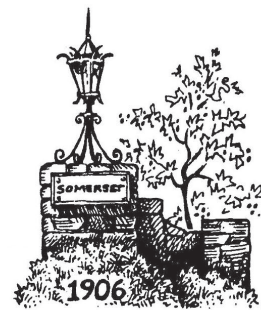


"Where People and Trees Have Deep Roots and Grow Strong"

SomerseT TOWN JOURNAL



Volume 62 • No. 11

November 2017

NEW STORMWATER GARDEN AT TOWN HALL

By Robin Barr, Chair, Environment Committee, Essex Avenue

Drop by the Town Hall and take a look at the new landscape garden that runs down Walter Behr Path. It is much improved over its nondescript predecessor and I am interested in residents' perspectives. Backyard Bounty landscape designer and owner Edamarie Mattei tells us that as the garden matures it will grow greener and flowers will bloom through much of the year. I can't wait!

It is more than a pretty face on this patch of earth. Most of the planting is native. That means bugs, bees, and butterflies will love it and birds will surely follow. We are adding to the wildlife in our neighborhood. That is a very good thing, especially since too much of our larger city is filled with concrete.

The reason that the Town's Environment Committee advocated for the garden is revealed when you look closely at the landscape. Notice that the steep slope down to the tennis courts is edged with mini-banks — to slow the flow of stormwater. Follow the landscape to the corner as the road turns to the parking lot. The sunken area there is a rain garden - designed to capture much of the run-off.

During a rain storm a great deal of water flows off the Town Hall roof, the garage roof, and the road. Unchecked, it rushes into the rip-rap behind the parking lot, sweeps through the drain and storms into our stream. With this new landscape we capture a lot of the water to slow its flow and



Town staff proudly show new stormwater garden

help it turn the earth green. Our stream will thank us for that over time! I hope the Town enjoys the results too.

If you would like to begin harvesting the stormwater in your own yard, the Town can provide a planting list to help get you going.

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ON MY MIND

Showing Resilience

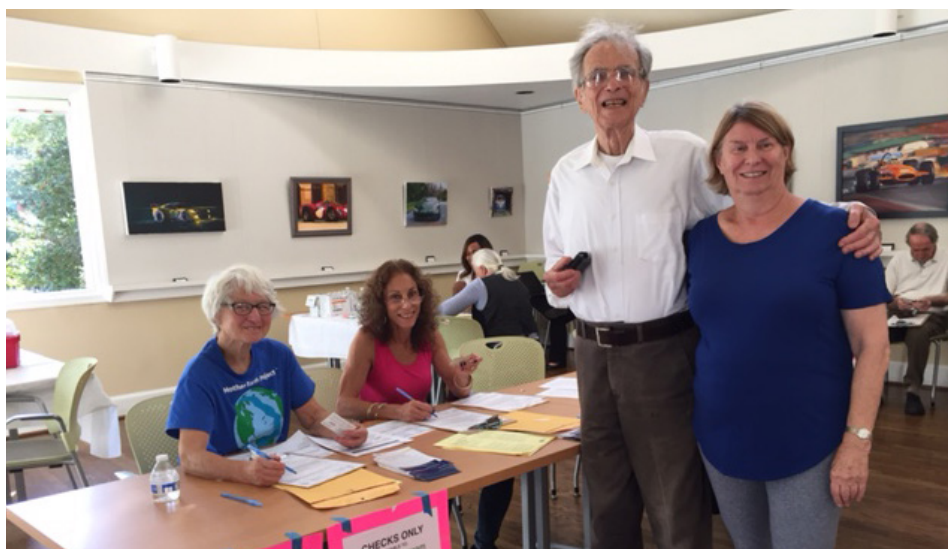
By Mayor Jeffrey Slavin, *Warwick Place*

For several decades now I have had the extraordinary privilege of attending the annual benefit for the Wendt Center, the unique, nationally acclaimed center for loss and healing, located nearby. Each year the benefit features a celebrity keynote speaker who shares a story of coping with tragedy. This year's selection, Facebook CEO Sheryl Sandberg, was particularly exceptional, and I had many "aha" moments.

