



# Landings

*A Quarterly Newsletter from the Town of Upper Marlboro*

April 2021 | Vol.16 No.01

## Spring Mayor's Message: Mayor Linda Pennoyer



This time last year, we had just begun our understanding of the coronavirus. COVID, herd immunity, social distancing, and the word unprecedented became part of our everyday vocabulary. A lot certainly has changed over the past 12 months.

In countless ways, this has been the most challenging and frustrating year of our lives. Like so many of you, I have lost good friends and family members. I have watched previously healthy women and men fall dangerously ill in a matter of days.

We now do everything virtually. We have sacrificed celebrating birthdays, anniversaries, parties, and holidays together. Making those difficult decisions broke our hearts, even though we knew it was the right thing to do.

*Continued on page 6*

## The Town of Upper Marlboro Recognized as Tree City USA

We are pleased to announce that the Town of Upper Marlboro has been recognized as a Tree City USA community by the Arbor Day foundation and the Maryland State Forest Service. The Tree City USA program has been greening up cities and towns across America since 1976. It is a nationwide movement that provides the framework necessary for communities to manage and expand their public trees.

More than 3,400 communities have made the commitment to becoming a Tree City USA. They have achieved Tree City USA status by meeting four core standards of sound urban forestry management: maintaining a tree board or department, having a community tree ordinance, spending at least \$2 per capita on urban forestry and celebrating Arbor Day.



**TREE CITY USA®**  
Arbor Day Foundation



*Hyattsville & Berwyn Heights VFD Ladder Trucks set up a Ladder Arch on Gov Oden Bowie Drive for former Mayor Jay Tucker's procession in April.*

The Town honors two former Mayors/Presidents who passed away over the past few months.

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## Town of Upper Marlboro Awarded DHCD Façade Improvement Grant



The Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development has notified the Town that we have been awarded \$50,000 in Fiscal Year 2021 Community Legacy

Program for the Town's Façade and Building Improvement Program. These funds will become matching grants to business owners and property managers who wish to "spruce up" the exterior of their commercial properties.

## The Town of Upper Marlboro is Hiring!



Town Clerk: The Town of Upper Marlboro is seeking a motivated and experienced Town Clerk to join our team. Read the full Job Description on the Town website at [www.UpperMarlboroMD.gov](http://www.UpperMarlboroMD.gov). Please submit your letter of interest and resume to [Recruitment@UpperMarlboroMD.gov](mailto:Recruitment@UpperMarlboroMD.gov) by Friday, April 30th, 2021.



Police Officer: The Town of Upper Marlboro is seeking experienced and Maryland Certified Police Officers to join our growing Department. Interested? Email [UpperMarlboroPD@UpperMarlboroMD.gov](mailto:UpperMarlboroPD@UpperMarlboroMD.gov).

## The Upper Marlboro Community Center has reopened!

The Department of Parks and Recreation Prince George's

County has announced the reopening of 13 community centers to provide fitness rooms and gymnasiums for patrons as of Monday, March 29th, 2021. This includes the Upper Marlboro Community Center. Reservations are required to use the facility and are limited to one individual/family per time slot depending on the activity. No walk-ins are allowed at this time. Registrations can be made via [pgparksdirect.com](http://pgparksdirect.com).



## Public Works Corner *Preparing Yard Waste for Pickup*



It's that time of year again! The Town provides routine yard waste collection for removal of leaves, branches, and other yard waste that you are unable to compost. Residents must use a **paper lawn bag** or another type of reusable container to place yard waste out for collection, **yard waste in plastic bags will not be accepted**.



Below are some additional guidelines for disposing of yard waste:

- Do not mix yard debris with other bulk trash items
- Cut branches and twigs into lengths of 4' or less
- Branches and brush must be tied into bundles (tie with twine, or metal tie wires) or placed inside a container that can easily be emptied (containers must not weigh more than 80 pounds each). Bundles of branches cannot exceed 2' in diameter.
- Branches must be less than 3" in diameter (larger branches and tree trunks must be collected as bulky trash)

***Yard Waste is collected on Mondays and Thursdays within the Town.***



**Reminder:** Your Recycling will **NOT** be picked up if there are plastic bags in it. They jam the sorting machines at the County Facility. Thank You!

