



The Town of HAMPSTEAD Maryland

Volume 29

March 2022 - July 2022

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PFC Samantha Reese
Officer William Wilt

www.hampsteadmd.gov

From The Mayor's Desk

As Spring arrives, a sense of normalcy has returned after two long years and the future looks bright for our Town. While some new small Mom and Pop stores have opened on Main Street and long-time stalwarts are doing well, bringing more people downtown, some larger projects are drawing excitement as well. The Hampstead Volunteer Fire Company will begin the construction of their new station and separate social hall in April. You can find more details in the Fire Company article in this newsletter. Ridge Engineering will also break ground this Spring on their new 89,000 square foot manufacturing facility which will be located just north of their existing building in the North Carroll Business Park. Panther Performance Center, formally the North Carroll High School property, is in the midst of a rebirth as a sportsplex and cultural arts center. While the plans for the outdoor fields are still in the review stage, the auditorium has been receiving heavy usage from theater and dance groups around the region. The most recent of these additions to our Town was just announced last week, when Hahn's of Westminster announced its move to Hampstead and began planning to move their production facility, along with their Pork and Beans retail store, to the North Carroll Business Park. All of these projects are very welcome additions to Hampstead and will provide additional jobs for our residents and additional business for our Main Street food and retail establishments. We have also received requests for Warehouse Fulfillment Centers (last mile delivery) but have rejected these requests due to their generation of heavy truck traffic which would negatively impact traffic and the quality of life along Main Street. We support businesses who will bring good paying jobs, make Hampstead their home and we will be patient in finding good fits for our Town.



While 2022 is not an election year for the Town, it is an election year for County and State elected officials. What makes this election cycle unique is the redistricting of the State which happens every ten years when Census results are released. Hampstead, along with most of Carroll County, has been a member of District Five, for Senate and House of Delegate representation for many years. It appears now that the Town of Hampstead, along with a slice of Carroll County running south to the Finksburg area, will be removed from District Five and will become District 42C, a single State Delegate District. District 42C will join 42A and 42B, both in Baltimore County to make-up District 42 for State Senate representation. However, additional changes are possible as a result of the State Legislation being appealed. In addition to the Senate and House of Delegates elections, there are many County positions being elected this year including Commissioners, State's Attorney, Sheriff, Clerk of the Court and the Board of Education – every office is important with many having a direct impact on you and our Town. The Primary election will be held on Tuesday, July 19th with the General Election following on November 8th. Polls will be open on both days from 7am to 8pm. Please vote and support the candidates that you feel are in the best interest of our area.

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Town Manager's Corner

Many people love snow, but we could all benefit from more sunshine and spring weather. Soon our Main Street will be home to blossoming trees and flowers creating a beautiful, picturesque walkway in our downtown corridor. Hampstead has businesses in various stages of life so during your stroll visit the local owner that has been in business for generations or one of our brand-new businesses like the small antique store, Mimosa's Vintage Company, that just opened at 1152 South Main Street. The Dollar General is another nice addition to our Town, especially if you just need to pick up a few items on your way home from work.



Spring also brings one of my favorite events – Hampstead Day! The Hampstead Lion's Club 48th Hampstead Day will be held on Saturday, May 21st. Craft and food vendors will line Main Street alongside entertainment for kids and adults alike. There will be a kid's zone, puppet show, and music. Hope you will be able to join us!

More exciting news is that the Town received grant money to renovate our War Memorial Park including a new bandstand. Unfortunately, it won't be ready by the festivities, but we hope to have it ready by the second Saturday in June for our first Music in the Park event for this year. The renovations will include removing the current bandstand and installing an amphitheater style band shell structure. The improved structure will provide better sound and attract more entertainment to use the space. An ADA sidewalk will provide access to the new concrete pad and benches. The newly enhanced space will provide additional room for future Town activities and provide an opportunity for friends and families to get outside to participate in hometown events.



