

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



Somerset TOWN JOURNAL



Volume 63 • No. 7

July 2018

Don't Miss the Town of Somerset's July Fourth Celebration!

RAIN OR SHINE!

**12 Noon Picnic at Somerset
Town Hall**

12:45 p.m. Program and Games

2:30 p.m. Pool Games

All Town Residents are invited to the old-time festivities taking place on the Fourth of July at Town Hall. The picnic begins at noon – bring your own picnic lunch and blanket – the Town will provide refreshments under the shade of our huge tent.

We will once again have a cupcake decorating contest – the 3 winners will be announced toward the outset of the program. **Cupcakes must be delivered to Town Hall by 11 a.m. on July 4th.** Each contestant must bring 1 dozen cupcakes. After the cupcakes have been judged, they will be enjoyed by everyone! If you bring your cupcakes on a plate/tray that you want returned – make sure your name and address are placed on the bottom of the plate/tray.

The official program begins at 12:45 p.m. with the Color Guard, National Anthem, and Somerset Anthem. Mayor Slavin will introduce special guests, honor this year's

graduates, and read the names of our swim team record holders. We are also hoping to enjoy a traditional reading of the Declaration of Independence by Somerset children.

This year, there will be a Kids' Round Robin tennis event starting at 9 a.m. on July 4. Please contact Tennis Chairman, Frank Joseph, for more details, at keycom@verizon.net.

After departing the Town Hall festivities, please make your way to the Town Pool where there will more games!

If you have a graduate whose name you would like to include in the ceremony or if you have a child who would like to read part of the Declaration of Independence, please email Town Manager Rich Charnovich at manager@townofsomerset.com. Also, if you have any questions about the cupcake contest, contact Rich.

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ON MY MIND

The Future Is Upon Us

By Mayor Jeffrey Slavin, *Warwick Place*

As I have often said, I find it extremely useful to attend conferences and gatherings of elected officials, not just for the networking and sharing of best practices but also for the substantive information obtained from the many work sessions always offered.

On a recent extended weekend in Boston and Ocean City, I had the rare opportunity to attend back to back meetings of the U.S. Conference of Mayors and the Maryland Municipal League. Coincidentally (or not) both held forums on a topic for which I have a new fascination: the study of The Future.

It seems to me that today many of our officeholders across the Nation, however honest and hard-working, have little time to get beyond their day-to-day duties and emergencies and prioritize making plans for what lies ahead. What we really need in our leaders is less micro-management and more vision.

To quote the description of one of the sessions, "If Mayors are truly in charge of the future, then they must expand their capacity for thinking usefully about the future." To do that, mayors and other leaders must obtain the tools and information to make wise long-term public policy decisions and get beyond the same old same old.

For example, much thought must be put into how millennials are radically different than earlier generations in so many ways—work habits, transportation, and use of social media, to name a few—and how public policy needs to change to respond to their needs. Other impacts looming on the near horizon include the driverless car, changing requirements for housing, and the further "electronization" of every aspect of our lives. Leaders must also make policy that will take into account how the increasing longevity of the baby boomer generation will affect the demand for, and intergenerational conflict over, finite resources.

Future thinking applies to every profession and trade, not just government. Everyone needs to understand core concepts in future thinking and get the tools needed. One good way to start is to visit the website of the Institute for the Future at www.iftf.org.

It is my pledge to start talking about The Future wherever I can because if we really want to make the world a better place, especially for our children, then we must have good plans in place.

CONTACT SOMERSET

MAYOR

Jeffrey Z. Slavin, 5706 Warwick Place
301-654-6767 | Town Hall: 301-657-2229
mayor@townofsomerset.com

TOWN COUNCIL

Marnie Shaul, Council Vice President
5509 Uppingham Street
301-913-5973
mshaul@townofsomerset.com

Morris Panner, 4815 Essex Avenue
301-656-6184
mpanner@townofsomerset.com

Franny Peale, 5521 Uppingham Street
301-652-9695
fpeale@townofsomerset.com

Stephen Surko, 5500 Uppingham Street
301-656-5004
ssurko@townofsomerset.com

Barbara Zeughhauser, 5412 Trent Street
301-951-8560
bzeughhauser@townofsomerset.com