## *Slow Down, Move Over*

As you may know, Maryland has a "Move Over" law. When an authorized emergency or maintenance vehicle is pulled over, all drivers must move to another lane and/or slow down as we carefully pass. Unfortunately, the State is still experiencing deadly conditions on the side of the roads for those working to keep Marylanders moving safely. Crews are out there every day helping motorists, and they are getting hit.



When you see our Public Works crews parked along the side of the road for maintenance or litter pick-up, please reduce speed, stay alert, and pass safely.



## Town Meetings Have Gone Virtual



Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Town has shifted to virtual online meetings. The dates and times of Town meetings have not changed:

Regular Town meetings: 2nd Tuesdays at 7 p.m.

Regular work sessions: 4th Tuesdays at 7 p.m.

Interested in joining? Visit the Town website at [www.UpperMarlboroMD.gov](http://www.UpperMarlboroMD.gov) the Friday prior to the meeting to see the agenda, packet, and Zoom meeting login info. The meetings are also recorded and posted the next day for review.

Questions? Contact the Town Clerk's Office at [Info@UpperMarlboroMD.gov](mailto:Info@UpperMarlboroMD.gov) or at 301-627-6905.

## Official Notice: Charter Amendment Resolution No. 01-2021

On March 9, 2021 the Board of Commissioners for the Town of Upper Marlboro adopted "Charter Amendment Resolution No. 01-2021".

Said Resolution amends Section 82 of the Charter of the Town of Upper Marlboro, Maryland BY CREATING THE OFFICES OF TOWN ADMINISTRATOR AND CHIEF OF POLICE, AND BY PERMITTING THE OFFICIAL USE OF THE ALTERNATIVE TITLE OF MAYOR BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, AND MAKING CERTAIN STYLISTIC, GRAMMATICAL AND NON-SUBSTANTIVE CHANGES THERETO.

The Charter amendment becomes effective April 28, 2021. Copies are available at Town Hall, 14211 School Ln, Upper Marlboro MD 20772 — or on the Town website [www.UpperMarlboroMD.gov](http://www.UpperMarlboroMD.gov)

*We would like to thank all residents for their input on this Town Charter Amendment!*



## Upper Marlboro Mosquito Control Program



Each year, the Town of Upper Marlboro signs up with the Maryland Department of Agriculture's Mosquito Control Program. Within the next month, MDA surveillance teams will begin testing in our area to determine if the service is needed, and it always is. This year the weekly spraying in Town begins May 26th and runs through September 28, 2021. The Town will provide notice of spraying dates as they are provided to us by the State.

**Why Are Mosquitoes a Problem?** Apart from their being an annoyance, the Asian Tiger mosquitoes are known carriers of the West Nile Virus, and a principal carrier of dog heartworm. They are well known for their aggressive daytime activity and their ability to breed in even the smallest amount of water.

**How Can I Help Control Mosquitos?** The most effective way to drastically reduce the mosquito population is to eliminate those places where they breed. Inspect the outside of your home and yard for places where rainwater can collect, such as: gutters, bottles, cans, planters, toys, tarps, old tires and so on. Pet bowls and bird baths should be changed often.

**What If I Don't Want Mosquito Spraying?** If you decide that you do not want this service, you must sign a form and there will be no spraying within 300 feet from either side of your residence. The forms are available for download from the State's website at:

[https://mda.maryland.gov/plants-pests/Documents/MC\\_RequestExemption.pdf](https://mda.maryland.gov/plants-pests/Documents/MC_RequestExemption.pdf)



## COVID-19 Vaccine Updates

Prince George's County Information: While the County Health Department currently operates five vaccination clinics in the County, in addition to three mobile vaccination units, there are a number of vaccination sites available in Prince George's County that are not operated by the County. We encourage you to sign up at these other sites to increase your options to receive a COVID-19 vaccine appointment.

Prince George's County Health Department Locations: Health Department's Cheverly Health Center, Southern Regional Technology & Recreation Complex, Laurel Beltsville Senior Activity Center, Kentland Community Center, Cedar Heights Community Center, and Mobile Vaccination Units.

**Appointments:** Individuals who live or work in Prince George's County should fill out the pre-registration form to be added to the waiting list. Individuals who cannot fill out the pre-registration form online should call 311 and press # for assistance.

