



# SOMERSET TOWN JOURNAL

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



Volume 62 • No. 8

August | 2017

Date of Publication: July 31, 2017

## Somerset Stories on TV!

By Cathy Pickar, Dorset Avenue

Calling all ages of Somerset residents! Have an interesting story to tell? Tell it to a TV camera! Any seventh to twelfth graders interested in a one-time co-hosting opportunity? Please contact me at [cpickar@gmail.com](mailto:cpickar@gmail.com) or leave a message at 240-447-6847. Let's talk about the possibilities.

*Somerset Stories* is a series of interviews with Somerset elected officials and residents who have interesting stories to tell. It's a digital time capsule that archives a window into our community for current and future generations along with a peek at small-town democracy--a treat for Somerset's Bicentennial in 2106! This activity originated when Montgomery Municipal Cable's (MMC) executive producer approached Town officials about creating a show that would cast a spotlight on community residents and serve as a model for other municipalities. After Council Vice President **Marnie Shaul** (Uppingham), with the concurrence of other Council Members and Mayor **Jeffrey Slavin** (Warwick), asked me to volunteer as host for the show, I agreed to meet with the producer, take a crash course in hosting, and get the show up and running. As a public access channel, MMC's mission is to increase community awareness in Montgomery County municipalities through television coverage and archived video.

*Somerset Stories* will formally launch in September with times and interviews listed below. Future stories will air in October, including interviews with sculptor **Bart Rubenstein** and his son **Ari** (Dorset), who with family founded the Mother Earth Project (<http://motherearthproject.org>.) Joining Bart and Ari will be Somerset Elementary School art teacher Lynn Lewis who with her students, one of whom will be on the show, joined over 80,000 other students worldwide to participate in the Mother Earth Project. All ages of Somerset residents are encouraged to participate in this exciting new Town opportunity, and I look forward to hearing from you.

*Somerset Stories* will be launched in September. Here are the dates and times:

- **Wednesday, September 6, 10:00 p.m.** — Interview with Mayor **Jeffrey Slavin**
- **Wednesday, September 13, 10:00 p.m.** — Interview with Council Vice President, **Marnie Shaul**
- **Wednesday, September 20, 10:00 p.m.** — Interview with Council Members **Barbara Condos** (Falstone), **Franny Peale** (Uppingham) and **Barbara Zeughauser** (Trent)
- **Wednesday, September 27<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 p.m.** — Interview with Town residents **Paige Whitley** (Warwick) and **David Kathan** (Dorset) on *The Forgotten African American Community of River Road*.

*Somerset Stories* will be new on **Wednesdays at 10:00 p.m.** with repeats of the Wednesday show on the following Friday, Saturday and Sunday at 6:00 p.m. After airing on Channel 16, links to the shows as well as downloads of the mp4 video files will be available at MMC's website, <http://www.mmctv.org/video.html>. Just click on *Somerset Stories*. In addition, the videos will also be posted on Somerset's website at [www.townofsomerset.com](http://www.townofsomerset.com).

### Calendar

**Monday, August 22**  
MVA Mobile Office at  
Friendship  
Heights from 10:00 a.m. to  
2:00 p.m.

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

By Mayor Jeffrey Slavin, Warwick Place

## Town Hall Renovation, Part 2

Over the last decade, I have been proud to help re-orient our elected officials and staff to the significance and priority of the Somerset budget process. Overseeing the finances of the Town is our most important responsibility.

A close second on the list, to me, is our obligation to protect and preserve our capital assets, like the streets, the trees and the parkland. The Council has also done a great job in recent years in this arena. When I pass by our award winning pool house, I am always reminded of that.

Another high priority public facility is the center of our government--the Town Hall--which before my tenure had been seriously neglected for decades. I felt it was embarrassing for our citizens, let alone our visitors. But the Council sharpened their pencils, established a process, and appropriated funds for changes and improvements to the meeting room and downstairs offices. These plans have been well received by all.