A great deal of activity is happening in our small Town and there is a lot to experience. We want friends and families to gather together in our quaint Town. So please get out, enjoy, and shop local!

News From the Police Department

We have made it through the winter with spring and summer around the corner. Keep in mind that traffic patterns will begin to change. With the warmer weather and longer days please drive with safety in mind. Bicycles, walkers, joggers, and neighborhood children will all be out and about. Please pay attention to pedestrians in the Main Street area. A reminder that vehicles are required to yield to pedestrians in crosswalks.



As the pandemic begins to ease, we seem to be returning to what was our normal way of life. Folks are again taking vacations. If you are going to be away for an extended period of time, remember that we offer a vacation check program. Contact our office for more information.

With the warmer weather, some of our old concerns will return. Make sure you are locking the doors to your vehicles and your home. Hampstead is a great place to live. That doesn't mean we can avoid taking basic common-sense approaches to reduce the risk of becoming a victim.

With the completion of the Main Street Project, events are returning to the center of Town. The big event for this spring will be the Lions Club Hampstead Day event. It's a great way to get out and walk through the Main Street area and enjoy the various vendors and activities. Anyone who attended last year's event, despite the weather, had a good time. This year we are looking forward to better weather, however there are a few things to keep in mind.

Main Street will be closed for this event from 8 am to 3 pm between Shiloh Avenue and Upper Beckleysville. There will be no vehicles of any type permitted on Main Street during the event. Parking will be provided in the area, and all are encouraged to check out the Lions Club social media and Hampstead Day Facebook page for additional information. The important thing is to realize that driving on Main Street will not be permitted in the closed area for the duration of the event. Traffic in the area will be impacted and expect that it will take longer than usual to travel through the area. Please make the appropriate arrangements if you are planning on attending or traveling through the area.

The Police Department continues to evaluate and update its equipment and procedures. Our people are provided with in car cameras in most of our vehicles and our officers typically wear body worn cameras. We have had this program in place for several years, and we continue to expand. These are modern policing tools and it provides protection to our officers and our community. Having had several years of experience with these tools our officers have demonstrated their value.

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The Hampstead Volunteer Fire Company had planned to break ground in the Spring of 2021 on a multi-year project to construct two new buildings on our property at 1341 North Main St. This capital project is a commitment to provide the highest level of Fire, Rescue and Advanced Life Support EMS services for the Town of Hampstead, and surrounding communities. Unfortunately, COVID 19 significantly impacted the regulatory review of our plans which delayed final approval until December 2021. This delay, in conjunction with unanticipated levels of inflation and major supply chain issues has resulted in a significant increase in building materials for the Emergency Operations Center and Event Center. In spite of this increase, the Hampstead VFC is fully committed to moving forward to ensure delivery of emergency services for Hampstead and the people of Carroll County. We are scheduled to break ground on April 4, 2022.

The multi-phase project includes:

November 2022 - Construction of an interim operations building at the rear of the existing property which will house all of the equipment and personnel for about one year while we demolish and rebuild the main station.

December 2022 – December 2023 - Demolish existing main building and construct a new Emergency Operations Building fronting on Main Street. This building will house all emergency vehicles, and contain offices, bunk rooms, training rooms, kitchen and necessary storage and cleaning capabilities to keep equipment ready for service.

January 2024 - Upon completion of the new Emergency Operations Building, the interim building will be converted to a fully functioning Event Center. The new Event Center will be designed to host wedding receptions, parties, meetings and fund-raising events.