**Registration Form:** [https://covid19vaccination.princegeorgescountymd.gov/?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=govdelivery](https://covid19vaccination.princegeorgescountymd.gov/?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery)

**State of Maryland Information:** The State of Maryland's mass vaccination sites, such as Six Flags, and the FEMA Greenbelt Metro, are now open to all Marylanders ages 16 and older. In order to get an appointment at these sites, please make sure you are pre-registered by visiting <https://coronavirus.maryland.gov/pages/vaccine> or calling 1-855-634-6829.

### PRE-REGISTRATION



1. Marylanders pre-register online or via the call center.



2. Mass vaccination sites release new appointments as they receive more doses.



3. Individuals are notified to initiate the scheduling process via their preferred contact method.



4. Vaccination appointment is successfully scheduled within minutes.

**COVIDvax.maryland.gov | 1-855-MD-GOVAX**

# Town Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Discussion



It's that time of year! The Board of Town Commissioners and Staff are planning out the Town's Fiscal Year 2022 Town Budget, which will run from July 1st, 2021, through June 30th, 2022. The Board of Town Commissioner's welcome Town resident input and thought throughout the Budget process. Below is a calendar for the FY2022 Budget process:

Date	Meeting Type	Topic
Tues Feb 23rd	Regular Work Session	Budget Calendar & Priorities Discussion
Tues March 16th	Extra Budget Work Session	Anticipated Revenue & Priorities Discussion
Tues March 23rd	Regular Work Session	Town Tax Rates Discussion
Tues April 13th	Regular Town Meeting	Public Comment- Town Tax Rates
Tues April 20th	Extra Budget Work Session	Expense Discussion- Departmental & CIP
Tues May 11th	Regular Town Meeting	Budget Presentation & Public Comment
Tues May 18th	Extra Budget Work Session	Discuss Budget Ordinance & Public Comment
Tues June 8th	Regular Town Meeting	Approval of Budget
Thurs July 1st	N/A	FY 2022 Budget in effect

## Board of Town Commissioner's Goals & Priorities for the FY 2022 Budget:

**Overarching Goal:** To ensure the sustainability of the Town into the future.

### **Priorities:**

1. A Sustainable Government. The Commission wishes to have policies and procedures in place to ensure the Town is following best practices. A sustainable government includes a budget in which recurring expenses are relatively equal to recurring revenues and capital improvements are planned for and budgeted.
2. Expanded Town Boundaries. The Commission wishes to expand the Town's boundaries to improve public participation and ensure its long-term sustainability.
3. Flooding mitigation and safety. The Commission wishes to ensure safe travel during storm events.
4. Safe and modern roadways. The Commission wishes to see the Town's roadways paved, modernized, and connected for multiple modes of transit. The commission seeks to improve safety for all, but particularly our youngest residents.
5. Increased recreation opportunities. The Commission wishes to strengthen the Upper Marlboro Community with more recreation opportunities for residents creating spaces and events that serve as gathering places.

## Spring Mayor's Message: Mayor Linda Pennoyer Continued

Despite all that we lost and all that we missed, I am beginning to see some silver linings among the dark clouds of COVID. For example, although the rollout has been slower than any of us want, vaccinations are becoming more available – especially to the most vulnerable in our town, our county, and our state.

Because I am as eager as you to put the impacts of this deadly virus behind us as soon as possible, I received my vaccine in February, as soon as I was eligible. The shot did not hurt, and I had no adverse effects whatsoever.

However, I realize many people are “vaccination reluctant.” Perhaps it is their fear of the vaccine itself, their mistrust of government or the medical community, or their political views. Or some combination of all the above.

While people are certainly entitled to their opinions, I would encourage everyone to consider getting the vaccine when eligible. It is the quickest path to get through this COVID nightmare and allows us to resume many of the activities we all miss so much.

We are all in this together. Moving forward in this new world will depend on everyone pulling in the same direction, regardless of our differences of opinion, political party, race, religion, country of origin, or sports team affiliation. As we have tragically learned, COVID does not discriminate.

There is one other important lesson I have learned through this unprecedented 12-month ordeal: Do not take anything for granted. Whether it is a meal at an Upper Marlboro restaurant, coffee with a close friend, a trip to the store, a meeting at the Town Hall, or a hug with a family member, I will treat it as the memorable experience that it is.

