



Washington Grove Town Bulletin

February 24, 2001

Residential Development Proposed For Ridge Road Fields

[Click here](#) to see a summary and learn what you can do to stay involved!

**Joint Council/Planning Commission Meeting to discuss Ridge Road fields
Monday, March 5, McCathran Hall, 7:30 p.m.**

Council Notes -- The next regular meeting will be **Monday, March 12**, 7:30 p.m., McCathran Hall. The public is welcome. February Council actions included:

- appointed Diana Talbert to coordinate Town website (Darrell Anderson, Council liaison)
- rejected County proposal for re-numbering upper Ridge Road addresses; propose instead seven street names for private roads leading to seven potential building lots; allows upper Ridge Road residents to keep current property addresses
- approved hiring professional Town Forester to help manage trees throughout Town
- agreed to modification of problem Washington Grove Lane speed hump as a first step, following County rejection of other proposed solutions

Town Master Plan Review/Revision Begins

-- The Planning Commission will begin a required review of the Town's Master Plan at their next regular meeting on Tuesday, March 6, 7:30 p.m., Town Hall. The public is welcome to attend. The agenda may also include a discussion of possible uses for the Cator property, the 2-acre residentially zoned tract located between Railroad Street and the railroad tracks.

Town and Town Officials Found Not Liable in Adams Suit - A jury unanimously ruled in favor of the Town, Ken McCathran, and Jim Fletcher as defendants in the liability suit brought by Joe and Mary Adams. The plaintiffs claimed we irresponsibly failed to remove a Town tree that later dropped a branch that injured Mrs. Adams. Legal proceedings continue, as the verdict has been appealed on procedural grounds.

Website Happenings! -- Have you noticed the Town website, www.washgrov.sailorsite.net, is back up and running? The January Town Bulletin and Town Council meeting minutes for January 2001 are up. Also see "NATURE Alert!" preceding the calendar.

A committee now operates the Town website, with Diana Talbert as Coordinator. The Coordinator role acts as contact point for the website server, the Town Council (new role of Council website liaison being filled by Darrell Anderson), residents, and web volunteers. Active committee members to-date include Michael Shipway, Mimi Bolotin, Freda Temple. Current activities include design, content, editing, converting text to html, and constructing a "chat room."

In addition to being the voice of Town government, the website will be adding sections of non-official interest as residents make them happen. Suggestions so far include:

- **New Neighbors** section: welcome to newcomers, orientation to Town including info about directory, taxes, committees
- **Recipe** section
- **Kid's page**: interesting science fair projects, essays, stories
- **Teen's page**: same idea as "kids" only with a more mature slant. We are looking for a teen to manage this section.
- **Profiles of Town Council members**; profiles of candidates during election periods
- **Special Events** section: Film Society news, Mousetrap, folk dancing, yoga
- **Woman's Club** section
- **News about Montgomery County** affecting Washington Grove
- **Restaurant reviews**
- A **Bulletin Board** for timely announcements by residents: For example, baby sitter needed for weekend of xx; lawn mower for sale; rooms needed for Mousetrap singers
- A **"Then & Now"** section with photos

What shows up on the website depends on your participation. Let us know if you would like to contribute content or images (once or on a regular basis) or would like to coordinate a section. Contact us if you can offer the use of equipment such as scanners or digital cameras and/or skills in their use; html coding; editing; or design. Please email this information to Website Coordinator at website20880@yahoo.com.

A Nature section has already begun for the spotting of birds and arrival of wild flowers and blooming of seasonal plants with descriptions, maybe photos for identification, and locations. Betsy Klinger is the volunteer coordinator for resident contributions here.

An unofficial e-group link by subscription for town residents, their families, and former residents is available with a moderator. Contact Michael Shipway mshipway@speakeasy.net, for membership. This e-mail discussion format could include recipes from Baroque Breakfast; "The lake is of swimming temperature and the lifeguards are back on the scene;" in-search-of questions; discussion of the "Casey" fields development. [Click here](#) for a link to the description page (on yahoo.com)

Come Look at the Shiny New Windows A contract with Heritage Builders to refurbish the windows in McCathran Hall is complete. The contract called for all plastic and broken panes to be replaced with glass panes, to repair damaged woodwork and for windows and doors in the main hall to be painted and cleaned inside and out. Town Councilors Darrell Anderson and Allen Winter have monitored the contract on the Town's behalf and will install all the new window hardware.

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 McClelland 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. The Town must first sign off all applications for County-required building permits.

Woman's Club Meeting - Thursday, March 15

At the Clubhouse, 7:30 p.m. Grove writer Kermit Moyer will discuss his short story "Lycanthropy" and talk about writing short stories.

"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 2**. 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.

KUDOS -- To **George Paine**, who so ably maintained the Town's website and added a wealth of helpful material during his tenure; and to **Trish Knox**, for her enthusiasm and flexibility in helping to get out the Bulletin each month.