Sandberg unexpectedly lost her husband at the prime of his life and has since written a book about her loss. She has promoted the concept of "co-destiny": finding ways to give suffering meaning. As the mother of young children, she wants them — and everyone — to know that on the other side of grief there is hope. As the result of this unimaginable loss, Sandberg has a much deeper gratitude for life. Accordingly, she has realized that growing old is a gift, and she no longer fears turning 50. Her relationships have all grown stronger and she needs people more. She wants to help those in similar circumstances recover.

I plan to follow her examples, especially incorporating the best advice she gave. When a loved one, or anyone actually, tells you they are afflicted with cancer or any deadly disease, responding with "Oh, you're gonna be all right" doesn't always sit well. Better to say, as Sandberg wisely suggests, that you "don't know what's going to happen," but "you will be with them every step of the way." That truly seems to be much more comforting.

We can all learn from Sheryl Sandberg's experience, and I cannot wait to read her book. I also want to refer residents to the Wendt Center website, www.wendtcenter.org, as I am sure there will be lots of helpful information and/or an appropriate program for virtually everyone to participate in at some point.



Volunteers Lucy Freeman (Dorset) and Esther Finkelstein (Surrey) register Milton Heller and Council Member Barbara Condos (both of Falstone) at Somerset's Annual Flu Clinic on October 22.

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TOWN HALL

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

SOMERSET TOWN JOURNAL

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The Town Journal is the official publication of The Town of Somerset, Montgomery County, MD.

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

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

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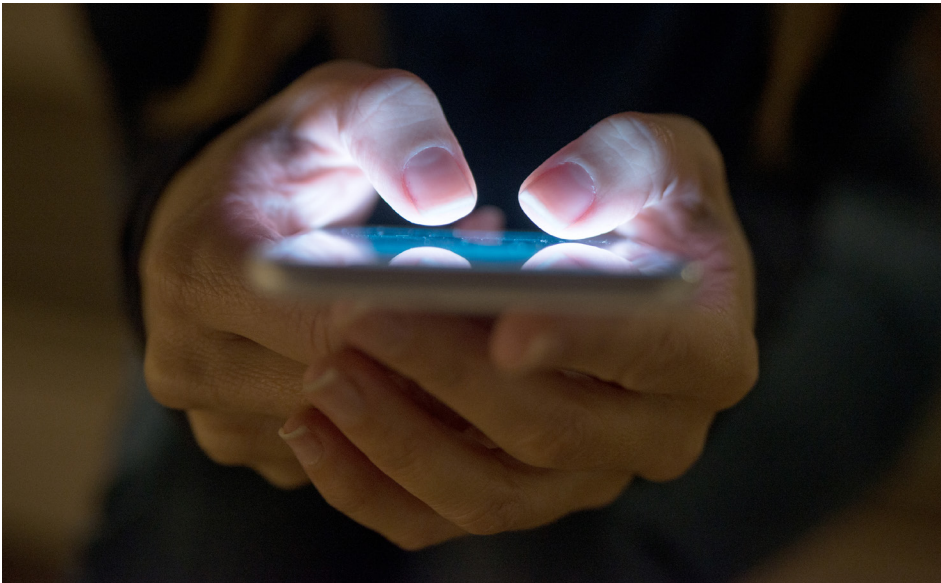
Town to Use Text Message Alerts

By Rich Charnovich, *Town Manager*

Since recently meeting with the Town Ad Hoc Communications Committee, I have looked into how Somerset could implement a text-messaging system to communicate emergency alerts and important announcements and reminders to residents. While the Town has a variety of communication strategies, e.g., the monthly Town Journal, weekly e-blast announcements, and dedicated email notices, with text messages the Town could rapidly communicate vital information.

Since the Town is always looking for ways to maximize communication, as a result of my research, we have decided to try a text messaging service. It will be an **opt-in** service from our current website provider, Civic Plus. Some of you may be content with receiving only email notices from the Town, but others may want text message alerts as well.

So, if you are interested in receiving text message alerts, please email **town@townofsomerset.com** or call the Town Hall at **301-657-3211** for further details and include the phone number at which you would like to receive text alerts. We hope to launch this new program in November.



NOVEMBER CALENDAR

SATURDAY, NOV. 4

Community Service Day at
Town Hall

2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

MONDAY, NOV. 6

Brown Bag Lunch at
Town Hall

Noon to 1 p.m.

