Landings

A Quarterly Newsletter from the Town of Upper Marlboro

Town Hall Memorial Day Wreath Laying

On Monday May 25th, 2020, on Memorial Day, Upper Marlboro Mayor/President Linda Pennoyer and Chief of Police David Burse took a moment to lay a wreath at Town Hall, which was dedicated as a living war memorial to Town residents who have lost their lives serving their country. Special thank you to Nancy Clagett for making and donating the wreath.

Read full remarks in this PG Suite Article: https://www.pgsuite.com/opinion/2020/5/25/a-war-as-deadly-as-any-other

#CountUM

CENSUS DAY WAS APRIL 1, 2020

The Town of Upper Marlboro is proud to partner and support the 2020 United States Census.

By April 1, 2020, every home will receive an invitation to participate in the 2020 Census. You will have three options for responding if you have not already done so:

- ❖ Online https://my2020census.gov/
- ❖ By phone: 844-330-2020
- ❖ By mail (Will be mailed to your household)

Reporting Suspected Fraud

If you suspect fraud, call 800-923-8282 to speak with a local Census Bureau representative. If it is determined that the visitor who came to your door does not work for the Census Bureau, please call the Upper Marlboro & County Police at 911 or using the non-emergency number at (301) 352-1200.
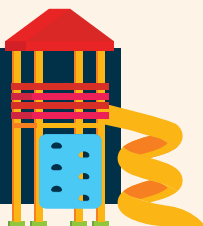
2020 CensusMaryland

*Funding provided by the State of Maryland 2020 Census Grant Program to produce this publication.

In This Issue:

MOVE OVER OR SLOW DOWN

Save the Date: Upper Marlboro Blood Drive

The Town of Upper Marlboro has partnered with area neighborhoods, the Maryland National Capitol Park and Planning Commission, and the Red Cross, to sponsor an Upper Marlboro area blood drive. The Red Cross follows the highest standards of safety and infection control, and volunteer donors are the only source of blood for those in need. There is no known end date in this fight against coronavirus and the Red Cross needs the help of blood and platelet donors and blood drive hosts to maintain a sufficient blood supply for weeks to come.

<u>Tentative Date:</u>
Friday August 7th, 2020. 12pm-6pm
Upper Marlboro Community Center
5400 Marlboro Race Track Road

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 7PM

Regular Work Sessions: 4th Tuesdays at 7PM

Interested in joining? Visit the Town website at 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

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, **<u>yard waste in plastic bags will not be accepted</u>**. Below are some additional guidelines for disposing of yard waste:
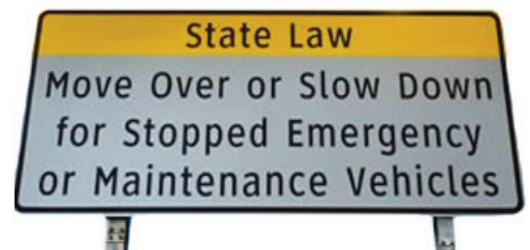
- Do not mix yard debris with other bulk trash items
- Cut branches and twigs into lengths of 4' or less
- Branches and brush must be tied into bundles (tie with twine, or metal tie wires) or placed inside a container that can easily be emptied (containers must not weigh more than 80 pounds each). Bundles 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.

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. Our workers 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.

Main Street & Water Street Intersection Upgrade

Maryland State Highway has begun construction on the intersection upgrade of Main Street and Water Street in Downtown Upper Marlboro.

This project is expected to last several weeks and will include the wired traffic signals being placed onto one diagonal overhead pole, the installation of pedestrian crosswalks, and pedestrian crossing countdown signals. The traffic signal will also be upgraded from a programed timed system to a live sensor-driven system to optimize traffic flow.

Please expect possible limited traffic delays and lane closures during this time period. This is a much-needed upgrade that the Town has been coordinating with SHA for the past few years.

Happy 150 Birthday Upper Marlboro!

April 4th, 1870 - April 4th, 2020

The Town of Upper Marlboro Government turned 150

While the area was settled around 1695, and the Upper Marlboro community was established in 1706, the formal governing body of the Town of Upper Marlboro was first incorporated on April 4, 1870 by Chapter 363 of the Acts of Maryland of 1870. The Act was passed by the State Senate on April 2nd, 1870; however, it was not official until being signed in law by Maryland Governor Oden-Bowie (name sound familiar?) on April 4th, 1870. Fun fact the Town shares its incorporation date with the City of Laurel.

