



Washington Grove Town Bulletin

March 17, 1999

Council Notes

The next meeting will be Monday, April 12, 7:30 p.m., M^cCathran Hall. The public is invited to attend.

Planning Commission

Next meeting will be Tuesday, April 6, 7:30 p.m., M^cCathran Hall. The public is invited to attend.

Grove Web Site

Featured this month is the February 20 Washington *Post* [article](#) on the Grove.

Two Special Trash Collections

- Wednesday, March 31
- Wednesday, April 28

Collection may include furniture, appliances (but not those with Freon), rugs, large toys, small auto parts, etc. Materials may not include construction by-products, large automotive parts, or tires. Items must be placed curbside.

Town Elections

Persons may be nominated for elective office in the Town by filing a certificate of nomination on or before the second Monday in April with the chairman of the Supervisors of Elections, Mary Kay DuBois, 119 Maple Avenue, 301-926-8941. The certificate of nomination must be in writing and signed by at least two qualified voters of the Town. No person may file for nomination to more than one elective Town public office. All nominees must be qualified voters of the Town. Councilors must have resided in the Town for at least one year immediately preceding the election. The Mayor must have resided in the Town for at least two years immediately preceding the election. The following terms expire in June:

- Mayor -- 1-year term
- Town Councilor -- 3-year term
- Town Councilor -- 3-year term

Pancake Breakfast

Saturday, March 20 M^cCathran Hall, 8:30 a.m.

Meet and Greet new Grove residents
and long-time neighbors

coffee, juice, and settings provided

*** Balloons for the kids ***

Pancakes courtesy of the Town Council
Please bring fruits, breakfast meats or ? to share

Semiannual Property Tax Payment Plan Available

Taxpayers may choose to pay their property taxes in semiannual payments. The semiannual plan applies only to those properties designated as "owner-occupied" and only to the Direct Tax (*ad valorem*) part of the tax bill. Instructions will be included with the Town tax bill in July, however you must notify your mortgage company 60 days before July 1 if you choose the semiannual plan.

Building Permits

If you are going to erect a building or structure (including fences), make structural alterations to, or move any existing building or other structure, you must first obtain a building permit from the Washington Grove Planning Commission. The Town zoning ordinance governs setbacks, lot coverage, and height. Applications are available at the Town Office at 301-926-2256. Please allow at least 10 days for review by the Commission. Call John M^cClelland at 301-963-3328 if you have questions about zoning code requirements. Interior renovations which involve electrical, plumbing, or load-bearing changes generally require a County permit. County Building Permit information is available online at <http://www.co.mo.md.us/services/permitting/bc/nfbp.htm>. All applications for County-required building permits must first be signed off by the Town.

Building Permits Issued

- Stewart, 204 Washington Grove Lane, garage

Lake Committee

Wednesday, March 24, in the M^cCathran Hall Council Room at 7:30 p.m. Come help plan lake activities for the summer.

Moms Club Spring Party

Monday, April 5 -- 10 a.m. at M^cCathran Hall. Please call Martha Crews at 301-527-8273 to sign up.

TENNIS COURTS ARE FOR TENNIS ONLY

NOT for roller blades, tricycles, OR WHEELS OF ANY KIND. Thanks!

Heritage Committee

Monday, April 19 -- Come to the Town Hall Council Room at 7:30 p.m. to join others interested in preserving the Grove's rich history. Plans will be made for a May Open House to commemorate Preservation Month, as well as helping to plan the continuing celebration of the Grove's 125th Anniversary.

Gas in the Grove Committee Conducts Survey

Please complete the survey (attached to mailed copies of the *Bulletin*) to help the Town determine if there is sufficient interest to work towards making natural gas available to all residents.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Ordinance Authorizing the Grant of a Non-Exclusive Cable Franchise.

Date: Monday, April 12, 1999
Place: M^cCathran Hall Council Room
Time: 7:30 p.m.

The Town Council will conduct a hearing on an ordinance authorizing the Town to grant a non-exclusive cable franchise to Starpower Communications, LLC.

Voter Registration

To vote in Town elections, you must be currently registered to vote with Montgomery County at an address in Washington Grove. To verify your registration with the County, please call County Voter Registration Information at 301-217-8683 or visit their web site at <http://www.co.mo.md.us/services/elections/>. If you need to register, please call them soon so you will be eligible to vote at Town elections and at Town Meeting on Saturday, June 12.

Public Hearing on Variance Application

The Board of Zoning Appeals will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, March 24 at 7:30 p.m. in M^cCathran Hall. The Board will determine if a variance should be granted to allow the construction of a fireplace/chimney on the western side of the Murphy residence at 203 2nd Avenue.

Hazardous Materials Disposal

Sunday, April 11 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Shady Grove Transfer Station.

Photos Sought for Grove History

Phil Edwards is looking for pictures from the era 1937-1987 to include in the second volume of the Grove history. Of special interest are:

- Events in or outside of the auditorium.
- The first 4th of July with the tractor (1955?).
- Early Maple Lake, before the berm had grass.
- Early Maple Lake island, with trees.
- Waiting room and outhouse at the tracks.
- Any Mayors or councilmen together in action or group poses.
- Aitchison Crossing before signals.
- Hershey's, Bowling's, Reck's, Whisman's, the OK Grill, other early commercial corner.

Originals will be carefully handled, copied, and returned, but lender beware! Photos may be left for Phil at the Town Office.

Enroll now for Summer-in-the-Parks!!