TOWN MANAGER

Richard Charnovich
301-657-3211
manager@townofsomerset.com

TOWN ARBORIST

Tolbert Feather
town@townofsomerset.com

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

EDITORS

Barbara Marenus
bmarenus@gmail.com
Editor for this month's Journal

Mary Wisniewski
mary.p.wisniewski@gmail.com

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4510 Cumberland Ave.
Chevy Chase, MD 20815
www.townofsomerset.com

The Compost Crew Service in Somerset

By **Patty Friedman, Chair, Parks and Natural Resources Committee, Grantham Avenue**

In 2015, Somerset chose to offer a complimentary composting service to Town residents, and the total cost to a resident is the cost of the bin, \$16! Nearly half of the Town's residents use this service and you most likely have seen the green and white bins out at the curb on trash day.

Composting is beneficial for the environment as food waste gets turned into an enriching soil additive that can be used in gardens, but it also keeps useable waste out of the landfill and it keeps critters from breaking into your trash to find your leftovers. What is amazing about the Compost Crew is that their facility is large, gets very hot, and takes all leftovers, including meats, bones, oils, compostable paper, oily pizza boxes, etc. Just dump your unused leftovers into that bin and spin it closed so that critters cannot get in! Even if you have backyard compost like I do for leaves and garden waste, I use compost crew regularly for food waste that would otherwise attract rats or other unwanted guests into our backyard. I keep a small bin on the counter to collect the waste before transferring it outside.

To sign up with the Composting Crew, simply go to the Town website at townofsomerset.com and click on services. You sign up on the Town website so the Compost Crew will know where you are. The next step is to come to the Town Hall to pay for and pick up your bin. Put that



bin out with the trash on Tuesday and the Compost Crew will empty it, wash it out and replace the bag that is inside. There is a rubber band to keep the bag in place and when that disappears, be sure to leave a sign on the top of the bin asking for another rubber band. On occasion, the crew misses a house for pickup. They recommend that you place the bin several feet from the trash in a place easily seen from the street to avoid this problem. If your bin is not picked up, be sure to email the Compost Crew and they will come back on Thursday to pick it up. The list of what can be composted is on their website at compostcrew.com or can be found on the Town website at <http://townofsomerset.com/2171/Refuse-Recycling-Yard-Waste-and-Composting>.

COMING SOON: Official Town Listserv

By **Barbara Marenus, Chair, Ad Hoc Communications Committee, Surrey Street**

The Town will soon initiate its own official listserv. The listserv will be available to all Town residents to communicate with Town government on matters concerning the Town and its policies. Legislation to create this new communications strategy and programmatic rules will be on the agenda of the upcoming Council meeting on July 2. A copy of the proposed resolution is available on the Town website under Somerset News. Prior to the meeting, the Town's Ad Hoc Communications Committee will review and comment on the Town's plans for the listserv.

JULY CALENDAR

WED., JULY 4

Annual Town
Celebration at Town
Hall

Starts at 12 noon

Kids' Round Robin
Tennis

9:00 a.m. to 12 noon

SATURDAY, JULY 14

Adult Pool Party
6:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

MONDAY, JULY 30

MVA Mobile Office
10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Friendship Heights

SAVE THE DATE

Town Adult Pool Party SATURDAY, JULY 14

By **Dudley Fowlkes**, *Falstone Avenue*

Aloha Somerset Adult Friends,

If you still want to party once in a while like it's 1999, here is your chance to do so at the pool! On Saturday, July 14 from 6:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., the pool will be closed to make room for the adults. This is not just for the parents of the kids in the neighborhood — you know, the ones who seem to spend endless hours at the pool — it is also for those upon whose shoulders we stand.

For the single ticket price of \$50, you get to enjoy each other's company along with food, drinks, and entertainment in the priceless setting of our community pool on a midsummer evening. As an extra incentive and to promote intergenerational connection as mortar for community building, on the honor system, if you were living in Town 20 years ago and still live here today, your discounted price is \$25. It's to show appreciation for all the

longer-tenured members of our community whose vision has borne us the fruit of today.