We can do this, folks, if we put our differences aside and do what is best for everyone. After all, that has always been the Upper Marlboro way.

Mayor Linda Pennoyer,  
The Town of Upper Marlboro



## Call for Artists: Murals on Main Street Project



The Town of Upper Marlboro, with the newly formed Town of Upper Marlboro Arts Council, is excited to announce a local call to professional Prince George's County, MD mural artists or artist teams to design, fabricate, and install two murals on Main Street, in downtown Upper Marlboro. The Town of Upper Marlboro received a planning grant from the Maryland State Art Council to identify two (2) artists or artist's teams for this initiative. Up to six semifinalists, three per site, will be awarded \$400 to develop a final proposal with community input. Once the finalists are selected for each site, the Town will apply for additional grant funding for the installation of each mural in Fall 2021.

**RFQ Released: Friday, March 26, 2021**

**Application Deadline: Friday, April 23, 2021, 5:00pm ET**

**Semifinalist Notification: Friday, May 7, 2021**

**Finalist Notification: Friday, June 25, 2021**

Visit the Town website at [www.UpperMarlboroMD.gov](http://www.UpperMarlboroMD.gov) for details.

**CALL FOR ARTISTS**

Upper Marlboro Arts Council

Each month, the Upper Marlboro Arts Council will feature an artist on the Town's website. Submit visual art and performing art such as musical or dance performance, poetry, sculpture, painting, and drawing. See the Town of Upper Marlboro's website for submission directions.



# Town Loses Two Former Mayors

## Helen M. Ford



The Town of Upper Marlboro lost one of its most beloved residents and dedicated public servants when Helen Marie Ford passed away this past February. During a lifetime that spanned over nine decades, she enjoyed a reputation throughout the town for her honesty and candor.

Except when it came to one thing: her age.

"She would never tell anyone how old she was," her son Ray recalled recently with a chuckle.

To figure it out, Ray needed a little bit of ingenuity combined with some simple mathematics.

"We were talking one day about her love for Marlboro High School, that she attended and graduated from," Ray said. "And so I said, 'Mom, what year was that?' And she blurted out her graduation year without thinking!"

Eventually, she confessed that she was born on June 1, 1928, making her 92 years young when she died.

A lifelong resident of Church Street, Helen Ford attended St. Mary of the Assumption parish elementary school and remained devoted to the values instilled there by the sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Upon leaving St. Mary's, she attended and graduated from Upper Marlboro School.

With high school diploma in hand, Helen secured a position as an administrative assistant for several successive base or wing commanders at nearby Andrews Air Force Base. Her service was marked by regular awards for outstanding service, including awards from the U.S. Air Force as civilian employee of the year. She retired from Andrews in June 1987.

But even before she retired, Helen had decided she wanted to get more involved in helping to make the Town of Upper Marlboro a better place to live, work, and raise a family. In 1984, she ran for a seat on the three-member Board of Commissioners, and she won. She would go on to serve with distinction for more than two decades – 11 consecutive two-year terms – serving as Board President or Mayor from 1988 to 2006.

Ray Ford recalls that during her time as Board President, Helen was known as a fiscal conservative who worked tirelessly – often 40 hours per week as both President and Town Administrator – to protect and preserve the town's finances and resources.

"She loved it," Ray said of his mom's years of work on the board. "She loved to work with all of the people at the Town Hall. She was clearly focused on finances and fiscal accountability."

When Helen left elected office, the town enjoyed a surplus of over two million dollars in its treasury. In 2004, she was inducted into the Maryland Municipal League Hall of Fame.

Helen was also fiercely patriotic. Never was her patriotism more on display than in the aftermath of the horrific 9/11 terrorist attacks on our country.

"My mom organized a 911 memorial event at the County Administration Building on Governor Oden Bowie Drive," Ray recalled. "I have to say, I never saw my mother enjoy herself as much as she did at that event. She had tears in her eyes, and so did I."

Besides balancing the budget, Helen championed several important causes as a Commissioner and later as a private citizen over the last 15 years of her life.

While still on the Board, she fought for the new post office to be built on Elm Street, for the Upper Marlboro Library to move into the former post office building on Main Street, and for the Upper Marlboro Community Center.

And, of course, she was greatly concerned over the fate of her alma mater, the old Marlboro High School.