Upper Marlboro Sustainable Communities Workgroup Update:

The Town of Upper Marlboro is Designated a Sustainable Community Again!

Evelyn Stephens, chair of the Town's Sustainable Communities Workgroup, announced at the virtual town meeting held on April 14, that the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development has again awarded accreditation status to the Town of Upper Marlboro as a "sustainable community."

The state of Maryland passed a Sustainable Communities Act in 2010 with the goal of revitalizing and promoting reinvestment in Maryland's older communities. The Act also encourages economic growth and improvement in the designated Sustainable Community.

Since February 19, 2014, the Town of Upper Marlboro has been designated as a Sustainable Community. The designation allows the Town to apply for state funds that foster commercial revitalization and economic development.

Because of the designation of Sustainable Community, the Town has received funds under the auspices of the State of Maryland's Community Legacy Program, which have totaled $150,000. The $50,000 per fiscal year allowed the Town to create its Façade Improvement Program (FIP).

"We are thankful to business owners, MNCPPC, town staff and workgroup members who worked collaboratively to shepherd specific plans by applicants that foster business development and nourish the richness of Upper Marlboro as a community," said Mayor Linda Pennoyer.

Stephens noted other examples of sustainability supported by the Sustainable Communities Act: tree planting, walking trails, bike routes, recycling, home gardening, historic sites, flood controls and protecting natural and cultural assets.

Patricia Fenn, Member Town of Upper Marlboro Sustainable Communities Workgroup

Town of Upper Marlboro

The Town of Upper Marlboro is proud to announce that construction on Phase 1 of the Town's first community playground is set to begin in later summer/fall of 2020. This project is funded by both the Town and a grant from the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Community Parks & Playgrounds Program. This playground will be constructed on a vacant Town lot adjacent to the Town Hall & Police Department along Old Crain Highway. The theme of the playground pays tribute to the site's former use as a train depot as part of the Chesapeake Beach Railroad, which ran from Washington DC to Chesapeake Beach in Calvert County. This roadway had been defunct since 1935.

Phase One includes construction of the train depot play structure for ages 5-12, along with pathways and fencing Phase Two, slated for 2021, will consist of a train play structure for ages 2-5 years, and a green parking lot off Old Crain Highway. The playground will be accessible from the Sasscer Athletic fields and parking lot.