This event was a great success last year. For many of us it felt novel to be poolside without worrying about our or anybody else's kids (bless their hearts), and for all of us it was a community building experience. Differences that can seem so stark on the listserv just melt away when you are all in one beautiful communal place with no agenda but to greet and to mingle. So stretch out those backs for the limbo stick, put down a base for the Mai Tai cocktails, and dig out the Magnum P.I. printed shirts. There's gonna be a luau off lower Warwick that you won't wanna miss!

Saturday, July 14th — please save the date and spread the word to your adult neighbors of all ages. To purchase tickets, sign up at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/somerset-luau-tickets-47001348298>. The password is **Somerset**. All proceeds will go back into the event. Maholo!



Reminder...Somerset flags are now available for sale at \$35 each. Please contact George Schlossberg (Trent) at George.schlossberg@kutakrock.com if you would like to order a flag or for more information. Flags will also be on sale at the Town's Fourth of July celebration.

Kids' Round Robin Highlights Summer Tennis

By Frank S. Joseph, Chair, Tennis Committee, Warwick Place

Calling all Somerset kids! The annual all-kids Round Robin tennis tourney will be here before you know it.

Mark your calendar for the morning of the July 4 holiday, prior to the Town celebration:



DATE: Wednesday, July 4
(Independence Day)

TIME: 9 a.m. to 12 noon

PLACE: Somerset tennis courts

Participants need to present Somerset tennis cards but guests are welcome, whether or not they live in Somerset. Kids of all ability levels are invited. There'll be free refreshments and prizes for all. Please pre-register by sending an email to me at **keycom@verizon.net** with the number of participants.

Don't forget to bring racquets and balls and wear tennis-appropriate shoes. And don't worry if this is your first Round Robin. All will be made clear.

Haven't gotten your 2018 tennis card yet? Now's the time! Cards are available from the Town Hall or on line. The cost? Still only \$25 for the entire household.

Online address to purchase a 2018 tennis card:

<https://md-somerset.civicplus.com/FormCenter/EPayments-Form-5/Paying-Tennis-Court-Fees-Online-39>

The next Town tennis event is the fall Round Robin for adults. It's Sunday, Oct. 21, 1-4 p.m. Mark your calendar now!

Registering Bikes in Montgomery County

By Rich Charnovich, Town Manager



I recently learned about a few bikes that were stolen in the Town and I want to remind residents to register their bikes with Montgomery County. Here is how to register:

1. Locate your bike's serial number.
2. Fill out a registration form at **<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/pol/bike-registration.html>**.
3. Registration decals will be mailed to the provided address. After completing the registration process, you will receive an automated receipt via email.
4. Apply the decal to your bicycle.
5. After receiving your decal, place it on your bike frame. Further details on this can be viewed at the website referenced above.
6. For more information, please contact Montgomery County Police Department Records at 240-773-5330.

In the event that your bike is stolen, having it registered will help the Police recover and return it to you.

GENERAL PERMITS

TREE REMOVAL PERMITS

4814 GRANTHAM AVENUE

- 2 Sassafras

5533 WARWICK PLACE

- 1 Silver Maple

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.

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.

SEA COLONY - BETHANY BEACH - EDGEWATER BUILDING OCEAN FRONT: 3 bedrooms and 2 full baths. Sunday to Sunday rentals - \$2,900 per week (Somerset special price) Call 301-233-2727, **Luba Marx**.

SUNNY, LIGHT-FILLED 3-BEDROOM, 3-BATH HOME for RENT on UPPINGHAM STREET. Renovated baths and dine-in kitchen in 2017. Hardwood floors on first floor, finished walk-out basement, partially fenced and landscaped back yard, and 1-car attached garage. 15 minute walk to Friendship Heights Metro and shopping, 5 minute walk to Somerset Elementary. Access to Town Pool (one block away) and tennis courts, close to Capital Crescent Trail and downtown Bethesda. \$4,500/month. Available beginning August/September. No pets. Please contact **Rohit** or **Sherry Khanna** at 301- 657- 3160.