"She was very much opposed to the County's efforts to strip the old Marlboro High School and adjacent Primary School of their historic site protection, in order to make them eligible for demolition and make way for construction of a new facility for juvenile offenders," said current Town Mayor Linda Pennoyer, who considered Helen Ford both a trailblazer and a mentor.

"She would call me regularly to tell me to not give up the fight," Pennoyer said fondly. "She stood firmly against this move and was geared up to fight the County every step of the way. I miss her calls, her advice, her wisdom, and her dedication to the Town Upper Marlboro."

A memorial gathering for Helen Ford was held on March 6 in Clinton, Maryland.

## Julian "Jay" Tucker



Julian "Jay" Tucker was a longtime Upper Marlboro resident, and served as President/Mayor from 2007/2008. Jay Tucker was the Past Chairman of the Prince George's County Fire Commission (2013-2019); Past President of the Prince George's County Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association (2002-2004); President, Past Chief, and Life Member, of Marlboro Volunteer Fire Department; and Former Member of Baden Volunteer Fire Department and the Volunteer Fire Department of Brandywine. Jay passed away on March 25, 2021. Jay passed away in March 2021 after a lengthy battle with Leukemia.

## A Designing Business- J.L. Michael's Custom Clothiers



JL Michael's Custom Clothiers is a family-owned business located in the Lakeside Professional Park at 14412 Old Mill Road Suite 201, Town of Upper Marlboro.



The proprietor, Michael Johnson is an impeccably dressed man who seeks to provide clients with an unforgettable and classic experience. The space is well appointed and immediately gives you a feeling of warmth and hospitality. Michael's design influence is one of good taste and classic elegance. He design's for the person with discriminating taste as well as the person who is looking for a certain look. The Company as a stellar reputation nationally and internationally.

As stated earlier, J L Michael's Custom Clothiers is a family business whose wife Stefanie and daughter, are the glue that allows the business to run like a well-oiled machine.

If you are looking for a unique shopping experience, give JL Michael's Custom Clothiers a call at 240-398-6524 to make an appointment and to check their hours of operation.

Email: [michael@jlmichaels.com](mailto:michael@jlmichaels.com) Website: <https://jl-michaels-custom-clothiers.square.site/>

*Article by Sustainable Communities Workgroup Chair Evelyn Stephens*

## Playground Construction Update

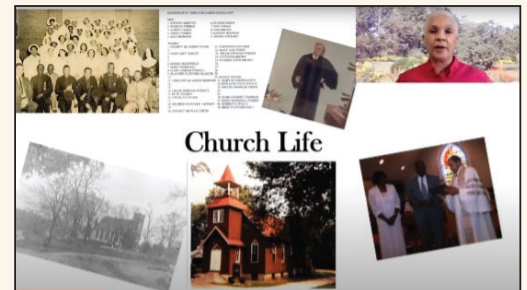


Phase 1 of the Town of Upper Marlboro Community Playground Project continues to move through the County Permitting process, with hopes construction will begin in Spring 2021. The playground is being built adjacent to Town Hall and Sasscer Recreation Fields, at the site of the former Chesapeake Beach Railroad. To honor the site's former use, the playground is being built with a railroad theme. Phase 1 includes a train station for ages 5-12, and future Phase 2 will include a train play structure for ages 2-5 years old. The project is being funded partially through the State Department of Natural Resources Community Playground program.

## Upper Marlboro Historical Committee Celebrates Black History Month

In February 2021, the Upper Marlboro Historical Committee organized and recorded an Oral History of African American life in the Town of Upper Marlboro, in which several current and former African American residents shared their experiences growing up in the Town in the 1950s-1980s. A Special thank you to the panelists: Evelyn Stephens, Pia Winters Jordan, and Debbie Sellman.

Watch the oral interview here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YJoJ7Q3pTDU>





# 2021 Cicada Information



The cicadas are coming! Billions of Brood X cicadas will emerge this spring across the northeastern United States, after 17 years underground, to fill the air with their buzzing mating calls.

**When will they appear?** Brood X will emerge as expected in Spring 2021, but we are experiencing a four-year acceleration of a small portion of Brood X. The calls--which are produced by the males only--should continue through June. Individual cicadas live only a few weeks, just long enough to produce a new generation.