Now, thanks to our improved budgeting process, the Council has set aside a substantial number of dollars in this fiscal year to make further badly needed changes to the second floor. This proposed restoration would allow for more space for public meetings, staff, and storage and improve the efficiency of the government. Renovating the second bathroom will provide a highly desired amenity for the residents, too.

The expected expenditure, which is now being reviewed by elected officials and citizens before a final decision is reached, may be what some would consider a large amount. Yet I feel such funds are highly appropriate for a building worth over a million dollars. I hope residents will become informed of what the Council proposes to do and give these plans their endorsement.

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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*

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.

*\*Editor for this month's Journal*

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

# The Forgotten African American Community of River Road

By Paige Whitley, Cumberland Avenue

On June 15th **David Kathan** (Dorset) and I gave a presentation at the Town Hall on research we and Amy Rispin of Brookdale conducted for the Little Falls Watershed Alliance titled “The Forgotten African American Community of River Road.” For those of you who did not attend, I would like to summarize this interesting and important story.

Somerset was once part of what was called the “Friendship Tract” in colonial times. Before the Civil War, large plantations covered this area. Most plantation owners owned slaves, including Richard Williams, who owned land in what is now Somerset. After the Civil War, eight African American families bought land along River Road in what is now the commercial strip between Little Falls Parkway and Ridgefield Road. At least two families definitively had slave origins. Two things spurred the growth of the community: the development of railway and trolley transportation and the move by 1890 of the USDA Veterinary Experimentation Station from the National Mall to where Norwood Park now lies. That station brought USDA scientists and clerks to our area and led to the founding of Somerset. It also provided steady employment to six or seven heads of African American families until the 1930s, when the station moved to Beltsville. After WWII, outsiders began to buy land from the River Road families and the area’s economy began to shift from heavy to light industry and to service work, so it no longer employed many of the community. By 1960, only two of the community’s eight founding families held land; by 1963 they, too, had sold to developers.

The community had ties between its members and with other communities through family, faith, leisure, and education. Faith was shown at the Rock Creek Baptist Church in Tenleytown at the turn of the century and later at the Macedonia Baptist Church, the only existing physical structure that links present-day River Road to this past community. There are other links to this community. Clipper Lane was named after three brothers Clipper who built there in the 1910s. The River Road Lions, a black baseball team, played a circuit from Georgetown to Boyds, MD in the 1920s and 1930s. The baseball field was located at the present-day Ballroom on Landy Lane.

Education was important. Starting in 1912, children attended school in a rented space in a house. After numerous requests, in 1925 the River Road Colored School was built with community funds and matching funds from the Julius



River Road Colored School Circa 1926 (from the Montgomery County Historical Society)

Rosenwald Foundation. (Rosenwald was the Sears Roebuck philanthropist and is the great-grandfather of Somerset resident **David Stern**.) The Montgomery County Board of Education contributed the land. The school was located on the current site of the radio tower behind McDonald’s until it closed in 1955 and its children and teachers were integrated into formerly all white schools like Somerset and Cabin John elementary schools.

In 1911, a Tenleytown African American benevolent society bought land between what is now the HOC Building and Talbert’s for use as a cemetery. The land was sold in 1958. Despite claims that bodies were moved, no evidence supports this. On the contrary, oral reports from public meetings related to the Westbard Sector Plan tell of bones being discovered on site or reportedly bundled into bags for burial elsewhere.

This cemetery land is “sacred space” and the focus of the current dispute. Since it is sited along the Willett Stream, parkland plans already approved in the relevant County Sector Plan should protect it. However, the developer wishes to expand the HOC footprint and build on cemetery land closer to the stream. Area communities object to this.

Our research paper detailing the history of this community will appear this fall in the D.C. Historical Society’s *Washington Journal*. To review the Willett Stream park plan in the Westbard Sector development plan, see the Little Falls Watershed Alliance website [www.lfwa.org](http://www.lfwa.org).