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.

Welcome Back to the Woods

By **Kristen Khanna**, Member, Parks and Natural Resources Committee, Uppingham Street

Many of us have watched and waited as the trees came down and the earth-moving equipment went in to our beloved but suffering green space near the Town entrance at Wisconsin and Dorset. As this WSSC project now nears its completion, we are very pleased to invite you to see the work that has been done to restore the stream (and repair the source of raw sewage coming in to it), rebuild the waterfall and replace what was once an overgrown, dense forest with new, native trees and plantings. We now have a beautiful meadow that will continue to evolve over time. We hope people will use this space more than ever and will create new trails, from one end of our Town to the other. We plan to have a guided tour and grand re-opening of the area in the near future. In the meantime, welcome back to the woods!

UNCLAIMED ITEMS AT THE POOL A Possible Solution

By **Debbie (Berger) Fox**, Member, Pool Committee, Cumberland Avenue

It has come to our attention that there are already quite a lot of unclaimed items piling up in the Pool office. At the rate we are going, the office is going to be filled to the brim with towels by the end of the summer!

Since it is just the start of the summer, the **Pool Committee has decided to do a weekly "lost and found" clothing line**. Once a week, the life guards will hang out everything that has been gathered on a clothing line somewhere very visible for all to see. These items will hang out for 24 hours – when we hope people will come claim their belongings. After that, the items will be taken off to be donated.

If anyone has any thoughts on this strategy, please contact me at **debbie.berger@gmail.com** or the Pool Committee.



Manager's Corner

By Rich Charnovich, *Town Manager*

Somerset's Annual July 4th Celebration

The Town's annual Independence Day event will occur this year on Wednesday, July 4, at the Town Hall. This month's Journal has detailed information on the event. We are seeking volunteers to help us with the planning/set-up for the event. We greatly appreciate the assistance of these volunteers!

Calling All Somerset Graduates!

As part of the annual July 4th celebration, we will recognize all of the 2018 Somerset graduates at all levels of schooling. If there is a graduate in your home who you would like mentioned, please email me at **manager@townofsomerset.com** with the following information:

- Full name of the graduate
- Street address
- School graduated from
- Next step post graduation

Going on Vacation this Summer?

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

Summer Safety Montgomery County Website

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

Summertime Reminder: Drive Carefully in the Neighborhood

With school out for the summer, please be on the lookout for more children walking and playing during the upcoming summer months, particularly those walking and biking to and from the Town Pool.

Always Keep your Cars Parked on the Street and Driveways Locked!

Here are practical suggestions to help prevent auto 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-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.

Reporting Street Lights Problems to PEPCO

Adequate street lighting helps to improve safety in a community. Should you ever notice a street light out, please report it to the Town Hall. We will ensure that it is reported to PEPCO. Alternatively, you can also report street lights out directly on PEPCO's website: <https://pepco.streetlightoutages.com/map/default.html>

Maintenance of Shrubbery over Sidewalks and Common Areas

With summer here, please make sure you understand 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 speaks to this topic. Please contact the Town Hall if you would like a copy of this section. Alternatively, the Town Code, in its entirety, can be located at www.townofsomerset.com

Town Directory Updates for 2018-2019

It is that time of year again when we begin to call for updates to our *Town Handbook and Directory*. This year, we will be accepting requested changes to your listing until **Monday, July 16, 2018**. Please review your entry in the current Directory and let the Town Hall know if you would like any changes including emails, phone numbers, etc. If you are not sure of your current listing, please contact the Town Hall.

From the Mayor's Desk

By Mayor Jeffrey Slavin



It was a great honor on June 3 to be sworn in for my 6th term as Mayor—along with newly elected Council Members **Morris Panner** (Essex) and **Steve Surko** (Uppingham)—by recently confirmed U.S. District Court Judge **Dabney Langhorne Friedrich** (Uppingham). What a pleasure to have taken the oath from such a distinguished Somerset resident!