Your continued support of our Fund Raising Events and Capital Campaign is critical to our success. Visit our GoFundMe page:

<https://gofund.me/ae028635>

or pledge your support on our PayPal page:

<https://www.hampsteadvfd.org/content/donate/>

Thank You,

Jim Dwyer
President

Troy Hipsley
Chief



New Emergency Operations Building



New Event Center

Hampstead Volunteer Fire Department
410-239-4280
Learn more at: www.hampsteadvfd.org

Main Street Spotlight



Steamin' Mad Crabs is in their 12th year of business serving Hampstead and the surrounding area. If you crave delicious, mouth-watering seafood, then this is the place for you. The seafood market is stocked daily with the latest fresh catch of fish, which may include flounder, halibut, mahi-mahi, rockfish, smoked trout, salmon, smoked salmon, catfish, hake, cod, swordfish, tilapia, tuna, and many others. Oysters and shrimp are also available at the market along with

other shellfish, which could include clams, mussels, scallops, squid, lobsters, octopus, padded oysters, and shucked oysters.

Located at 812 S. Main Street, they are much more than your ordinary seafood market. The deli offers a variety of homemade soups and salads made fresh daily including cream of crab soup, Maryland crab soup, Italian pasta salad, coleslaw, chicken salad, redskin potato salad, shrimp salad, shrimp macaroni salad, and crab dip. And of course, hot steamed crabs and fresh crab meat are available all year round.

Steamin' Mad also carries Zeke's Coffee, a local, small batch, family owned coffee roastery that is committed to freshness. You can also satisfy your sweet tooth at Steamin' Mad. They feature a selection of Smith Island cakes, South Mountain Creamery cheeses, dips and milk, along with delicious handmade chocolates from Zoe's Chocolate Co. When you visit the seafood market, you will need to take a walk around their gift shop of antiques and primitive decor for your home while your order is prepared.



Hampstead Farmers' Market Reopening



The Hampstead Farmers' Market will open for its thirteenth season on June 4, 2022. The market will be open every Saturday from June through September from 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. In our second year at the Panther Performance Center at 1400 Panther Drive in Hampstead, the market is grateful for the enthusiastic support of the new owners of the property, Blue Ocean, and Athan Sunderland and Laura Wonsala of RTB Sports Group, which manages the location.

We will offer produce, cut flowers, meats, cookies, breads, and other baked goods as well as potted plants, jewelry, women's clothing accessories, tie-dye apparel, fresh soft and hard shell crabs, soap, wine, beer, and a host of other craft and food items. Look for the return of many of your favorite vendors from past years and exciting products from new vendors.

Of course, we will have breakfast and lunch sandwiches, coffee, and other drinks for purchase so you can have breakfast and lunch at the market, relax, and talk with old friends and meet new ones. We will also have a variety of bands playing every Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon. Start your weekend off right at the market!!



From The Mayor's Desk (continued)

Funds supplied to Hampstead through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) continues to be put to good use. Last year the Town was able to replace over 4,100 linear feet of 1930's to 1970's water mains and supporting service lines under secondary side streets throughout Town that were the source of frequent breaks and leaks. Additional funds also paid to cover fire hydrant replacements, well monitoring, water tower and production upgrades within the Town's Water System. This year the Town will continue using ARPA funds to replace additional aging water mains and services lines. Starting in the Spring, this construction will take place on the west side of Main Street along Gill Ave, Shiloh Avenue and South Carroll Street. Additionally, the County Commissioners approved a plan in which the County will cover up to fifty percent of the cost of improvements made to a municipal clean water system. The Town has applied to receive some of this County funding (received through federal sources) to help reimburse the cost of the Spring project and we hope to hear of our approval shortly. These unexpected monies have been, and continue to be, of great benefit to Hampstead and will improve our water infrastructure for the next 50+ years. We have always looked to the long-term best interests of our Town when considering Capital Projects and the financial assistance received through ARPA has allowed us to move up the timeframe for many of them at no local cost to you (think federal funding) and will improve the resiliency and dependability of our Water System for decades to come.