## July 4th Celebration— Thank You to All!

We would like to thank all of those who took the time to attend the event, and we would like to extend an extra special thank you to all the volunteers who helped make the day such an incredible success!

## WSSC Project Update in Town Parkland

The WSSC sewer rehabilitation project is underway in the Town Parkland adjacent to Wisconsin Avenue. Thus far some clearing has taken place as well as the installation of the safety fencing. A few trees have been removed, as marked and authorized for removal by our Town Arborist in advance. The next step will be to install the temporary roadway in the Parkland.

## Commercial Activities on Town-Owned Property

This is a friendly reminder that commercial activities are not permitted on Town of Somerset owned property without advance approval of the Mayor and the Town Council. This includes selling items in the parkland near the Town Pool and within the Pool enclosure itself.

## Pet Reminders: Pet Waste and Leash Law

This is a friendly reminder to clean up pet waste in the community. Dog waste must be cleaned up on private property and in public spaces. Also, dogs must be kept on a leash when not on the owner's premises. Thank you for complying with these laws and for being a good neighbor. Please visit the Montgomery County website for a comprehensive list of pet laws at: <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/animalservices/asd/laws.html>

## Going on Vacation in August?

The Montgomery County Police Department publishes a list of important tips on its website to help protect your home while away and on vacation. You can visit the website and view the tips at: <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/POL/ofc-info/Crimetips.html>

## Summer Safety Tips from Montgomery County

Montgomery County provides a comprehensive summer safety guide from A-Z on its website. Here is a link to this important and useful resource for residents of Somerset and the County: <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/summersafety/>



## Maintenance of Shrubbery over Sidewalks and Common Areas

With summer here, please make sure you are familiar with the section of the Town Code relating to shrubbery growing over sidewalks and maintenance of the area between your property and the street curb. This law is important for the safety and visibility of pedestrians, motorists, and bicyclists.

Section 4-101 of the Code addresses this topic. Please contact the Town Hall if you would like a copy of this section. The Town Code, in its entirety, can be located on the Town's website at [www.townofsomerset.com](http://www.townofsomerset.com).

## Lock All Cars Parked on the Street and Driveways

Here are examples of ways to prevent auto theft:

- Lock all your doors and close the windows.
- Remove all valuables from inside the vehicle, especially GPS systems, or lock them in your trunk.
- Do not leave electronic devices or accessories visible.
- Keep the car registration in your wallet or purse rather than in the vehicle.
- Park in a well-lit and populated area.
- Use an 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 911, non-emergency 301-279-8000.



# From The Mayor's Desk

By Mayor Jeffrey Slavin

While the weather was hot, it was not unbearable, and otherwise our Town's most popular annual event—the July 4th celebration—took place with great success this year. After two Somerset Brownies, **Iona Maroon** (Greystone) and **Clara Bloodworth** (Warwick), presented the colors, **Andrew Lewis** (Trent) once again sang a beautiful rendition of the National and Somerset anthems. Rising 5th grader **Peter Kumar** (Uppingham) read his prize winning 4th grade essay “If I Were Mayor, I Would” which he delivered with great poise and eloquence. Later we heard a large number of our young people read aloud the Declaration of Independence, organized by my next door neighbor **Kathy Toomey** (Warwick). It was a great reminder of the significance of the all Freedoms which we so dearly hold in the USA.



A number of our elected officials or their representatives stopped by to offer holiday messages. These included our outstanding new Congressman **Jamie Raskin**, **Marcy Frosh** (Grantham), wife of our distinguished and popular Attorney General **Brian Frosh** (Grantham), District 16 Senator Susan Lee, District 16 Delegate Marc Korman, County Councilmember George Leventhal, and County Executive Ike Leggett, accompanied by First Lady Catherine Leggett.