SATURDAY, NOV. 11

B-CC High School
Used Book Sale Drop-Off

10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

TUESDAY, NOV. 14

Montgomery County
Council District 1
Candidates Forum

Somerset Elementary School
7:30 p.m.

MONDAY, NOV. 20

MVA Mobile Office at
Friendship Heights

10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

SAVE THE DATE

Pre-Holidays Brown Bag Lunch MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6

By Mayor Jeffrey Slavin

Let's all get excited about the upcoming holidays at the fourth quarterly Brown Bag lunch of the year set for Monday, November 6, from noon to 1 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** if you have any questions.

Somerset to Co-Sponsor District 1 Candidates Forum

By Council Vice-President Marnie Shaul,
Uppingham Street

Please attend a Montgomery County Council District 1 Candidates Forum on Tuesday, November 14th, at Somerset Elementary School at 7:30 p.m. Although the primary is next June, with a vacant District 1 seat for the first time in some years, quite a few candidates have declared that they are running. Our neighbors in Chevy Chase West asked Somerset to co-sponsor a candidates forum because the potentially larger audience from two very active communities would make the event more attractive to candidates. **Mayor Jeffrey Slavin** (Warwick) will moderate. The forum will be a good opportunity to meet the candidates and find out how they would represent us. Each candidate will have a few minutes to introduce themselves and there will be an opportunity for questions from the audience.

The candidates who have accepted our invitation to participate in the forum are:

- Richard Banach
- Bill Cook
- Pete Fosselman
- Andrew Friedson
- Ana Sol Gutierrez
- Jim McGee
- Reggie Oldak
- Dalbin Osorio
- Meredith Wellington

30TH ANNIVERSARY OF BACK-TO-SCHOOL CLASSIC



Joy Abel and Matt Morley of Grantham Street with their son Eric Morley, overall winner of the Somerset 8K



By Council Vice-President Marnie Shaul,
Uppingham Street

TWO SHORT UPDATES ON IMPROVING LIGHTING:

In some parts of Somerset, low tree branches are obscuring lighting, and installing new lights will not ameliorate this problem. So, the Town is experimenting with judicious trimming on several streets. We selected the blocks on Dorset between Wisconsin Avenue and Warwick because there are some very dark sections along this road and because it is heavily traveled by pedestrians. Our Town arborist will be examining the trees in this area and making recommendations to our tree contractor about which branches to prune. The arborist has done this in other communities and says this has improved lighting without unduly reducing the tree canopy.

We are continuing to look for a Somerset computer-based street map for our lighting contractor. To be most useful, the map should have not only the placement of streets and homes and Pepco's light poles, but also such things as driveways, fire hydrants and trees. The contractor will enter light measurements on the map. This annotated map will then be used as a basis for the lighting recommendations he will develop. Pepco has said it does not have such a map and our Town Manager is attempting to identify another resource for our contractor's use.

B-CC High School Used Book Sale

By Council Member Franny Peale, *Uppingham Street*

De-clutter your bookshelves! The B-CC High School Used Book Sale is taking donations now. Here are some of the details provided by the committee:

Donate! There are four more used books drop-off days - one per month from November to February. Please drop off your donations at curbside along the B-CC driveway off East West Highway. We will accept paperbacks and hardback books in good condition, DVDs, CDs, and vinyl records. Please do not include magazines, video cassettes or audio cassettes. **Donations should be in sturdy boxes or bags.**



DROP OFF SCHEDULE:

November 11, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

December 3, 12:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

January 6, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

February 3, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Volunteer! We are always in need of student and adult volunteers to help during drop-off and sorting days. High school and middle school volunteers will receive SSL hours and/or IB CAS reviews; middle schoolers need to be accompanied by an adult. Please sign up for as many hours and days as possible; use this link: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0d4faeaa2aa02-20172> or look for signups created by volunteerbccbooksale@gmail.com. We will have a separate signup link for our January - March dates.

Save the Date! Reward yourself by buying some "new" used books. Mark your calendars for the **B-CC Used Book Sale 2018: Saturday, March 10, from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. and Sunday, March 11, from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.**

Proceeds from the Used Book Sale go to the programs sponsored by the B-CC High School PTSA.