As Winter departs, and the warmth and sun of Spring return, I encourage everyone to explore all that our Town and surrounding area has to offer. From walking or biking the trails at one of the many parks, taking in a little league game on a Saturday morning, a play at the Panther Performance Center, exploring one of the quaint shops that calls Hampstead home, or simply enjoying food and drink at one of our many great restaurants, take in all our great Town has to offer. One last event of note is Hampstead Day on May 21st with additional details included in this Newsletter. We are hoping for better weather this year making last year's fifty degree rainy day a distant memory. I look forward to seeing you around Town!

Hampstead Merchants Association

We are hoping that 2022 is a return to business as usual for the Hampstead Merchants Association and our members. The 2022 Board of Directors consists of President: Connor Eline, Eline Funeral Home & Eline Monuments, Secretary: Kathryn Turner, North Carroll Cooperative Parish, Directors: Sherye Sims of State Farm, Donn Dietrich of NESAP, Melissa Brooks of Edward Jones, Jim Roark of the Town of Hampstead and Diane Hale of Galloping Goose Vineyards. We are currently seeking members to serve on the board in the positions of Vice President and Treasurer. Any members of the HMA that would be interested in helping fill these vacancies, please reach out to myself or any Board Member. Board meetings are held on the first Thursday of the month and are open to all members to attend. Starting in April, Board meetings will be a lunch event held at various restaurants in Hampstead. The April 7th meeting will be held at C & R Pub at noon, while the May meeting will be at LunaZul on May 5th, coincidentally Cinco de Mayo. We hope to have a special guest speaker at the May lunch meeting.

Since a reduced rate was introduced for non profits to join our membership, we have seen an increase in membership making our association stronger and more in touch with other community organizations. We would like to welcome some of our latest businesses and non-profits to the HMA: American Legion Post 200, RTB Sports LLC, Body Redefined LLC, Hampstead Lions Club, Giustina's One Hope Wine, Hampstead Volunteer Fire Company, and the Hampstead Police Department.

Our next scheduled event will be a Walking Tour of the Downtown District on May 12. This will be a great opportunity to learn about the history of some of these well established businesses, along with meeting and discovering new businesses and people in the area. More details will come as we get closer to the day. You can always find more information at the association's website, www.hampstead-merchants.net and Facebook page. **We look forward to seeing everyone out and about this Spring, visiting and supporting our local businesses!**

Fondly,
Connor F. Eline
2022 HMA President



Hampstead Merchants Association 2022 Meetings & Events SAVE THE DATES!!

January 13: General Meeting - Membership Drive

American Legion Post 200 • 6PM - 8PM

March 12: Biz Bowl**

Greenmount Bowl • 5PM - 9PM

May 12: Main Street Walking Tour

Downtown District • 11AM

July 15: Cornhole Tournament**

Greenmount Bowl • 5:30PM

September 15: Vino at the Vineyard**

Galloping Goose Vineyards • 5:30PM - 8:30PM

Nov 10: Non-Profit Showcase

American Legion Post 200

December 9: Christmas Luncheon

Oakmont Green Golf Club • 11:30AM - 1PM

**Sponsors needed for these events

Member or Representative Attendance is Encouraged throughout the Year



Music in the Park

The Hampstead Train Station is pleased to announce that the Annual Music in the Park series will return in 2022. Concerts will be held in War Memorial Park on the 2nd and 4th Saturday of June, July, August, and September. Music begins at 6:00 p.m. and lasts until 8:00 p.m. The season kicks off on June 11th with a performance by Hickory Wind. There's plenty of food and drink on hand to feed your hunger and quench your thirst as you listen to the sounds of great local bands. Admission is free! Bring your family and meet new friends or catch up with old and dear ones! See you there! For more information on Music in the Park, please visit the Hampstead Train Station's website at www.hampsteadtrainstation.com or the Town's website at www.hampsteadmd.gov.



