



Town Bulletin

July 20, 2001

Council Notes - Next meeting: **Monday, August 13**, 7:30 p.m., McCathran Hall.
The public is invited to attend. May Council actions included:

- approved appointments of Bill Miller and Bud O'Connor to the Planning Commission
- scheduled Special Council Meeting for July 23 to take reports from Casey Field committees
- voted to introduce Ordinance Establishing a Historic Preservation Commission
- postponed consideration of ordinance to change composition of Planning Commission.

Town Office Closed -- The office will be closed from **Monday, July 30 through Friday, August 3**. For urgent matters, call Mayor Pro Tem Nick Suzich at 301-869-9638 or the appropriate Councilor.

Special Town Council Meeting - Monday, July 23

FUTURE OF THE CASEY FIELD

McCathran Hall Council Room, 7:00 p.m.
Status reports will be presented from Special Committees on Finance, Environmental/Open Space and Planner Liaison. Pursuant to the "Open Meetings Law", an Executive Session will be held at approximately 8:00 p.m. to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice.

Town Council Introduces Ordinance Establishing a Historic Preservation Commission Public Hearing Scheduled for Thursday, September 6, 2001

One mechanism to promote preservation of both the Town's historic character and architecturally significant structures is the creation of a Historic Preservation Commission. This ordinance, drafted with the help of Town attorney Bill Roberts, would create a Commission with advisory responsibilities. The Commission would help property owners, the Planning Commission and the Town Council address historic preservation issues by reviewing from a preservation perspective plans submitted for building renovations, demolitions, variances, subdivisions, zoning changes and changes in neighboring jurisdictions. The proposed ordinance does not change the criteria for approving any of these activities, but does require that the Historic Preservation Commission have an opportunity to comment where appropriate. The proposed ordinance amends the Town Code of Ordinances for the purpose of:

1. Establishing a Town Historic Preservation Commission to safeguard the

heritage of the Town by encouraging the preservation of the historic nature of the Town and the elements of its cultural, social, economic and architectural history; to stabilize and improve property values; to foster civic duty; to strengthen the Town's economy; and to promote the preservation and appreciation of the historic nature of the Town as a whole and specific sites and structures within the Town for the education and welfare of residents of the Town, visitors thereto, and sojourners therein;

2. Adopting provisions for the appointment of members of the Historic Preservation Commission, including staggered terms for initial appointments;
3. 3) Requiring prior review and comment by the Historic Preservation Commission on applications for certain building permits, variances, special exceptions, subdivision plans, zoning reclassification of property, and revisions to the Town's Master Plan;
4. Providing a source and repository of information, expertise and guidance regarding issues of historic preservation within the Town; and
5. Clarifying the existing Code of Ordinances to expressly include the demolition of any or all of a structure as requiring a building permit from the Town.

Copies of the entire ordinance including an explanation are available at the Town Office.

Memorial Service for Emmette Keese-- A memorial service for Emmette Keese will be held on **Saturday, July 21**, at 3:00 p.m. in McCathran Hall. Emmette's family invites everyone to join them for a *potluck supper* following the service. Beverages and table service will be provided.

Hazardous Materials Disposal - Sunday, August 12 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Shady Grove Transfer Station

Woman's Club Meeting - Thursday, August 23

THIS OLD HOUSE TOUR

Join your friends for a tour of 102 Center Street, the home under renovation by owners Chris Kirtz and Terry Shoemaker. Meet at the Clubhouse, 7:30 p.m.

Cell Phone Stolen from Vehicle -- Report suspicious activity and crimes both to police and Town Councilor for public safety Tricia Knox at 301-527-0003.

Grove Reaps County Big Tree Awards -- The Montgomery County Forestry Board recognized three Town trees as being the largest of their species in the County. These trees, which are on public land, were nominated by John Bradfield. Big Tooth Aspen, new County champion Pitch Pine, replacement champion (near King's) Short leaf Pine, new County champion (near Hansen's).