Follow UBS on Twitter! @UsedBookSaleBCC

Follow UBS on Instagram! @UsedBookSaleBCHS

Council Meeting Actions

The Town Council met in regular session on October 2, 2017. The Council took the following actions:

1. Approval of the following permits at 4907 Falstone Avenue: 2nd floor addition at the rear of the house, construction of a deck at the rear of the house, installation of a HVAC unit in the rear of the house, and a temporary dumpster during the project.
2. Approval of a recommendation of the Town Council acting as the Local Advisory Panel to the Historic Preservation Commission on an application submitted for 4721 Essex Avenue. The recommendation includes the following: add a two-story addition at the rear of the house, construct a one-story garage at the rear of the house, rebuild the existing retaining wall and front walk, demolish the existing deck, shed, and tree house at the rear of the house, construct a fence around the garden, and remove several trees depending on the final plan eventually submitted.
3. Approval of a building permit extension for the project currently occurring at 5504 Surrey Street until December 15, 2017.
4. Approval of a HVAC Unit replacement permit for 5534 Warwick Place.
5. Approval of a HVAC Unit replacement permit for 5526 Warwick Place.
6. Approval of the following Town tree plantings for the Fall of 2017 as recommended by the Town Arborist and Parks and Natural Resources Committee:
 - 4514 Dorset Avenue – Black gum
 - 4714 Essex Avenue – Willow Oak
 - 4801 Essex Avenue (on Surrey St.) – Green Mountain Sugar Maple
 - 4810 Essex Avenue – White Oak
 - 4710 Falstone Avenue – Yoshino Flowering Cherry
 - 4801 Falstone Avenue (on Surrey St.) – Green Mountain Sugar Maple
 - 4906 Falstone Avenue – Black gum
 - 5510 Greystone Street - Forest Pansy Redbud
 - 5509 Trent Street – Yoshino Flowering Cherry
 - 5401 Uppingham Street (on Greystone Street)– October Glory Red Maple
 - 5419 Uppingham Street (on Trent Street) – Yoshino Flowering Cherry
 - 5609 Warwick Place – Black gum
7. Approval of the removal of a Black Walnut tree on the Town right-of-way near 5703 Warwick Place as recommended by the Town Arborist.
8. Authorization to move forward with the design and bid process to complete maintenance work on the exterior of the Town Hall. Lou Balodemas of Balodemas Architects will be working on the bid specifications and process. The bidding and approval process is scheduled to take place sometime in the spring of 2018. At the same time, bids will also be considered for a renovation project on the interior of the second floor in the Town Hall.
9. Approval of Balodemas Architects invoice in the amount of \$13,938.56 for the period from June 6, 2017 thru August 31, 2017, for design work related to maintenance work on the exterior of the Town Hall and a proposed renovation of the second floor in the Town Hall.
10. Approval to join Chevy Chase West in supporting a District 1 candidates forum on Tuesday, November 14, at Somerset Elementary School. Further details will be published on the Town Announcements as they become available.
11. Approval to submit comments related to the Montgomery County preliminary bikeway plan supporting Dorset Avenue to be included in the preliminary bikeway plan and include a portion of Wisconsin Avenue that may be on Town of Somerset property.
12. Approval of a 1-year contract with Hughes Landscaping for leaf collection services at a cost of \$20,800.00.
13. Adoption of 33 separate comprehensive amendment Resolutions to the Town Charter (copies available on the Town website and in the Town Hall for public inspection).
14. Mayor Slavin provided his report. Town Manager Charnovich provided administrative and financial reports. A representative of WSSC was in attendance at the Council Meeting to provide an update on the significant project occurring in Town parkland (adjacent to Wisconsin Avenue) and to field any questions from the Mayor, Council, or members of the public in attendance.

GHOULS

Grace Somerset Homes on Halloween



CLASSIFIED ADS

BOZEMAN, MONTANA: Awesome Every Season! Ski Big Sky & the Bridgers! Fly fishing. Trail rides. White water rafting. Hiking/biking everywhere. Enjoy our 4-bedroom home on 20 acres with spectacular 360 degree vistas. Four-night minimum stay. Just four miles to downtown Bozeman. Contact **Birdie Pieczenik** at SRPVacationHomes@gmail.com or 301-652-1207.

PARIS, FRANCE: Picturesque Day and Nite! And more affordable than ever! Enjoy our one-bedroom apartment in the 2nd arrondissement - the heart of historic Paris. Walk to the Louvre, the Pompidou Center, the Seine and two Metro stops. Four-night minimum stay. Contact **Birdie Pieczenik** at 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.