I look forward to seeing many residents at the Town's annual Fourth of July celebration, which starts at noon followed by an official program at 12:45 PM. I hope everyone's calendars are marked. We are again planning to recognize all the graduates—from elementary school to Masters, MD, JD—so please let us know of anyone in this category from your household over the past year. Send the information to manager@townofsomerset.com with a copy to *All About People* columnist **Eugene Tillman** (Warwick) at allaboutsomerset@gmail.com.

While our Town Code allows us to work in our yards—and use equipment that could bother neighbors—on Sundays after 9 a.m., I would like to encourage all residents to observe a day of rest and avoid scheduling landscapers or doing the work ourselves on Sunday mornings. I am often getting complaints about the use of lawn mowers and tree trimmers on Sundays when many of us like to enjoy quiet time. Thanks for your cooperation if possible.

Thanks to the Somerset Elementary School Foundation, I had the opportunity earlier this month to shadow Principal Kelly Morris as she completed task after task in her daily

schedule at the wonderful elementary school located in our Town. It made me realize how difficult her job truly is and, given that I had the chance to sit in several classrooms, how dedicated all her teachers are.

In my continuing hopes of creating more Somerset spirit, I want to again encourage all of our residents to attend meets for our municipal swim team, the Dolphins. Please go to the website and learn of all the opportunities. You can also purchase some beautiful "swag" to wear around the DMV.

Several weeks ago, Council President **Marnie Shaul** (Uppingham) and I traveled to Ocean City to represent our hamlet at the annual Maryland Municipal League Summer Conference. The opportunities to learn best practices, network and get information on the latest goods and services in the municipal world is extremely valuable and one of the highlights of my year. I am proud to say that this was my 16th convention since originally being elected. This time I was particularly excited to participate by carrying our banner in the parade of flags at the Opening Session, and was thrilled when the announcer called out our fantastic town motto, "**WHERE PEOPLE AND TREES HAVE DEEP ROOTS AND GROW STRONG,**" authored by **David Sacks** (Trent). It is so rewarding to have a motto that pays honor to our beloved trees and wonderful friendships: let's all try to use it where appropriate throughout the year.



Judge Dabney Langhorne Friedrich swears in (l to r) Mayor Jeffrey Slavin, Council Member Morris Panner, and Council Member Stephen Surko



All About People

By Eugene Tillman, *Warwick Place*



In the May Journal, Mayor Slavin provided some brief personal reflections about **Faye Cohen** (Trent) who passed away in early April at the age of 88. Jeffrey described her as an “activist extraordinaire,” and as I have come to understand, she was that and much, much more. My thanks to her daughter, **Laura**

Apelbaum, for illuminating Faye’s story which I want to share with all of you.

In 1962, ten years into their marriage, Faye and her husband **Sheldon** moved from Hyattsville to their house on Trent Street with three children in tow (and one more to come). The move to a larger house was prompted in part by Sheldon’s need for dedicated study space. The tipping point came when a very young Laura found Sheldon’s checkbook on his desk and decided to fill out all of his checks for him! Several years earlier, Faye had come to Somerset for a meeting at the home of the Rich family. Based on that one visit, she told the real estate agent she liked the houses in the Town. Fifty-six years hence, Faye clearly achieved her goal of finding a house where the family could stay put for the long term.

Laura describes Trent Street as a charmed place with 10 or more children playing in the streets in the evening, visits to the creek, and everyone looking out for each other. A couple of years after the move, Faye bought a 1964 Plymouth which became notorious in the neighborhood as she continued to drive it for the next 25 years. Meanwhile, Faye began to dig into the local community starting with the schools. At B-CC High School, she played a leading role in forming the Counseling Committee. The committee supported students at B-CC and other county high schools in their efforts to find and gain acceptance to the right colleges and universities. In the early 1980s, Faye helped organize the first county-wide “college fair” which attracted 2,000 students. She wrote all the invitations to the colleges and handled the correspondence with the admissions offices.