The cupcake decorating contest which we began three years continues to increase in popularity, and this year's judges

were **Bruce Tully** (Warwick), **Vicki Frink** (Cumberland), **Phyllis Wiesenfelder** (Cumberland) along with **Peter Kumar** (Uppingham). We are grateful that **Alex Pack** (Surrey) once again led the children's games after the proceedings. Many thanks to Town staff, including Rich Charnovich, Nicole Ventura, Enrique Cabrera, Tomas Villeneuve, and Jose Castillo for their hard work in orchestrating the day's activities and to the Ad Hoc Committee we put together for this event.

Later that day, as I have done for many years, it was my privilege to bring greetings from Somerset and to attend the official program at the annual July 4 celebration in the Village of Friendship Heights, literally “next door” to us. And I was very excited to learn that one of their 2017 honorees, Brighton Gardens resident Barbara Turlington, actually grew up in Somerset in the house next to mine and attended our elementary school. We had our photo taken together and I will be inviting her to the annual ice cream social coming up the fall. She has some great stories to tell!



Council Vice President **Marnie Shaul** (Uppingham), Town Manager Rich Charnovich, and I once again made the trek to Ocean City for the annual Maryland Municipal League (MML) Conference for many of the municipal officials from across the State. We attended a number of workshops, visited potential vendors for the Town and networked, networked, networked. One of the highlights of the trip was a presentation at the banquet by outgoing MML President Tracy Farrish Gant (Mayor of Edmonston, a small town the size of ours right next to Hyattsville) of her theme for the 2016–2017 year—Inclusion. Accompanying her reading of a poem about this topic was an artist drawing a picture which included all the colors on the spectrum. I hope that we can all learn and benefit from this very powerful presentation.

As often happens this time of year, minor crime increases in Somerset. I have spoken with the police about this recently and wish to remind everyone to always lock cars and increase lighting inside and surrounding your house, especially when you are away. These are some of the best ways to prevent a problem.



AUGUST

## Somerset Kids Have Their Say

2017

We have recently begun to solicit and publish occasional pieces written by and for kids. All children living in Somerset are welcome to contribute. Just send your article and any photos or drawings by the 15th of the month to the Journal editors: Barbara Marenus at [bmarenus@gmail.com](mailto:bmarenus@gmail.com) and Mary Wisniewski at [mary.p.wisniewski@gmail.com](mailto:mary.p.wisniewski@gmail.com). Let your fellow Somerset residents know what's new in your world. We'd love to hear from you!

### This month's Kids' Page focuses on the many Somerset "kids" who had starring roles at the Town's July 4th Celebration.

### Cupcake Decorating Contest



Agell/Harper Family (Dorset)

Julia Meddin (Warwick)

Rodriguez Family (Greystone)

### Annual reading of the Declaration of Independence by young Somerset residents



### Children's games, directed by Alex Pack (Surrey)



Plus, Peter Kumar (Uppingham) read his prize winning 4th grade essay, "If I Were Mayor, I Would..."

# Council Meeting Actions

The Town Council met in regular session on July 5, 2017. The Council took the following actions:

1. Approval of the May 1, 2017 Council Meeting Minutes.
2. Tabling of the June 5, 2017 Council Meeting Minutes.
3. Approval of the June 23, 2017 Special Council Meeting Minutes.
4. Tabling a plan amendment submitted for 4818 Cumberland Avenue.
5. Approval of a recommendation of the Town Council acting as the Local Advisory Panel to the Historic Preservation Commission on an application submitted for 4707 Cumberland Avenue for replacement fence in the right side and rear yard, and construction of a flagstone patio and seat wall in the rear yard.
6. Approval of a permit application to install an HVAC unit at 4704 Essex Avenue.
7. Approval of a permit application to install an HVAC unit at 4718 Cumberland Avenue.
8. Approval to remove the following Town Trees as recommended by the Town Arborist: 24" elm at 5001 River Road, 10" elm in Capello Park, and 30" tulip poplar at 4520 Dorset Avenue.
9. Adoption of a Resolution of the Town of Somerset, committing to exploring converting streetlights to energy efficient bulbs.
10. Approval of a technical change to previously adopted Ordinance No. 1 of 2017 amending the Town Code related to parking restrictions on Dorset Avenue from Wisconsin Avenue approximately 414 feet west to the eastern edge of the fire hydrant zone.
11. Approval of an amendment to the Pool Rules, section VIII, removing the words "full time/contracted" to make it so all nannies, au pairs, babysitters, and caregivers are exempt from the guest fee when attending with the resident they take care.
12. Approval to authorize Town Manager Charnovich to research and purchase an automatic vacuum cleaner for the Pool at a cost not to exceed \$3,000.00.
13. Approval to authorize Town Manager Charnovich to research and obtain more information from Community Pools on the installation of a Dry Dek Four Square Court at the Pool at a cost not to exceed \$2,500.00, if the research produces positive results.
14. Approval of a proposal submitted by Uneeda Plumbing to replace the water heater in the Town Hall with a tankless model at a cost not to exceed \$3,800.00
15. Approval to send a letter to the Montgomery County Council, taking a position on the Bethesda Zoning Text Amendment and its possible effect on Somerset Elementary School.
16. Approval to submit comments on the Montgomery County Bicycle Master Plan's preliminary bikeway recommendations.
17. Approval to send a letter in support of a Montgomery County legislative proposal pertaining to municipal management of dog parks in the County.
18. Mayor Slavin and Town Manager Charnovich each provided their monthly reports. No action was taken on a proposal from FONBOOTH to install cell phone holders in the bathrooms at the Pool. Next steps were discussed concerning the Town Code and Charter update project. Town Attorney Ron Bolt provided an update to the Mayor and Council on pertinent legislation adopted by the County and State in FY17 that may affect the Town of Somerset.

# Tennis Court Gate Code to Change on August 14

By Frank Joseph, Chair, Tennis Committee, Warwick Place

Due to unauthorized tennis court use, the court gate code will change on **Monday, August 14<sup>th</sup>**. You can get the new code from either the Town Hall or a Tennis Committee member. At that time, you will be given a copy of the updated Tennis Court Rules and Code of Etiquette and required to acknowledge in writing that you and your household will observe and uphold them. This action is not being taken lightly. Non-resident teenagers have been observed using the Somerset tennis courts. One of these non-resident teens told a Somerset parent that he was given the code by a Somerset teenager.

The Somerset tennis courts are a community asset that helps make our Town the special place that it is. The tennis

courts benefit all Town residents, whether tennis players or not. The renovation of several years ago cost more than \$150,000-- money that comes from *our* taxes. The warranty that accompanies the renovation is easily violated by bicycles, skates, cleats, even street shoes. It behooves us all to keep the courts in the best condition possible.

Please follow the rules and the Etiquette Code and post your tennis card when you play. Treat fellow players as you would have them treat you. Please wear shoes meant for tennis, with light-colored soles. And for gosh sakes, do *not* share the code with unauthorized users.

## General Permits



### Tree Removal Permit

4812 Cumberland Avenue,  
1 Hawthorn Tree

5523 Trent Street, 1 Norway Maple  
4900 Essex Avenue, 1 Leyland  
Cypress

### Dumpster Permit

5607 Warwick Place

### Fence Permit

4718 Essex Avenue, rear yard fence  
replacement

### Wall Permit

4718 Essex Avenue, rear yard seat wall  
installation

# Proposed Revisions to the Town Charter – General Information

By Franny Peale, Council Member (Uppingham Street)

