



City Manager's Office

MEMORANDUM

To: City of College Park Council Members

From: Scott Somers, City Manager

Date: December 15, 2015

Subject: **CITY OF COLLEGE PARK WEEKLY BULLETIN**

Attachments: College Park Live Smart, Eat Local Tour; 3rd Thirsty Thursday; and Christmas Tree Safety.



Holiday Hours:

City offices will be closed Friday, December 25 and Saturday, December 26, 2015, in observance of Christmas, and on Friday, January 1 and Saturday, January 2, 2016, in observance of the New Year.

Administration

- City Staff and Council Members attended the First Annual Breakfast for District 3 Elected Officials, sponsored by County Council Member Dannielle Glaros. Attendees reviewed 2015 and previewed 2016 concerning important information for municipalities.

- Scott Somers, City Manager, met with Gloria Aparicio Blackwell and Tricia Homer, both from the UMD Office of Community Engagement, on separate occasions, to discuss how the City and University may continue working together to improve community outreach and engagement throughout College Park.
 - Bill Gardiner, Assistant City Manager and Scott Somers, City Manager, attended a Maryland City/County Managers Association (MCCMA) luncheon.
 - City Staff and Council Members attended the Prince George’s County Municipal Association (PGCMA) Annual Legislative dinner.
 - The City Manager and the Assistant City Manager continue to meet monthly with department directors to review the Action Plan responsibilities for each department. The Assistant City Manager is evaluating software products that could be used to more efficiently update, monitor, and present the status of the Strategic Plan and the City Operations Sustainability Plan.
 - The City’s One Warm Coat drive resulted in 57 coats being donated. All the coats have been distributed and the adult and youth recipients express their gratitude.
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Planning

- The Planning Director, as a member of the Zoning Technical Panel, met last week with M-NCPPC staff to continue review of Module 1 of the Zoning Rewrite. This module focuses on zones, zone regulations and use regulations. Public comments on this module are requested by the end of February.
 - The 2015 Farmers Market Survey is available online at <http://survey.constantcontact.com/survey/a07eby9j4n6ihwd6p8m/start>. Responses will be collected through December 28, 2015.
 - The Economic Development Coordinator toured the M Square Research Park with the University of Maryland’s business partner, COPT. Plans include moving forward with a 3-story, 75,000 SF building at the northeast corner of River Road and University Research Court that was approved many years ago. Consideration is also being given to some stand-alone retail.
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Public Services

1. CODE ENFORCEMENT

- Code staff opened 15 cases for various code violations. One municipal infraction was issued.
- Clerical staff opened 1 case related to commercial billing.
- Twelve calls were received on the hotline during the week; three of the calls were received while on call. Five calls were for noise in the City, three calls related to other issues; four calls were for noise out of the City. No municipal infractions were issued.
- Eighteen single-family inspections and six re-inspections were conducted.

- Two condos were inspected.
- One rooming house was re-inspected.
- Five fraternity and/or sororities were re-inspected.
- Two apartments were inspected; four were re-inspected.
- One motel with 48 units was inspected.
- Sixteen commercial establishments were inspected.
- Code staff was in court on Wednesday, December 9 with 32 cases.
- CEOs Dildine and Russo attended a 2-day training session at UMD Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute on the changes/updates in the State Fire Prevention Code as a result of the adoption of the 2015 editions of NFPA1 and 101 of the Life Safety Code. This training is provided at no cost to the City as a benefit for our Code Enforcement Officers being appointed as Special Assistant State Fire Marshals for inspections.

2. SPECIAL EVENTS

- Public Services and Public Works staff provided logistical support to the Recreation Board / M-NCPPC sponsored annual Breakfast with Santa event on Saturday, December 12, at the College Park Community Center. M-NCPPC provided the venue and preliminary entertainment by puppeteers and face painters; CPAE provided arts and crafts activities; CPVFD provided transportation for Santa due to a lack of snow; Santa provided photo ops and had 138 children sit on his knee and receive a small package of toys provided by the Recreation Board. Each child was accompanied by at least 1 adult and all enjoyed the breakfast/brunch provided by the City through the Recreation Board.

3. ANIMAL CONTROL

- Represented the City in District Court for a case.
- Investigated a complaint of a kitten stuck on a roof.
- Facilitated the adoption of a cat.
- Investigated two complaints of dogs running at large.