Sheldon’s professional activities, including serving as IRS Commissioner under Lyndon Johnson and as general counsel to the Democratic National Committee, brought Faye into contact with a wide range of the nation’s political luminaries including President Johnson and his family, Bob and Helen Strauss, Justice Douglas and his wife Cathy, Omar Bradley, and many others. Faye loved to host gatherings at her house, and many of these luminaries had the opportunity to savor Faye’s gourmet cooking. According to Laura, whether the gathering was big or small, Faye did the cooking. One memorable event was the “100-man party” – a breakfast on Trent Street prepared by Faye for 100 IRS agents.

Notwithstanding her national connections, Faye’s greatest impact was in local political and civic affairs. She spent countless hours with candidates for local office and put her time and energy into helping and nurturing them. She hosted grassroots activities – making calls and organizing meetings. She supported Idamae Garrott, the first woman to run for Montgomery County Executive (and eventually a state senator). She did an early meet and greet for now Senator Chris Van Hollen when he was running for the Maryland House of Delegates. She became friends with the Sarbaneses and the Cardins. Over time, she began to receive calls from candidates for local office from all over the country seeking her advice and input on campaign strategy, brochure design, and more.

Faye was especially proud of her leadership in the efforts that led to the de-annexation of the Bergdoll Tract from the Town of Somerset. This is the property where the Somerset House condominiums now stand. The de-annexation was handled by Norman Knopf who was our Town attorney for around 30 years and who generously shared his recollections with me.

The owners of the Bergdoll Tract originally planned to build a large shopping mall on it as part of a proposed rezoning and massive commercial development of Friendship Heights. A coalition of local communities formed to oppose the overall Friendship Heights development plan but needed money to retain lawyers to mount the challenge. Faye was the key architect and organizer of the primary fundraising strategy: opening up

Continued on page 10

All About People

the larger homes in Chevy Chase Village for paid tours. It was an enormously successful endeavor which continued for 10 years. Meanwhile, the Cohens were named plaintiffs in the lawsuits opposing the proposed development. Unable to proceed with the proposed mall, the owners of the Bergdoll Tract eventually settled on the current condominium project. The de-annexation prevented an influx of new residents who would have outnumbered those in the Town and completely changed its character as a single-family neighborhood community.

Back on Trent Street, Faye and Sheldon opened their home over several decades to many people of differing ages, interests, and backgrounds. Laura remembers "conversational" dinner parties. In addition to the regular Friday evening Shabbat meals, she recalls eclectic groups of people attending birthday brunches, Passover Seders, and other celebrations. As described by Laura, "the house was a gathering point, and there were always new people. My mom never stopped making friends her entire life." Faye is survived by her husband, her four children, and 10 grandchildren. She is a wonderful role model who leaves a great legacy of community activism and deep personal connection.

Back to the neighborhood...here are a few other news items to round out this month's column:

In early June, **Ruth** and **Arne Sorenson** (Warwick) moved to a new home in the Kalorama area of the District. They had originally arrived here in 1988 with an infant daughter, and three more children would follow. Ruth described Somerset as "a magical place to raise [their] children who became immersed in everything the Town had to offer." Participation on the swim team was a high-water mark (!) for all four children. Ruth and Arne have now completed their 30-year "sojourn" to the suburbs and return to a neighborhood not far from the one they left in 1988. Nevertheless, as Ruth explains, "Our Somerset roots are way too deep to pull us away from the wonderful people in this community. We'll be in the neighborhood often!"

Around press time, **Carrie Goux** and **Jonathan Spalter** (along with their four children) will move into the former Sorenson residence. More on these and other recent arrivals in the next edition of the Journal. And last but not least, **Dan Jamieson** and **Jennie Rabinowitz** (Warwick) welcomed a new son, Jonah, on May 14. Siblings Elijah (10) and Naomi (7) are over the moon.

Somerset's Helping Hand Is Just an Email or Phone Call Away

If you need a ride, someone to pick up some groceries or a prescription, a ride to the Metro, or even if you just want to get to a friend's house, please contact **Somerset Helping Hand**. We have a list of 30 Somerset volunteers who can help.

Send an email to **HHSomerset@gmail.com** or call **Barbara Zeughauser** at **301-951-8560**, **Kathleen Kenyon** at **301-656-8581** or **Jim Berry** at **301-656-6089**.

