM STREET:** Spacious and bright classic Rambler. Four large bedrooms, three renovated bathrooms, large closets, hardwood floors, crown moldings and large skylights. Beautiful mantle over fireplace in large living room. Sunporch overlooking backyard. Available now \$5,000.00 per month. Contact **Georganne Banning** at 304-673-0332 or [gblandis@yahoo.com](mailto:gblandis@yahoo.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.

# Fall Is A Great Time for Tree Planting!

By Paige Whitley, Member, Parks and Natural Resources Committee, Cumberland Avenue

*“Every oak tree started out as a couple of nuts who decided to stand their ground.” – Anonymous*



Have a wet spot? Energy bills too high in summer? Too much biting wind in winter? Consider planting a tree to solve your problem!

Many of us in Somerset complain of drainage issues. Well, trees are part of nature’s water filter. Trees soak up more water than other plants, catching rainfall in their canopies and developing more porous soils over time. Trees use water during the growing season, making more room to store water in the soil during storms. Trees trap and treat nutrients, keeping pollutants out of streams and groundwater. They store carbon to make cleaner air.

Late fall is an excellent time to plant trees. That’s NOW! At this time a tree is most able to tolerate the stresses of being relocated because it is entering its winter dormancy and root growth is least active. Thus it is more able to recover from stress.

The Parks and Natural Resources Committee wants to encourage the planting of CANOPY trees, those trees that grow tall and provide shade and shelter to various natural species, including humans! These include black gum, oak, sycamore, beech and poplar.

For a list of native trees and their site conditions (wetland/dry soil/shade/sun/etc.), see the website: [http://www.montgomeryplanning.org/events/leaves/ln\\_qualifying\\_trees.shtm](http://www.montgomeryplanning.org/events/leaves/ln_qualifying_trees.shtm).

## Preliminary Agenda

### Regular Somerset Town Council Meeting

Somerset Town Hall, Tuesday, October 4, 2016 – 7:30 p.m.

The Somerset Town Council will meet in regular session on Tuesday, October 4, 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 a HVAC replacement application submitted for 5515 Surrey Street.
4. **Motion:** To consider approval of a HVAC replacement application to replace 2 HVAC units at 5519 Uppingham Street.
5. **Motion:** To consider approval of a HVAC replacement application submitted for 4805 Dorset Avenue.
6. **Motion:** To consider approval of a HVAC replacement application submitted for 5412 Surrey Street.

#### NON-CONSENT

7. **Discussion:** Town Manager’s September Financial Report – 7:40 p.m.
8. **Discussion:** FY16 summary financial report – 7:45 p.m.



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

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**9. Public Hearing/Motion:** To consider approval of a permit application submitted by Ron Minsk and Gail Daumit, 5504 Surrey Street. The applicants are requesting the following permits:demolition, building, dumpster, 1 tree removal, and wall permits – 7:55p.m.

**10. 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: – 8:15 p.m.

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 Red Maple 5406 Trent Street
1 Redbud 4712 Cumberland Avenue	1 London Plane Tree 5410 Trent Street
1 Blackgum 4801 Cumberland Avenue	1 Red Maple 5407 Uppingham Street
1 White Oak 4718 Essex Avenue	1 Yellowwood 5608 Warwick Place
1 Red Maple 4701 Falstone Avenue	1 White Oak 5801 Warwick Place
1 Flowering Cherry 4710 Falstone Avenue	2 American Holly 4701 Willard Avenue
1 Red Maple 4803 Falstone Avenue	

**11. Public Hearing/Motion:** To consider closure of the following intersections for the annual Somerset Elementary Race on October 16, 2016– 8:20 p.m.

Dorset and Wisconsin	8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
Greystone and River	9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
Dorset and Little Falls	9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

**12. Public Hearing/Motion:** To consider closure of Cumberland Avenue from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on Halloween night for trick-or-treating, October 31 – 8:30 p.m.

**13. Discussion:** General Code Project Update – 8:40 p.m.

**14. Discussion:** Mayor’s Report – 8:45 p.m.

**15. 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 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.*