**Are they harmful?** These insects cannot bite or sting. The only harm they can cause is during egg-laying. Small twigs can be damaged by deep slits cut by the female as she deposits her long rows of small eggs. Very small woody stock (1-3 years) can be severely damaged by large numbers of egg sites. Larger trees tolerate cicada damage well. Those trees and shrubs that are severely hit may exhibit terminal dieback or "flagging" as twigs snap and leaves turn brown.

**What can be done?** Consider delaying this winter's pruning of landscape materials until after egg-laying stops in June. Very small trees in the home landscape or garden should be covered with cheesecloth or other fine netting from the time 17-year cicadas are first heard until they disappear. Large trees need no such protection. Commercial growers should be prepared to delay planting new trees for one year.

**Why "cicada" not "locust"?** Early eastern settlers confused the huge numbers of periodical cicadas emerging and calling, with biblical accounts of ravenous migratory locusts. However, locusts are grasshoppers in the order Orthoptera. They have chewing mouthparts and a voracious appetite throughout their life. Other animals in this group are cockroaches, preying mantis and crickets. Cicadas are in the suborder Homoptera, and have sucking mouthparts (like little soda straws). Cicadas feed mostly as nymphs underground, on tree roots. They are in the same family as the familiar annual and dog-day cicadas whose songs characterize hot summer days! Other close relatives are aphids, leafhoppers and mealybugs.

**How will this affect pets?** Fortunately, cicadas don't bite or sting so they're not harmful to pets. They are not toxic to pets and cannot transmit disease. However, eating too many cicadas can upset your pet's stomach. Do your best to stop your pets from eating these insects.

**What happens to the cicadas?** Adult cicadas die soon after they have mated and laid their eggs in small twigs and branches. After six weeks, eggs hatch and the tiny nymphs fall to the ground. They immediately tunnel downward until they find suitable small roots to feed on. They will remain forgotten underground, feeding, growing and molting for 17 years.



*Information provided by the Maryland Department of Agriculture*

## Town of Upper Marlboro Police Department



### Speed Limit

The speed limit is 25 mph within the Town limits. We ask that all residents and visitors drive safely through Town.



**COVID-19 Police Response:** The Upper Marlboro Police Department continues to work during the "Stay-at-Home" order. We ask that all residents take this virus seriously and follow all the recommendations. Non-violent police calls will be handled over the phone by calling 301-352-1200. If any officer does respond to your home, you may be asked to come outside to meet the officer. Everyone must still practice social distancing guide

**Vaccination** Prince George's County is continuing the Vaccination process. At this time, they are asking all County residents and those who work in the County, to complete a pre-registration form which can be accessed here at <https://bit.ly/PGCVaccineForm>.

**It is Tax Season- Don't become a victim:** The IRS continues to warn consumers to guard against telephone scams from thieves intending to steal people's money or their identity. Criminals pose as the IRS to trick victims out of their money or personal information. Here is a tip shared by the IRS to help you avoid being a victim of these scams:



**Scammers make unsolicited calls.** Thieves call taxpayers claiming to be IRS officials. They demand that the victim pay a bogus tax bill. They con the victim into sending cash, usually through a prepaid debit card or wire transfer. They may also leave "urgent" callback requests through phone "robo-calls," or phishing email

Taxpayers who get unsolicited emails or social media attempts to gather information that appear to be from either the IRS or an organization closely linked to the IRS should forward the message to [phishing@irs.gov](mailto:phishing@irs.gov). The IRS is encouraging them not to communicate with potential scammers online or over the phone.

## April 2021 Blood Drive A Success!



**Help save a life.**

Schedule your blood donation appointment today.



A huge THANK YOU to all the donors who came out to donate blood at the April 2020 Upper Marlboro Area Blood Drive hosted by the American Red Cross, M-NCPPC Department of Parks, and the Town of Upper Marlboro. It was a huge success with almost 30 units of blood collected to help save over 80 lives! Also thank you to all the volunteers who came out to staff the event, including the Greater Upper Marlboro CERT Team, and a very special thanks to the M-NCPPC Parks and Recreation, and the staff of the Upper Marlboro Community Center for use of their facility for this event!