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.

WINTERGREEN, VIRGINIA RESORT: vrbo.com/757252. 9 BR/9.5 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. **Bob Gage** at rgage@cov.com; 202-744-5943

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. 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 Council Member **Barbara Zeughauser** at 301-951-8560, **Kathleen Kenyon** at 301-656-8581, or **Jim Berry** at 301-656-6089 and we will set it up.





Manager's Corner

By Rich Charnovich, *Town Manager*

Community Service Day on November 4 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Each year, typically in November, the Town organizes a small Community Service Day that is held at the Town Hall. Sandwich meals are prepared for the Montgomery County Coalition for the Homeless. Non-perishable food items are collected for homeless shelters in the area, and pet toys are made for the Humane Society. Thank you for considering to participate and to help others as the holiday season approaches.

November and Tennis Go Together

By **Frank Joseph**, *Chair, Tennis Committee, Warwick Place*

It's autumn's most beautiful moment. Leaves are in full color; days are cool and sunny. How better to enjoy fall than on the tennis courts? Our courts, resurfaced a few years ago, still look (and play) like new, and now they've been further graced with lovely new landscaping plus a rain garden.

- Looking for a partner? No problem. Send me an email to keycom@verizon.net and I'll try to fix you up with other Town players of your age and ability level.
- Need to brush up your skills? Plenty of talented pros teach on our courts. Drop me a note for some suggestions.
- And don't forget the (unofficial) Town ball machine residing in my driveway and available for your use. Shoot me an email to set something up.

Soon enough the snow will fly. Make sure to get in some quality tennis time now.

Fall Leaf Collection

Hard to believe it is almost time for fall leaf collection to commence! Please be on the lookout for the 2017 leaf collection schedule in this month's Journal. The schedule will also be posted on the Town website and in Town announcements.

WSSC Project Update in Town Parkland

The WSSC sewer rehabilitation project is ongoing in the Town parkland adjacent to Wisconsin Avenue. The stream crossing bridges are now being constructed, along with the access road to the site. Tree removals have taken place, but only after approval was granted by the Town Arborist.

Town Charter Amendments Now Available

At the October 2 Town Council Meeting, 33 Town Charter amendments were adopted, following multiple public workshop sessions and two public hearings in September and October. All of the signed Resolutions are available in the Town Hall for public inspection. A summary of the Charter amendments can also be found on the bulletin board on the Town Hall porch and on the Town website.

Parking Near Driveways

Town Hall is periodically contacted concerning cars parked too close to driveways. We hope neighbors can be courteous when parking on the street near driveways. By law, vehicles cannot be parked within five feet of a driveway. If necessary, call the police non-emergency number, and officers can write a ticket and/or locate the owner and have the car moved.

Pet Reminders: Pet Waste and Leash Law

This is a friendly reminder to clean up after pet waste in the community. By law, 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 this link:

<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/animalservices/asd/laws.html>

From the Mayor's Desk

By Mayor Jeffrey Slavin



While we are a Town that truly cares about Fido and Kitty, when these beloved pets get lost it is my hope that owners will be respectful and appropriate when putting up notices about the loss. So let's try to not attach signs to trees and let's be judicious when it comes to telephone poles (technically not allowed). Can we also try to make the signs attractive and secure them well so they don't become litter? Also, once the pet is found, please come and take the signs down.

In the meantime, in response to many complaints, the Council and I will soon be reviewing our sign policies overall and addressing enforcement of violations. There are frequently signs in the rights-of-way and there are some official signs that might be eliminated. As always, input from residents will be highly appreciated.

Halloween is always a fun and festive day in Town and we host lots of trick-or-treaters. For those at home during that Tuesday, October 31, the Somerset Elementary School parade around the blocks close to the school begins at 1:45 p.m., so be sure to get a spot on the route. We are hoping to have a police presence on heavily trafficked Cumberland Avenue. There are still folks who would like us to close some streets during the height of the festivities but we won't be considering that this year. For 2018, I plan to appoint an ad hoc committee during the summer to make recommendations to the Council to enhance the holiday, including many suggestions that residents have passed on to me involving special lighting and the like. Let me know if you are interested.