As summer approaches, Grove kids eagerly await this relaxed program of creative projects, sports, nature activities, and fun at the lake. Meeting at M^cCathran Hall, the program runs from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday for four weeks beginning Monday, July 5. To ensure a place for your child and to determine staffing needs, please fill out the enrollment form (attached to mailed copies of the *Bulletin*) and send it, along with the registration fee, to

Nancy M^cCullough

P.O. Box 102

Washington Grove, MD 20880-0102

by May 1. Please make out checks to "Town of Washington Grove". Resident fees are \$70 for the first child, \$55 for a second, and \$40 for a third child in the same family. Please enroll now so that we may accommodate all residents before accepting non-residents. The program is for children aged 4-11 (4 by 7/31/99) Call Joli McCathran at 301-869-5358 for more information.

Auction

COME JOIN THE FUN
at the auction to benefit
CHARITIES FOR CHILDREN
Saturday, March 27
M^cCathran Hall
7:30 PM

Eve Zibart and John McClelland will co-host, as residents bid for a wide variety of quality goods, gadgets, antiques, art objects and services. Plentiful desserts, snacks and beverages will be provided throughout the evening.

Proceeds will go to a supplementary fund for students at [Washington Grove Elementary](#) and La Escuela Primaria de Fundacion, a struggling elementary school in the Dominican Republic.

Grove auctions are not to be missed!

Admission: \$2.

Sponsor: The Woman's Club of Washington Grove

Income Tax Reminder

Remember to fill in "Washington Grove" under "City, Town or Taxing Area" on your Maryland tax return. This does not increase your taxes, but does help ensure that the Town receives its proper share of local income tax revenue.

Woman's Club Meeting -- Thursday, March 18

POTTERY DEMONSTRATION program: home/studio of potter Virginia Crim, 203 Bryan Avenue, Gaithersburg, 7:30 p.m. (Carpool from Kathi Higdon's). refreshments/meeting: home of Kathi Higdon, 103 Brown Street, Washington Grove, following the program.

Spring Leaf Collection

Final leaf collection will occur at the end of March, with pick up completed by April 1, weather permitting. Rake leaves to a roadway or walkway for pickup. Brush and debris should not be part of the leaf windrows.

No pickup will occur on

- Railroad Street
- 2nd Avenue
- 3rd Avenue
- 4th Avenue
- 5th Avenue.

Public Safety Committee to Meet

If you have an interest in public safety or ideas you feel would improve safety in the Grove, please join Councilor Allen Winter at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 31 in the M^cCathran Hall Council Room.

Spring Luncheon, Craft and Bake Sale

Saturday, March 27 -- 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Washington Grove United Methodist Church, 303 Chestnut Road. Lunch is served from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Adults - \$7.00. Ham, chicken salad, and all the trimmings!

Maple Lake Cleanup

The annual lake cleanup will be on Saturday, April 24 at 10:00 a.m. Please join in and bring your rake, a trash bag and a wheelbarrow if you have one. There will be drinks and snacks for all. Rain date is Saturday, May 1, at 10:00 a.m. Call Sharon Hurst at 301-948-2424 if you have questions.

Part-time Lifeguard/Swimming Instructor Sought

If you or someone you know would like to work at Maple Lake this summer, please call Sharon Hurst at 301-948-2424. Proper certification required.

Behind the Bamboo a Building Grows

Despite the challenges posed by snow, high water, and mud, progress continues on the Town's maintenance building addition. Heritage Builders, the building contractor, was forced to pump water out of the trenches dug for the addition's "footers, " and to cover the site with a plastic tent-like tarp to keep out the snow and cold. Through those measures, they were hoping to make up for lost construction time. Because of the high water table, the Town was forced to install a sump pump near the new garage door on the east side of the building. The county's Fire Marshall also required the Town to install an additional pedestrian door for safety reasons. Tom Ward, President of Heritage Builders, is sure they will be able to make rapid progress as the weather improves.

PARTY PONIES PETTING ZOO COMES TO WASHINGTON GROVE

Sunday, April 18, Woodward Park, 2-4 PM -- refreshments, pony rides, baby animals. For kids of all ages! No admission charge.

Woman's Club Meeting -- Thursday, April 15

PLANT AUCTION: Joan O'Rourke, Master Gardener, Extension Service, will act as auctioneer. Please bring rooted cuttings in pots, plant divisions, bulbs, garden accessories, or any other garden-related material that can be auctioned. Guests are invited. For further information call Alice Mahaffey or Sylvia Horan. 7:30 p.m.

"Spring Cleaning?"

Woman's Club Yard Sale. Remember the annual yard sale to benefit the Woman's Club when you do your "spring cleaning". The sale will be held on Saturday, June 12. If you have items to part with now (no clothing please), call Mary Kay DuBois at 301-926-8941 or Kitty Vogan at 301-840-9416.

TIPS FOR EFFICIENT LEAF COLLECTION

- leaves must be piled within 6 feet of the edge of the road or walkway to be removed; consolidate piles with your neighbor whenever possible
- twigs larger than 1/4-inch diameter should not be in leaf piles; large branches may damage equipment and repairs delay pickup
- don't conceal fire hydrants or block walkway access with leaf piles
- if you hire someone to rake your leaves, be sure to tell them about these tips

Call Councilor John Compton at 301-330-8264 if you have questions about leaf collection.

Rent the Woman's Clubhouse!

Planning a surprise birthday bash, family reunion, graduation gala, wedding reception, small retreat or business meeting? For information and reservations call Kitty Vogan at 301-840-9416 or Brenda Gumula at 301-869-5118.