Public Works

- The curbside leaf collection calendar has been adjusted again for the week of December 14–18 because we did not fully catch up from last week.

Youth and Family Services

- The City of College Park Seniors Program is hosting a College Park Senior Holiday Party Monday, December 21st at Old Parish House from 1:30 – 3:30 pm. RSVP to 301-345-8100. All College Park seniors welcome.

Live jazz music will be performed by Kurt and Melanie. Dress in festive attire and bring a \$5 gift for exchange. A holiday lunch will be served.

Engineering

- Washington Gas is tentatively scheduled to resurface Sterling Place by the end of next week.
 - WSSC is moving along nicely in the Old Town area. They began Gerard Ave. and Lehigh this week; next week they will finish Princeton.
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MEETINGS AT A GLANCE:

Wednesday, December 16, 2015

7:00 PM Live Smart, Eat Local Tour at Mamma Lucia Restaurant

Thursday, December 17, 2015

2:00 PM Housing Authority Meeting at Attick Towers

5:00 PM - 7:00 PM 3rd Thirsty Thursday at The Original Ledo Pizza

Monday, December 21, 2015

1:30 – 3:30 PM Seniors Holiday Social at Old Parish House

Friday, December 25, 2015

All day City Holiday, all City Facilities closed

Saturday, December 26, 2015

All day City Hall Lobby closed

Friday, January 1, 2016

All day New Years, all City Facilities closed

Saturday, January 2, 2016

All day City Hall Lobby closed

Join us for
College Park Live Smart, Eat Local Tour

Wednesday, December 16

7:00 p.m.

Mamma Lucia Restaurant

4734 Cherry Hill Road, College Park

**Meet the new City Manager
While Enjoying Southern Italian Cuisine**

Wednesday, December 16th at 7pm

  

**Live Smart,
Eat Local Tour**

Mamma Lucia Restaurant

LOCATION
Mamma Lucia
4734 Cherry Hill Road

FEATURED GUEST
Scott Somers
College Park City Manager

**Join us for the 3rd Thirsty Thursdays
December 17th from 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
The Original Ledo Restaurant.**

**The City and University will be highlighting
College Park and promoting businesses and homeownership.**

**In lieu of prizes, we will be accepting donations to support the College Park
Animal Shelter in the form of old towels/blankets, kitty litter, and cat food.
Dog items will also be accepted, but the need is stronger in the cat area.**

The Neighborhood Quality of Life Committee
presents:

3rd Thirsty Thursdays

Bringing the City/University Community together

December 17th, 5PM-7PM
The Original Ledo Restaurant
4509 Knox Rd, College Park, MD 20740



**Tis the season...bring donations:
old towels/blankets, cat litter, & cat food
to benefit the College Park Animal Shelter**



With support from: The College Park City-University Partnership



Christmas Tree Safety



As you deck the halls this holiday season, be fire smart. A small fire that spreads to a Christmas tree can grow large very quickly.



PICKING THE TREE

- » Choose a tree with fresh, green needles that do not fall off when touched.



PLACING THE TREE

- » Before placing the tree in the stand, cut 2" from the base of the trunk.
- » Make sure the tree is at least three feet away from any heat source, like fireplaces, radiators, candles, heat vents or lights.
- » Make sure the tree is not blocking an exit.
- » Add water to the tree stand. Be sure to add water daily.



LIGHTING THE TREE

- » Use lights that have the label of a recognized testing laboratory. Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use.
- » Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Read manufacturer's instructions for number of light strands to connect.
- » Never use lit candles to decorate the tree.
- » Always turn off Christmas tree lights before leaving home or going to bed.



After Christmas

Get rid of the tree after Christmas or when it is dry. Dried-out trees are a fire danger and should not be left in the home or garage, or placed outside against the home. Check with your local community to find a recycling program. Bring outdoor electrical lights inside after the holidays to prevent hazards and make them last longer.

FACTS

- ! **One** of every three home Christmas tree fires are caused by electrical problems.
- ! Although Christmas tree fires are not common, when they do occur, they are more likely to be serious.
- ! A heat source too close to the tree causes roughly **one in every four** of the fires.

City of College Park

Public Services 240-487-3570



Your Source for SAFETY Information

NFPA Public Education Division • 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169

www.nfpa.org/education