The Town Council, with the help of the firm General Code and Town Attorney Ron Bolt, has for the past year been reviewing both the Town Code and the Town Charter. In doing so we have identified some areas that need revision. The Town Council has held a series of public meetings to discuss these proposed revisions. We will soon consider the revisions to the Town Charter first because they will affect the way that we edit and amend the Town Code. Most of the changes to the Charter are meant to reflect our current practices and to correspond to updates under the law. For instance, we are changing terms and titles in the Charter to refer to Council Members (rather than councilmen), to the Chair and the President (rather than President and Vice-President), and to the Town Manager (rather than Clerk-Treasurer). Our more substantive language proposals cover corrections to the process and management of voting and elections, and to the budget delivery timetable. One of the most relevant changes proposed would be to

permit publication of official Town notices using the methods permitted under Maryland law, such as electronic delivery. In the past such notices were required to be included in the Town Journal, and, therefore, were restricted by the publication and mailing deadlines that go along with a paper newsletter.

The Town attorney will prepare draft resolutions to amend our Charter. It is anticipated that the drafts will be introduced at the August meeting and a public hearing would be held at the September or October meeting.

If you are interested in reading the exact language of these proposed revisions, please follow this link to the Town's website at [www.townofsomerset.com](http://www.townofsomerset.com). The full texts of the proposed revisions will be placed electronically on the Town's website and will also be available in the Town Hall for public inspection.



## 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**, or **Kathleen Kenyon** at **301-656-8581** and we will set it up.

# All About People

By Alan Dock, Falstone Avenue



I'm a big fan of the late author, Ray Bradbury. He wrote lyrically about small town America and, in particular, about a fictitious town called Green Town, Illinois in the summer of 1928. Some of the stories about Green Town are collected in a volume called *Dandelion Wine* which is still in print. Pick up a copy (or download one), and I challenge you not to see the similarities to our own small town of Somerset, when viewed through the eyes of a twelve-year-old resident! Summer is a special time — even with the heat!

As I look out my window on this hot and humid summer afternoon in July, I see very little activity in our Town. The dog walkers are hiding in their air-conditioned houses, and few cars are making the journey in or out of Town. I have the feeling that many residents have escaped Town for the beaches of the Eastern shore, or the mountains of Colorado, because I have very little news to pass on to you!

One constant is the flow of new residents into Town. This month we welcome **Michael** and **Jennifer Nangle** with their children, **Patrick** (19 years), **Olivia** (18 years), and **Finnegan** and **Rowen** (7 years) to their new home on Warwick Place. The residents of Green Town would not find it unusual that the **Nangle** family have made their home next door to **Sarah Coviello**, Jennifer's mother. Welcome to you and your family, Jennifer, and I hope your children, especially Finnegan and Rowen, find the magic in Somerset you may remember from your own childhood.

I had a note from **Barbara Hoover** of Cumberland Avenue, who writes "our son Matthew and family left the country again in July for a three-year assignment in Berlin. They had been happy living in DC for the past two years, following the family's return from Oman. Leaving this time was a bit painful

for all of us, but we are looking forward to our visits with them and reconnecting with old friends in Germany." "*GenieBen sie die gastfreundschaft und das bier dieses wunderschönen lands!*"

By the way, have you ever noticed how many of our residents carry the first name "Barbara." In addition to **Barbara Hoover**, there is Council Member **Barbara Zeughauser** (Trent) who also helps manage the Town's *Helping Hand*, **Barbara Marenus** (Surrey) our Journal editor of many years and now co-editor, **Barbara Marblestone** (Trent) who is the prime mover behind the Town's annual flu shot clinic, and Council Member **Barbara Condos** (Falstone) who endeared herself to me by accepting a kiss on the nose from my dog while we were out walking this summer morning! This name must have been high on the naming list some years ago!



## Classified Ads



**BOZEMAN, MONTANA:** Ski Big Sky & the Bridgers! Enjoy our furnished four-bedroom+ home on 20 acres with spectacular 360-degree vistas. Only 10 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).