If you would like to add your name to the volunteer list, please send an email to **HHSomerset@gmail.com**.



Council Meeting Actions

The Town Council met in regular session on May 7, 2018 and took the following actions:

1. The Honorable Dabney L. Friedrich, U.S. District Judge for the District of Columbia, was in attendance to swear in Mayor Jeffrey Slavin and two Council Members: Morris Panner and Steve Surko.
2. Marnie Shaul was elected Council President.
3. Approval of the April 2, 2018 Council Meeting Minutes.
4. Approval of the following permits at 5800 Deal Place: demolition, building permit to construct an addition, patio installation, dumpster, storage pod, and HVAC unit installation.
5. Approval of a plan amendment at 5415 Trent Street to include a dumpster permit.
6. Approval of an Ordinance to amend the Town Code to install a speed hump on Warwick Lane in the vicinity of Cumberland Avenue
7. Approval to enter into a contract with Backyard Bounty to design a landscape plan near the Dorset and Wisconsin Avenue entrance to Somerset.
8. Approval of the removal of 1 Zelkova tree at 5510 Surrey Street as recommended by the Town Arborist.
9. Approval of a 1-year contract with Lee Tree Service contingent upon review of a final contract by the Town Attorney.
10. Approval to extend the contract with Unity Disposal and Recycling LLC for 1 option year per section IV of the existing contract.
11. Introduction of a resolution to approve the establishment of an official listserv for the Town to be referred to as the Town of Somerset MD List Serv.
12. Introduction of a resolution to adopt rules for the use of the Town of Somerset MD List Serv.
13. Mayor Slavin provided his monthly report. An update was discussed regarding the ongoing Town Code and Charter update project. Town Manager Charnovich provided his monthly administrative and financial reports. Elizabeth Hurwit of the Ad Hoc Traffic Committee was in attendance to provide an update following its recent meeting and to provide associated recommendations.

TOWN RESIDENTS SOCIALIZING AT JUNE POOL PARTY



Preliminary Agenda

Regular Somerset Town Council Meeting

Somerset Town Hall, Monday, July 2, 2018–7:30 p.m.

The Somerset Town Council will meet in regular session on Monday, June 4, 2018 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 (l to r): Morris Panner, Marnie Shaul, Franny Peale, Barbara Zeughauser, Stephen Surko

CONSENT

1. **Motion:** To consider approval of the May 7, 2018 Council Meeting Minutes.
2. **Motion:** To consider approval of the June 4, 2018 Council Meeting Minutes.
3. **Motion:** To consider approval of the Town Committee and Boards representation list for 2018-2019.

NON-CONSENT

4. **Discussion:** Town Manager's June Administrative and Financial Reports – 7:35 p.m.
5. **Introduction:** Lee Peyton of Lee's Tree Service – 7:45 p.m.
6. **Public Hearing/Motion:** To consider approval of the removal of a Town Tilia tree located at 4709 Dorset Avenue as recommended by the Town Arborist– 7:50 p.m.
7. **Public Hearing/Motion:** To consider bids received for work on the exterior and interior of the Town Hall – 7:55 p.m.

8. **Public Hearing/Motion:** To consider confirmation approval of a HVAC unit replacement unit permit that has been installed at 4919 Cumberland Avenue – 8:25 p.m.
9. **Public Hearing/Motion:** To consider confirmation approval of a HVAC unit replacement permit that has been installed at 5501 Surrey Street – 8:30 p.m.
10. **Public Hearing/Motion:** To consider confirmation approval of a HVAC unit replacement permit that has been installed at 4708 Dorset Avenue – 8:35 p.m.
11. **Public Hearing/Motion:** To consider the establishment of an official list serv for the Town to be referred to as the Town of Somerset MD List Serv –8:40 p.m.
12. **Public Hearing/Motion:** To consider adoption of rules for the use of the Town of Somerset MD List Serv – 8:50 p.m.
13. **Discussion:** General Code Update – 9:00 p.m.
14. **Discussion:** Mayor's Report – 9:05 p.m.
15. **Adjourn** – 9:10 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.