## July 2021 Blood Drive: Sign up today!

The next Upper Marlboro area blood drive will be held on **Friday July 9th, 2021**, from 10am until 4pm. Sign up today at [www.redcrossblood.org/](http://www.redcrossblood.org/) or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

## Prince George's County Council Redistricting Commission



Commission Description:  
"The 2021 Redistricting Commission was appointed pursuant to the prescriptions of Section 305 of the County Charter, which states, in pertinent part, that "[T]he boundaries of Council districts shall be reestablished in 1982 and every tenth year thereafter. Whenever district boundaries are to be reestablished the Council shall appoint, not later than February 1 of the year

prior to the year in which redistricting is to be effective, a commission on redistricting."

The Council adopted CR-6-2021, appointing the 2021 members of the Redistricting Commission and charging this public body with the mission to "prepare, publish, and make available a plan of Council districts and shall present that plan, together with a report explaining it, to the Council by September 1, 2021..." and further prescribed in accordance with law that "the plan shall provide for Council districts that are compact, contiguous, and equal in population."

After receiving the plan of the Redistricting Commission, the Council shall hold a public hearing on the plan and if the Council passes no other law changing the proposal, then the plan, as submitted, shall become law, as of the last day of November, as an act of the Council."

For more information and meeting dates & minutes visit [https://pgccouncil.us/326/Redistricting-Commission?fbclid=IwAR2vzLXDE\\_XpKikgQwPyyGDIN8UTYkWfpwHOqh0Q\\_X3MmibKZjwU24D9sfw](https://pgccouncil.us/326/Redistricting-Commission?fbclid=IwAR2vzLXDE_XpKikgQwPyyGDIN8UTYkWfpwHOqh0Q_X3MmibKZjwU24D9sfw)

## Vines Strangle, Smother and Kill Trees



English ivy can Choke – and kill the beautiful trees that give our yards and neighborhoods shade and character. What looks like a lovely little green plant can actually strangle trees, accelerate rot, attract mosquitoes and cause mature trees to fall down during storms.

Dense ivy cover deprives the tree's bark of normal contact with air and microorganisms and competes with the tree for nutrients and water. Ivy is a threat. But we can beat it with simple landscaping work:

- 1) Use garden clippers to cut ivy at the bottom around the entire trunk of all infested trees. The goal is to separate all ivy vines from their source of nutrients in the soil so they will die. Be sure not to cut into the bark of the tree.
- 2) Pull all ivy vines out of the ground around the base of the tree, making a 2 feet "life saver ring" around the tree. This will protect the tree from future infestations.
- 3) Once cut, leave ivy on the tree. Do not pull it off because that could harm the tree. Ivy will gradually blend into the tree bark after it is cut. Check up your tree each winter to be sure the ivy remains off.
- 4) While many will quickly trim off the ivy off the tree once it's dead, its complex creeping mechanism will still be active. The best thing to do is to let the ivy dry out and fall off naturally, as to maintain the bark's integrity. Ivy has been eliminated; trees are fairly fast to recover. It is important to keep a watchful eye on the tree though, as damages may be more extensive and hidden by the vine's foliage. Hence the importance of acting quickly when a vine makes your tree its host.



Town of Upper Marlboro Town Hall  
14211 School Lane  
Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772

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## Church Street Parking Lot “Green” Design Contest

The Upper Marlboro Green Team is holding a green design contest for the Town's parking lot located at 14525 Church Street Upper Marlboro MD 20772.

Winning designs will be sent to the engineering team that completes the final design of the lot. The Green Team will select one winner from each age group: Elementary School; Middle School; High School; Adult.

Please submit entries due by Friday July 30th, 2021.

Visit the Town website for more information at [www.UpperMarlboroMD.gov](http://www.UpperMarlboroMD.gov) or call Town Offices at 301-627-6905.



## The Board of Town Commissioners

**Linda Pennoyer**  
*President/Mayor*

**Janice Duckett**  
*Town Commissioner*

**Sarah Franklin**  
*Town Commissioner/Treasurer*

**Office Hours**  
Monday – Friday: 9am – 5pm

**Contact Town Hall**  
301-627-6905 *office*  
301-627-2080 *fax*  
[info@uppermarlboromd.gov](mailto:info@uppermarlboromd.gov) *email*  
Verizon 19 *cable access channel*  
*Website:* [www.uppermarlboromd.gov](http://www.uppermarlboromd.gov)  
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