**WINTERGREEN, VIRGINIA RESORT:** [vrbo.com/757252](http://vrbo.com/757252). 7 BR/7.5 baths. Wintergreen's premier Mountaintop Lodge. Seasonal Blue Ridge views. Ideal for retreats, reunions, vacations, couples weekends; ski, golf, tennis, spa, hiking getaways. Enormous decks, floor-to-ceiling windows, natural woodwork, soaring Great Room. Near outstanding Nelson County micro-brewery/vineyard route near Charlottesville. Contact **Bob Gage** at [rgage@cov.com](mailto:rgage@cov.com); 202-744-5943.

**POTTERY LESSONS:** Professional ceramicist William Satloff, a rising B-CC senior, is offering private beginner pottery lessons at his Essex Avenue home studio. Treat yourself, learn new skills, have lots of fun! Try wheel-throwing and hand-building techniques while learning about pottery styles around the world. Appropriate for all ages. For details, scheduling and pricing, contact **William Satloff** at [williamsatloff@gmail.com](mailto:williamsatloff@gmail.com) or phone/text at 202-812-4445.

*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.

# Preliminary Agenda

## Regular Somerset Town Council Meeting

Somerset Town Hall, August 7, 2017–7:30 p.m.

The Somerset Town Council will meet in regular session on Monday, August 7, 2017 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\***

### CONSENT

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| <p>1. <b>Motion:</b> To consider approval of the June 5, 2017 Council Meeting Minutes.</p> | <p>2. <b>Motion:</b> To consider approval of the July 5, 2017 Council Meeting Minutes.</p> |
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### NON-CONSENT

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| <p>3. <b>Discussion:</b> Town Manager’s July Administrative and Financial Reports – 7:35 p.m.</p> <p>4. <b>Public Hearing/Motion:</b> To consider a permit request at 4507 Dorset Avenue to remove the following 6 trees – 7:40 p.m.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 1-12” Boxelder</li><li>• 3-11” Boxelder</li><li>• 1-14.5 “ Black Cherry</li><li>• Leyland Cypress</li></ul> <p>5. <b>Discussion:</b> Maintenance design work on the exterior of the Town Hall update by Lou Balodemas of Balodemas Architects – 7:45 p.m.</p> <p>6. <b>Public Hearing/Motion:</b> To consider approval of a contract with Scott Watson Associates, Inc. For street lighting consultation services – 8:00 p.m.</p> <p>7. <b>Public Hearing/Motion:</b> To consider approval of a Kids Movie Night at the Town Pool on September 16, 2017, including approval of a food truck visit, as recommended by the Pool Committee – 8:15 p.m.</p> <p>8. <b>Public Hearing/Motion:</b> To consider approval to close the pool on September 9, 2017 and hold an adults only</p> | <p>pool party as recommended by the Pool Committee – 8:20 p.m.</p> <p>9. <b>Public Hearing/Motion:</b> To consider approval to amend Section 2 of the Tennis Court Rules related to court access – 8: 25 p.m.</p> <p>10. <b>Public Hearing/Motion:</b> To consider approval to amend Section 3 of the Tennis Court Rules related to the display of tennis cards on the gate – 8:30 p.m.</p> <p>11. <b>Public Hearing/Motion:</b> To consider approval to amend the final sentence of the Town of Somerset Etiquette Code to state “I agree to follow the Somerset Tennis Court Rules and the Tennis Etiquette Code.” – 8:35 p.m.</p> <p>12. <b>Discussion/Motion:</b> Introduction of proposed comprehensive amendments to the Charter, Resolutions 8-17-1 through 8-17-32 – 8:40 p.m.</p> <p>13. <b>Discussion:</b> General Code Update – 8:50 p.m.</p> <p>14. <b>Discussion:</b> Mayor’s Report – 8:55 p.m.</p> <p>15. <b>Adjourn –9:00 p.m.</b></p> |
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**Council Members:** Barbara Zeughouser, Franny Peale, Dudley Fowlkes, Marnie Shaul, Barbara Condos

### 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.*

*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.*