Questions regarding this project can be sent to Info@UpperMarlboroMD.gov or made by phone at 301-627-6905 (Town Offices).
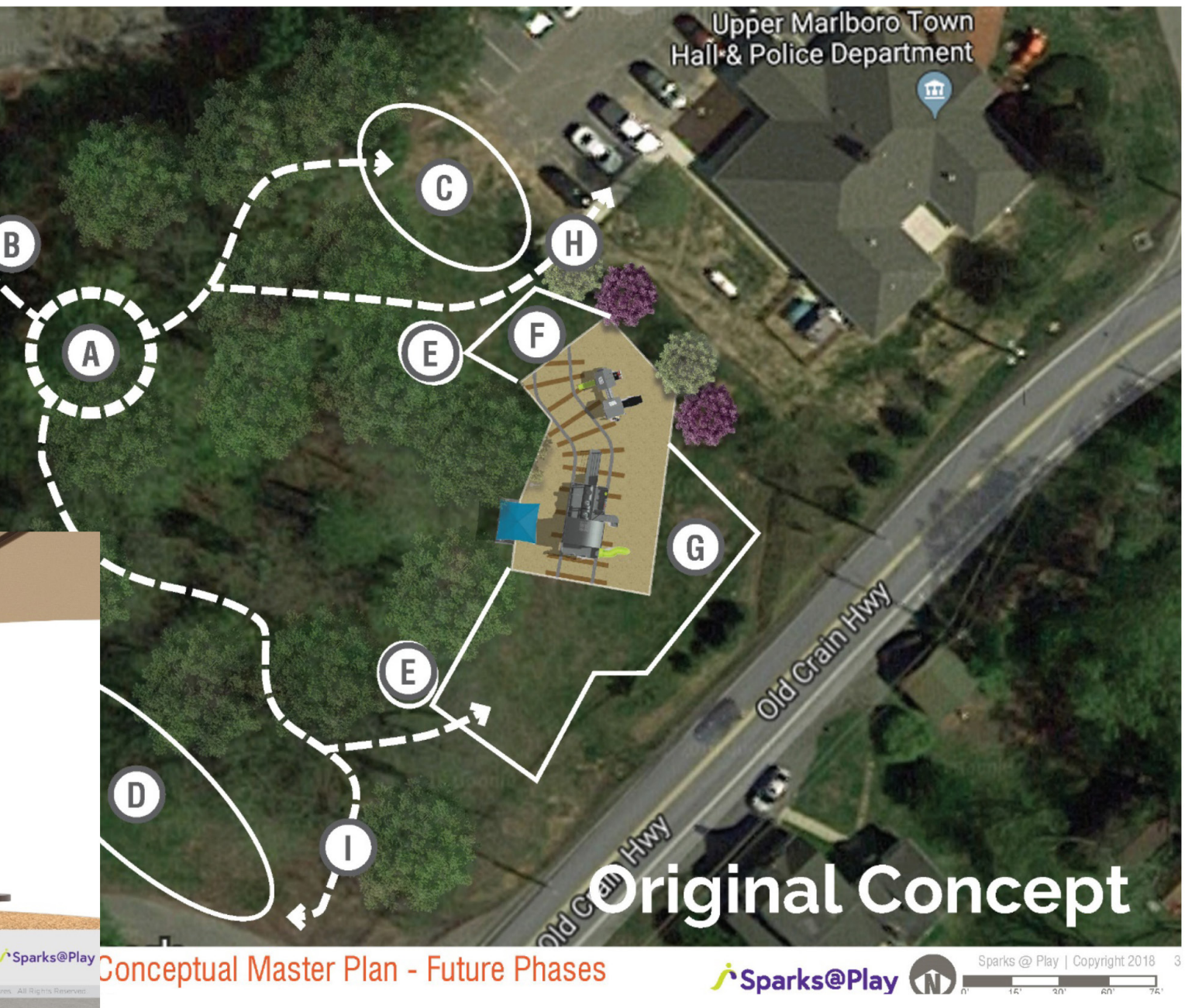
About the Contractor:

Sparks@Play

Sparks@Play, LLC was fo
local product representat
Sparks@Play has been ir
have received awards or
company Hunt Valley Cor
clients such as Arlington
Schools. With Hunt Valley
shelter structures, splash

Community Playground Project

Conceptual Master Plan - Future Phases

Original Concept

ʃSparks@Play

Sparks @ Play | Copyright 2018

ounded in 2009 and specializes in playspaces in Maryland, DC, West Virginia, and Virginia. We are the
tives for Landscape Structures, Inc, an industry leading playground manufacturer since 1971. Since 2009,
nvolved in hundreds of playgrounds of all sizes and all themes. Several of our most popular playgrounds
recognition for their design, creativity, and inclusivity. Sparks@Play works closely with our sibling
ntractors, Inc. which specializes in playground installation and site work for playgrounds for Sparks@Play
County Parks, VA, MNCPPC in Montgomery and Prince George's County, MD, and DC Parks and Public
y Contractors and our other vendor partners, our services extend to safety surfacing, site amenities, shade/
pads, turf fields, and dog parks.

Town of Upper Marlboro Police Department

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 guidelines.

As of April 15, 2020, face covering is mandatory when going to the grocery stores and while riding "TheBus" and the County transit system. The face covering can be a scarf, bandanna or homemade mask.

Town Hall Flags at half-staff on National Peace Officers Memorial Day

Roadway Safety
All residents and visitors are reminded that the maximum speed within Town limits is a strict 25MPH. Upper Marlboro Police Officers are enforcing these speed limits.

How to Contact the Police:	
If you have an emergency	Call 911
If you have a non-emergency	Call (301) 352-1200
If you need a police officer to your location	Call (301) 352-1200
If you have a general concern or administrative question	Call (301) 627-6905 during normal office hours M-F 9am-5pm * *We cannot dispatch officers from this number*

Crime & Social Media
Social media can be a powerful tool against crime but can also cause confusion. When posting to tell neighbors about a crime or issue that has happened, please make sure 1) You have already reported it to the police and 2) When posting, let your neighbors know that you have already reported it to the police, and if they have any information they should also report it.

National Night Out 2020:
Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, all National Night Out 2020 celebrations will be held on October 6th, 2020, the first Tuesday in October.