Lost and Found -- Silver necklace found at Maple Lake; Adult sandals found Arbor Day at McCathran Hall; Camouflage backpack; Red umbrella -- contact Town Office.

Grove Concert CDs Available -- CDs of last month's Concert in the Grove, as well as the Holiday Concert 2000 are available. Contact David Haavik at 301-963-6485,

slavicmosaic@aol.com, or P.O. Box 1416, Washington Grove, MD 20880.

Maple Lake News -- The next Lake Committee meeting will be held on **Thursday, August 23**, at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Room. The Lake Committee reminds lake users that well water coming from the pipe has not been certified safe for drinking by WSSC.

Grove Residents Receive Preservation Awards -- On June 1, Montgomery Preservation presented 2001 Preservation Awards to two Grove homeowners in recognition of their valuable contribution to historic preservation in Montgomery County. Ned and Nancy Helme, 108 Grove Avenue, received an award for an addition to a historic resource - residential. Gail Littlefield, 111 Grove Avenue, received an award for restoration of an original feature of a historic resource (her porch!) The awards are presented annually by MPI with support from the Montgomery County Historic Preservation Commission. Congratulations to all!

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**WASHINGTON GROVE FILM SOCIETY
ANNOUNCES
NEW FILM SERIES**

5-Film Subscription Series, \$20

Sunday Evenings at 7:00 p.m. in McCathran Hall

These movies are 16mm film, not videotape.

Audience members are invited to stay after each showing to join us in a discussion of the film.

Purchase subscriptions by sending a check for \$20, payable to the Town of Washington Grove, to Birgit Henninger, P.O. Box 355. The price of tickets sold at the door will be \$7.

Reminder: If you bought tickets on July 4 and have not yet paid, please send your check to Birgit.

October 7 **NOT ONE LESS**

1999, China, color, subtitled, 106 minutes

November 4 **DAUGHTERS OF THE DUST**

1992, USA, color, 113 minutes

January 6 **AFTER LIFE**

1998, Japan, color, subtitled, 118 minutes

February 3 **THE MOUSE THAT ROARED**

1959, Britain, color, 83 minutes

March 3 **THE WORLD OF APU**

1959, India, b/w, 106 minutes

Plus a free film for the whole family . . .

December 2 Charlie Chaplin's **CITY LIGHTS**
1931, USA, b/w, silent with music, 87 minutes

KUDOS

Mary Kay DuBois' contributions to Grove life would take an entire Bulletin to enumerate. Quietly and expertly Mary Kay gets it done! She assists with planting projects, arranged for the speaker on Deer Damage Control, and supports the Recreation Committee, buying food for many events . . . always willing to volunteer her time. Have you noticed the begonias at the Town Hall and the vinca at the commercial corner? **Carol Uhlendorf** has been busy planting!

Fourth of July thanks go to **Nick and JoAnn Suzich** for the marvelous hotdog picnic, to **Missy Yachup** for organizing the costume judges and prizes, to **Eric Selby** for orchestrating the infamous Muskrat Band, to **Charlie Hawk** for raising the flag with aplomb, to **Allan Janus** for demonstrating the therapeutic value of Grove musketry, and to **Christine Dibble and Tom Land** for their expert handling of the awards ceremony.

Thanks for the Roses --Postmaster Victor Apostolico and employees of the Washington Grove Post Office would like to thank the anonymous donor of the beautiful bouquet of roses delivered to the Post Office in early June. Enjoyed by customers and employees alike!

Mugshot Available at Town Office -- Montgomery County police have provided a mugshot of the man sentenced for indecent exposure in an incident directed at a child at the Washington Grove MARC rail shelter. One condition of his probation is that he not enter Washington Grove. The mugshot is available at the Town Office for those who would like to see it. James Truman Birch is described as a 37-year-old white male, 5'10", 180 lbs., with gray hair.