Notes from Public Works

- Please trim your shrubs and tree branches away from your utility meters - if you can't get to the meters, we can't get to them either.
- Please do NOT dump anything in the stormwater ponds! This includes not only junk, trash and litter, but yard waste as well. Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) has very strict regulations about the upkeep of these stormwater locations and if the Town gets fined for violating the rules, that cost is passed on to you, the taxpayer.
- Please do NOT blow your grass clippings into the street! As soon as it rains, those clippings go down into the stormdrains and - you guessed it - MDE could give us a surprise inspection and fine us if we fail. Again, that cost is passed to you, the taxpayer. Keep in mind that when wet, those grass clippings can become slick and cause a safety hazard for motorists.
- Our goal is to work in partnership with our residents to abide by the MDE regulations and to ensure the safety and well-being of our neighborhoods. We need your cooperation to make this goal a reality. ***We thank you in advance for your assistance!***



Town of Hampstead

News From the Police Department (continued)

This year we began to experiment with new technology in our police vehicles. The Department placed a Hybrid Police Vehicle into service. After evaluating options and considering our needs, the Department decided to try this new technology. The early results have been positive. Our hope is that it will reduce our vehicle operating costs, and at the same time will help contribute toward the Town's sustainability goals.

We have added some new faces to the Department over the past several months. This is a great group of people that we are excited to have with us, and we look forward to their contribution to the Police Department.

Officer William "Vince" Wilt grew up here in Hampstead and is a familiar face to many around Town. Vince graduated from the Maryland Police and Corrections Training Commissions Police Academy last summer. After successfully completing his Field Training Course he is now out and about on his own. Vince is a great addition to the Team! If you see him around Town make sure you take a minute and say hello.

Bryan Emery is another recent addition to the Police Department. Bryan is another Carroll County native. He is an active member of the Hampstead Volunteer Fire Department, and a member of the Maryland National Guard. Service is second nature to Bryan. He is a familiar face around Town, and we are happy to have him with the Department.

Bryan is currently off at the Maryland Police and Corrections Training Commissions Police Academy, and we are looking forward to his return in September after graduation. If you see Bryan around Town, make sure you say hello and wish him luck.

Samantha Reese comes to us after a solid career with the Hagerstown Police Department. She brings a significant level of experience and expertise. Her background includes experience in field training and investigations. We are fortunate to have her as a member of our Team. Please take a minute and say hello when you see her out and about.

Scott Craiger comes to us after 14 years of service with the Laurel Police Department. Scott served his country in the United States Navy before beginning a career in law enforcement with the District of Columbia Metropolitan Police Department. Scott was a first line supervisor, training officer, firearms instructor and SWAT officer. We are excited to have Scott joining our team and having him out and about Town.

Finally, the entire Department would like to extend a thanks to all in the Hampstead Community that continue to make the Town not only a great place to work and live, but also a great place to serve. Thanks!

Military Banners

There are a few spots remaining in the 2022 Military Banner Program to honor your loved one on Main Street. The 2022 application is posted on our Facebook page or you can click below for a copy of the application.



[Military Banner Application Form](#)

The American Legion covers a \$50.00 donation to each banner. Donations are tax deductible.

Scholarships Available

The Town will award four \$1,000 scholarships in May 2022.

Applicants must live inside Town limits, have acceptance into a College or University, and have good scholastic standing, with a "B" average or better.

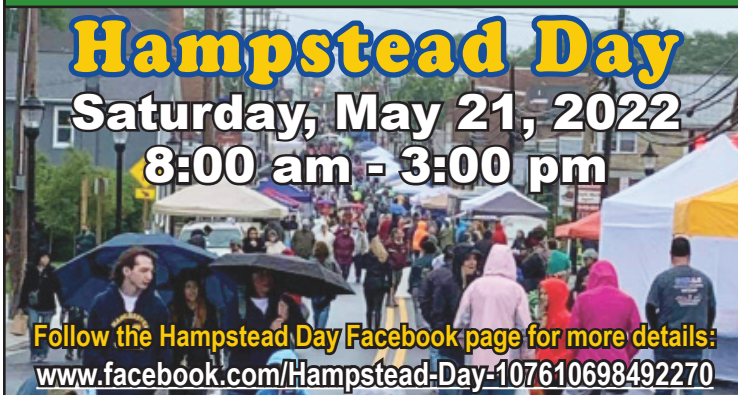


The MML Carroll County Chapter will be awarding three \$1,000 scholarships in May as well.