Historic Preservation Group - Thurs, Mar 8, 8 pm

Forestry Committee - Monday, March 19, 7:30 pm

Town Information

Office/Clerk-Treasurer

Phone: 301-926-2256

Fax: 301-926-0111

Email: washgrove@erols.com

Web: www.washgrove.sailorsite.net

Web Coordinator: website20880@yahoo.com

Mail: P.O. Box 216

Washington Grove, MD 20880

Town Hall: Center Street & Chestnut Road

Washington Grove

Office Hours: 9:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Closed Wednesday mornings

Hall Scheduler Jenny Long 301-869-3824

Maintenance: Jim Fletcher 301-963-5850

Street Light Out: Vicki Erhart 301-208-9442

Building Permits: John McClelland 301-963-3328

County Animal Control: 301-279-1066

Questions About Snow and Ice Removal? Call Councilor Nick Suzich at 301-869-9638 or e-mail nsuzich@erols.com.

Save this date, kids of all ages . . .

Magician Barry Taylor to Appear

Saturday, April 28 2 p.m.

McCathran Hall

DETAILS LATER!

Think Spring! Two Special Collections Planned

Saturday, March 31 Saturday, 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.

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 240-777-8683. 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 9.

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

Reminder!**Washington Grove Residents**

"City, Town or Taxing Area"

Washington Grove - 1612

Please fill in **Washington Grove - 1612** in the appropriate box on your State income tax form. If someone else prepares your tax forms, include this notice with your tax information and if you file electronically, be sure to select Washington Grove under City, Town or Taxing Area. **This does not increase your taxes, but does help ensure that the Town receives its proper share of local income tax revenue.** Thanks for your help. Questions? Call Clerk-Treasurer Mary Challstrom at 301-926-2256.

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 McCathran Hall, the program runs from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday for four weeks beginning Monday, July 2. To ensure a place for your child and to determine staffing needs, please fill out the enrollment form, available in office, and send it, along with the registration fee, to Kathleen McCann, P.O. Box 920, by **April 28**. Please make out checks to "Town of Washington Grove". Resident fees are \$80 for the first child, \$65 for a second, and \$50 for a third child in the same family. Please enroll now! The program is for children aged 4-11 (4 by 7/31/2001) Extra enrollment forms are available at the Town Office, as well as program guidelines. A planning meeting is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. on **Thursday, March 1**, in the McCathran Hall Council Room. Questions call Karen Kelly at 301-987-9529.

MOUSE TRAP CONCERT SERIES

CLAUDE FRANK, piano

Sunday, March 4, 3:00 p.m., McCathran Hall

Four Houses to be Built on Former WSSC Parcel

Developer Bailey-Thompson has recently purchased from WSSC the 1 1/2-acre parcel located on the corner where Ridge Road bends to the east. In June 2000, the Town Council approved an application to rezone the property from RR-3 to RR-1C, permitting no more than four houses to be built on the property. The Planning Commission has approved the design, size, configuration and placement of all buildings on the property. The land set aside for forest conservation and dedicated to public use will be along Ridge Road and a performance bond will be posted for post-construction repair of Ridge Road. Prior to receiving building permits, the owner and the

Town must execute a Declaration of Covenants, Public Improvements Agreement, Forest Conservation Plan and plat of subdivision.

Recyclable Yard Waste Collection Resumes March 7 - brown paper bags, containers w/stickers

Hazardous Materials Disposal - Sunday, March 4

10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Shady Grove Transfer Station **FUNDRAISER FOR MOUSETRAP SERIES**

This is the second year of a unique and memorable music series in our own Town Hall. The caliber of the artists has been extraordinary for a small town series. In order to expand this series, we are selling \$15.00 raffle tickets for an original oil painting donated by Alexander Anufriev-a Grove artist-in-residence. Sasha is a well-known international artist whose paintings are on display and sold in galleries in Washington, Boston, New York as well as in Europe. Call Kathie Evans for more info (301-869-7816).

Planning a Career in Government or Public Service? - Scholarships available. Montgomery Chapter of the Maryland Municipal League is offering two \$1,500 college scholarships to students involved in community service and who plan a career in government or public service. Must have good scholastic standing (at least average grades). Deadline for application is **April 12, 2001**. For information or application call the Town Office at 301-926-2256.

YOUR LAKE NEEDS YOU, AGAIN! -- A Lake Committee meeting for planning the upcoming season will be held on **Wednesday, March 14**, at 7:30 p.m. in the McCathran Hall Council Room. New members and any interested residents are especially encouraged to come. There is a lot of work to be planned for, and long-range planning is also needed to preserve this unique environmental treasure. For information call Chair Sharon Hurst (301-948-2424) or Councilor Dodie Tippens (301-869-1682). Please do join us. Save **Saturday, April 21** for annual lake clean up.

Spring Leaf Collection - U.S. LAWNS will make a service visit during the last week of March, with pick up completed by April 1, weather permitting.

Save Wednesday, March 7

Recreation committee needs your help!

Brainstorming bash!

If you enjoy planning fun events for friends and family we need your help - special children's program, music weekend, talent show - new ideas - Council Room - 7:30 p.m. - refreshments

Deadline for Bulletin - Monday, March 12

Alert - Possible Identity Theft - If you notice that someone other than Waste Management is removing your trash, please call Chris Pacchione (Public Safety) at 301-963-7787. Report suspicious activity.