FORUM ON POSSIBLE DEVELOPMENT OF CASEY FIELD -- Thanks in large measure to organizer/moderator Della Curenton and the participation of about 50 Grove residents, the Town Forum/Charette held on June 27 and 30 was very successful. The Forum gave residents an opportunity to consider what they would prefer to see in the Casey Field were it to be developed. The structure of the two meetings was designed to take the assembled group from an understanding of broad concepts, through a structured "brainstorming", and build to a degree of consensus on issues and alternatives facing the Town. Wednesday's evening session included an overview of relevant Master and Sector Plans presented by Planner Liaison Committee member Bob Booher. A photo/PowerPoint presentation on new urbanism and neo-traditional neighborhood development followed, along with a series of "what if" pictures superimposing forms of new urbanism-style development on photos of the existing field. This presentation was prepared by planner and Town resident Della Curenton. The Saturday morning session began with the individuals answering the question, "What do you treasure about Washington Grove?" Then the large group divided into four groups of equal size to answer questions about the kind of relationship we as a Town want to have with a potential development in the Casey Field and what can we recommend to make that relationship a reality? For the afternoon session, participants were asked to join one of five issue-specific groups for discussion. The topics were access, annexation, buffers, character, and recreation and open space. All groups were given a list of thought-provoking questions as well as topics from the morning session. Each group was to prepare five statements that would be brought back to the reassembled group for final voting. It is hoped that the responses from this group will aid planners and Town decision-makers in the event that alternatives don't work and a development is approved for the Casey field. *Copies of the final report are available on loan from the Town Office.*

Clean Up After Your Pooches Please -- Just a reminder to pick up after your dog if it soils a public way or somebody else's yard. OK? Thanks.

Have You Got Her Number? -- Recently elected Town Councilor Tricia Knox has a new phone number. It is 301-527-0003. Tricia has accepted Council assignments in the areas of public safety and maintenance.

Planning Commission News -- Next meeting will be **Tuesday, August 7, 7:30 p.m.**, Town Hall. The public is welcome to attend. At their July meeting, John McClelland was elected chairman.

Town Information

Office/Clerk-Treasurer

Phone: 301-926-2256

Fax: 301-926-0111

Email: washgrove@erols.com

Web: www.washgrove.sailorsite.net

Website 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

County Police Non-Emergency: 301-279-8000

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.

Building Permit Issued

Littlefield, 111 Grove Avenue, kitchen renovation

Rent the Woman's Club House! -- Planning a surprise birthday bash, family reunion, graduation gala, wedding reception, planning session or business meeting . . . consider the charming wooded setting, spacious main room, screened porch, kitchen and restroom facilities of the Woman's Club House. For information or reservations call Kitty Vogan at 301-840-9416.

Heat and air conditioning!!

A History of the Woman's Club of Washington Grove by Sylvia Tate Horan

The Woman's Club, which held its first meeting on July 29, 1926, is celebrating its 75th anniversary by publishing "A History of the Woman's Club of Washington Grove." The book reveals not only the interests and activities of the women from the Club's early years to the present but also the influence of the group on the Town. The author, Sylvia Tate Horan, has

studied Club minutes and the Town archives and has gathered photos and personal information from members and neighbors to authenticate this valuable addition to our history. The book will be available soon for \$20. To reserve your copy, call Kitty Vogan at 301-840-9416 or email kittymaryland@starpower.net.

Solutions Sought for Washington Grove Lane Trash Problem-- Accumulating trash appears to be a growing problem along roads everywhere but especially along Washington Grove Lane as it passes through the Grove. For a time, the First AME Church had adopted this stretch of road. Although it is discouraging to see an area trashed right after you pick it up, we are trying to find a solution. The heavy traffic makes safe trash pick up an issue. If anyone knows of a group who would like to adopt this section of road, or a group of teens wanting to perform community service, or perhaps has a creative collaborative idea, please send a message to the Town or contact Town Councilor Tricia Knox at 301-527-0003 or email tlknox@prodigy.net.

Missing -- Fourth of July in-ground costume judge's signs and "old rose" colored tableclothes for Town Hall tables. Please return to Town Office. Thanks!

"During Drop-In" -- Terry Shoemaker and Chris Kirtz invite you to please stop by to view the progress at 102 Center Street on Saturday, July 28 from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.