Code Enforcement

The Town of Upper Marlboro's Code Enforcement Department was formed in 2016 to guard the health, safety and well-being of Town residents through the enforcement of property, building and environmental regulations as set forth in the ordinances of the Town of Upper Marlboro and Prince George's County, as well as in state and federal law. Code Enforcement Officers survey the Town on a regular basis to ensure that community standards are met, and that Upper Marlboro remains a desirable place to live. Paramount to our mission is our goal of making Upper Marlboro a desirable place to live and work, as well as a memorable place for tourists to visit. The Department also assists the Police Department with parking enforcement, including the issuance of parking tickets and assisting with coin collection.

Below are a few key violations that the Code Officer Handles:

High Grass & Weeds: All exterior properties shall be properly maintained and no grass or weeds more than twelve (12) inches high.

Vehicle Storage: With the exception of being parked in a garage- abandoned, junked, wrecked, unregistered, untagged, or non-road worthy vehicles are not permitted to be parked on private property.

Rental Properties: All rental properties within Town are required to be registered with Prince George's County. If you are a renter and unsure if the owner has a rental permit, contact Town Hall.

Property Identification: All properties shall have their street address installed to be plainly legible and visible from the street or road fronting the property.

How to report Code Enforcement Concerns:
Call Town Offices at (301) 627-6905 during business hours *-Or-*
Email Info@UpperMarlboroMD.gov

Local Upper Marlboro Family Doctor Turns to Telemedicine

During this pandemic, many of us have been rethinking how we visit healthcare offices. Local Upper Marlboro Doctor Alain G. Champaloux and his staff would like you to know that they remain open and available to take care of all of your medical concerns, including referrals for COVID-19 testing. Dr. Champaloux is associated with MedStar Southern Maryland Hospital Center and has been located in downtown Upper Marlboro for more than 20 years.

For those who are reluctant or unable to come into a physical doctor's office during these times, Dr. Champaloux and his team of physicians are now offering telemedicine appointments. Telemedicine is the practice of caring for patients remotely when the provider and patient are not physically present with each other. Modern technology has enabled doctors to consult with patients by using HIPAA-compliant audio or video conferencing tools, such as smartphones. Telemedicine can also be done with a simple, old-fashioned, phone call.

Telemedicine technology allows the patient to stay safely in the comfort of their own home while speaking with a physician. This practice is being advocated by both the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and World Health Organization (WHO), who state that telemedicine is an important tool in the fight against COVID-19 because it allows medical professions to monitor patients and reduce risks of them spreading the virus by traveling to hospitals.

"It makes me feel good when I am able to talk with my patients, listen to their concerns, and help them feel better," Dr. Champaloux said. "That's especially true now, when people are more worried than ever about their health, and they want to be seen by someone they trust.

"Even after all these years, interacting with my patients re-affirms my reasons for becoming a physician," he added.

Interested in setting up a telemedicine appointment with this trusted, longtime Upper Marlboro physician? Reach out to Dr. Champaloux' s office at 301-627-3500, and a member of their staff will contact you to set up an appointment over the phone with a physician.

Dr. Alain Champaloux, MD
14314 Old Marlboro Pike
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772
Phone: (301) 627-3500

Town of Upper Marlboro is on Social Media!

"We want to build strong relationships within our community and businesses."

We believe that social media can not only help us focus on thriving communication with our residents, but also offer valuable insight on the things that matter to our community. Providing more opportunities for you to connect with us is one of ways we hope to build strong relationships and serve you better.

Be sure to follow us on Twitter and Instagram, and "Like" the Town's page on Facebook to get up-to-date alerts & information—and, to see what's happening!

Twitter: @TownUMarlboro
Facebook: www.facebook.com/TownUpperMarlboro/
Instagram: www.instagram.com/TownUpperMarlboro/
Website: www.uppermarlboromd.gov

The Board of Town Commissioners

Linda Pennoyer
President/Mayor

Wanda M. Leonard
Town Commissioner

Kai Bernal-LeClaire
Commissioner/Treasurer

Office Hours
Monday – Friday: 9am – 5pm

Contact Town Hall

301-627-6905 *office*
301-627-2080 *fax*
info@uppermarlboromd.gov *email*
Verizon 19 *cable access channel*
www.uppermarlboromd.gov *website*