As a reminder to all and especially our newcomers, everyone is eligible to purchase a special Town of Somerset license plate from the State of Maryland. In this way you can show your pride as a resident of one of our State's most active, welcoming and engaged municipalities. I have had one of these plates for years and can't tell you the number of positive comments I have received about our Town and its inhabitants. For more information, contact staffer Nicole Ventura at Town Hall.

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 formally participate as a committee member at least once during your residency. There are a number of vacancies on committees at this time so I urge everyone to go to the Town website to obtain more information and contact me with questions or a request for an appointment.

The next time you visit our municipal center, be sure to notice the beautiful new greenery on Walter Behr Path next to the tennis courts. Many thanks to Town staffer Nicole Ventura for the role she played in the installation.

Our thoughts and prayers continue to be with the victims and families of the senseless Las Vegas massacre. And thanks to those who are still thinking about and helping victims of the hurricanes in Houston, Florida and, most especially, Puerto Rico.

GENERAL PERMITS

FENCE PERMIT

4515 CUMBERLAND AVENUE

- add a section of fencing on the interior of the lot

5602 WARWICK PLACE

- adding a small section of fence along the right side of the property

TREE REMOVAL PERMIT

4904 ESSEX AVENUE

- 1 Southern Red Oak

5804 SURREY STREET

- 1 multi-trunk Tulip Poplar and 1 Ash

DUMPSTER PERMIT

5525 UPPINGHAM STREET

DRIVEWAY APRON PERMIT

4819 CUMBERLAND AVENUE



All About People

By Alan Dock, *Falstone Avenue*

I must apologize for the absence of this column in the October Journal. Mary and I were visiting family in England. I'm writing this column in mid-October, in a friend's house outside Boulder, Colorado, where the temperature is about what I expect it to be in Somerset in November!

When I was thinking about the content for this month's column, I sent out a request for memories of summer and got some extremely interesting responses!

First, a brief note from **Florence Gang** (formerly of Falstone Avenue), who could probably write a book about her memories of more than 60 summers spent in Somerset! At the end of October, Florence moved to a new senior residence called Brightview, located in Rockville Town Square. **Lois Levitan** (Falstone) and I have enjoyed dinner dates with Florence around Bethesda every Wednesday evening for several years and we plan on continuing this custom, so I will keep you posted on Florence's new life!

Council Vice-President **Marnie Shaul** (Uppingham) and sister **Barbara and Bruce Tully** (Warwick) enjoyed a family vacation on the Danube River in July. Marnie wrote:

"We started our trip in Prague, embarked on the ship near Regensburg and visited Vienna, Salzburg, Bratislava and Budapest. Highlights included dinners in two castles, and seeing original Mozart manuscripts and Klimt's paintings. We enjoyed sampling local fare – both on and off the ship. The service and accommodation were wonderful, and we decided a river cruise is a great way to travel!"

I'll return to Bruce and Barbara Tully, our much-travelled Somerset residents, later in this column.

Finally, in these stories of summer travels comes this amazing account of a trip by **Sue Edson** (Surrey), who at the tender age of 80 took a trip on a Russian nuclear icebreaker to the North Pole! Sue wrote:

"Our group of 117 met up in Helsinki, flew to Murmansk, Russia, and boarded the icebreaker. The journey to the Pole usually takes between four and six days, and we arrived in four – very smooth, even though we were cutting through six feet of ice for the last two days! On July 26th our group had 6-7 hours on the ice, at the North Pole. We had a fabulous barbecue on the ice, followed by the chance to take a ride in a hot-air balloon. Of course I took this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. Our balloon was tethered to the ice in three places, so we couldn't go astray. ... Most think I'm either adventurous or nuts...probably a little of both!"

A regular feature in my column is a welcome to newly settled families in Somerset. This month is no exception and we welcome **Yogesh Rajkotia** and young children **Leena, Kavya, and Sahil**, who have moved into Deal Place. **Jamie Kaplan** and **Russell Green** with their children **Aubrey and Chelsea** have moved here from Houston, Texas and are putting down roots on Dorset Avenue. We bid you a warm welcome, and hope you will quickly find friends in our community.





All About People *(continued)*

I indicated that I would return to include additional news of **Bruce Tully**. You may recall Bruce was a well-respected member of the U.S. government security system, and now travels the world with his wife Barbara advising other governments and organizations on security issues, drawing on his long experience. Recently Bruce wrote me that he has been honored as the Sacred Heart University (Fairfield, Connecticut) 2017 alumnus of the year. A richly deserved recognition!

While I was gallivanting around the U.K., the annual program of life at our pool came to an end with the Welcome Party and Dog Swim events, and the closing of the pool on September 17th. The pool was open from May 20th to September 17th this year, for a total of 120 days or about one-third of the year. The shift in climate patterns caused me to reflect on this and wonder if we are making the best use of this excellent facility. This led me to plunge into the Town records on our website, and I found we invested approximately two million dollars in our new pool house, and have annual pool running expenses of around \$180,000 – about \$1,500 for every day the pool is open, or about \$500 for every day in the year! Maybe, we should consider extending availability of the area with other activities, such as more movie nights, games, and community barbecues? Just a thought ...



Bruce Tully, shown with Barbara Tully and Marnie Shaul, is honored by Sacred Heart University

November Viewing Schedule for Somerset Stories on Channel 16

Somerset participates with Montgomery Municipal Cable TV Channel 16 in a series of interviews with Town residents who have interesting stories to share. Somerset Stories can be seen on Wednesdays at 10 p.m. Here is the November schedule:

- **WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1** — Somerset Mayor Jeffrey Slavin
- **WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8** — Council Vice-President Marnie Shaul
- **WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15** — Somerset residents Paige Whitley and David Kathan discuss their project, "The Forgotten African-American Community of River Road"

- **WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 22** — Council Members Barbara Condos, Franny Peale, and Barbara Zeughauser
- **WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 29** — Somerset resident and artist Barton Rubenstein and son Ari, with Somerset Elementary art teacher Lynn Lewis and student, discuss Barton's Mother Earth Sculpture and Project

MMCTV has a new website — <https://www.mmctv.org/programs/somerset-stories/> — where residents can find a page for Somerset Stories.

Preliminary Agenda

Regular Somerset Town Council Meeting

Somerset Town Hall, Monday, November 6, 2017

The Somerset Town Council will meet in regular session on Monday, November 6, 2017 at 7:30 p.m. at the Somerset Town Hall. Agenda updates are posted on the Town website: www.townofsomerset.com.

- **Council Work Session**—7:00 p.m.
- **Council Meeting Convenes**—7:30 p.m.
- **Comments: Public Comment Period**—7:30 p.m.*



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

CONSENT

1. **Motion:** To consider approval of the August 7, 2017 Council Meeting Minutes
2. **Motion:** To consider approval of the September 5, 2017 Council Meeting Minutes
3. **Motion:** To consider approval of the October 2, 2017 Council Meeting Minutes
4. **Motion:** To recognize November as Municipal Government Works Month in the Town of Somerset

NON-CONSENT

5. **Public Hearing/Motion:** To consider approval of the FY17 Audit as recommended by the Town Audit Committee – 7:35 p.m.
6. **Discussion:** Town Manager October Administrative and Financial Reports - 7:40 p.m.
7. **Public Hearing/Motion:** To consider confirmation approval of a HVAC unit installation permit at 4518 Cumberland Avenue - 7:45 p.m.
8. **Public Hearing/Motion:** To consider confirmation approval of a HVAC unit installation permit at 5511 Uppingham Street – 7:50 p.m.

9. **Public Hearing/Motion:** To consider approval of a tree removal permit request at 4810 Falstone Avenue to remove the following trees: - 7:55 p.m.

- 2 Black Cherry
- 1 Cherry

10. **Public Hearing/Motion:** To consider approval of a tree removal permit request at 4718 Essex Avenue to remove the following trees: - 8:00 p.m.

- 1 Southern Magnolia
- 1 Yoshino
- 6 Leyland Cypress
- 1 Blackgum
- 3 Birch
- 1 American Holly

11. **Introduction:** Proposed ordinance to amend Section 6-102 Definitions of the Town Code to revise the defined terms for the designation of corner lots, the replacement of fences or walls, and the distinctions between types of walls – 8:10 p.m.

12. **Discussion:** General Code Update – 8:20 p.m.

13. **Discussion:** Mayor's Report – 8:25 p.m.

14. **Adjourn** – 8:30 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.

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