Eligibility requirements and applications are available at www.hampsteadmd.gov, the Town Office and Manchester Valley High School Guidance Office. Don't miss this opportunity!

Hampstead Day

Hampstead Day
Saturday, May 21, 2022
8:00 am - 3:00 pm



Follow the [Hampstead Day Facebook page](#) for more details:
www.facebook.com/Hampstead-Day-107610698492270

Hydrant Flushing



Beginning at about **9:00 pm on Wednesday, April 20th**, the Town's Department of Public Works personnel will systematically flush all fire hydrants. This may cause some slight discoloration during the flushing hours and during the day on Thursday, April 21st. Please run your cold water tap until the water is clear. You may wish to draw enough water before Wednesday night to accommodate your early morning consumption (coffee, etc.) since the average house system contains less than 100 gallons of water. It also would be advisable to refrain from doing laundry during flushing hours and on Thursday morning. **Be assured that the water received, though possibly discolored, is still fully-treated and potable.** Please bear with us during this important and necessary purging of the water system. **Thank you!**

Check Hampstead on Your Taxes

On the top section of your Maryland Income Tax Return form is a box asking you to fill in the name of your "City, Town or Taxing Area". We ask that all Hampstead residents take note to fill this box in with our Town name. By filling in this box you will not be required to pay an additional tax but will ensure that our Town receives its proper local share of the taxes you pay to the State. The amount we receive from the State as our local share of State Income Taxes is a significant part of our annual income and helps to keep our property tax rate low.



Bucket of Paint Program

The "Bucket of Paint" program encourages residential property owners in the Main Street Revitalization Area to renovate the exterior of their homes. The town will reimburse property owners up to \$250 for the cost of paint and painting supplies including painter's tape, brushes, rollers & disposable drop cloths, etc., used to enhance the exterior of their Main Street property. More information and an application can be found under Helpful Links and Documents at hampsteadmd.gov. or simply click this link:

[Bucket of Paint Information & Application](#)

In addition, **Carroll County True Value** is offering a **10% discount on all** exterior paints and paint accessories



to be used in the Bucket of Paint Program. The store is located at 4001 Houck Avenue, Hampstead, MD 21074. For more information, please contact the store at 410-374-4876.



Town of Hampstead

1034 S. Carroll Street
Hampstead, MD 21074

Standard Pre-Sort
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Hampstead Day • May 21, 2022 • 8:00 am - 3:00 pm

Upcoming Meetings and Town Events

April

- 4 Yard Waste Pickup Begins (every Monday through the beginning of December)
- 12 Town Council Meeting - 7:30 pm - Town Hall
- 15 Good Friday - Town Hall Closed
- 20 Hydrant Flushing - 9:00 PM
- 27 Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting
7:00 pm • Town Hall
- 30 **Water Bill Payments Are Due**

May

- 10 Town Council Meeting - 7:30 pm - Town Hall
- 21 **Hampstead Day - 8:00 am to 3:00 pm**
- 25 Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting
7:00 pm • Town Hall
- 30 Memorial Day - Town Hall Closed

June

- 4 **Farmers Market Opening Day - 8:30 am - Noon on the Panther Performance Center grounds**
- 7 Town Council Meeting - 7:30 pm - Town Hall
- 11 Music in the Park - 6:00 pm - War Memorial Park
- 20 Juneteenth - Town Hall Closed

June

- 22 Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting
7:00 pm • Town Hall
- 25 Music in the Park - 6:00 pm - War Memorial Park

July

- 4 Independence Day - Town Hall Closed
- 9 Music in the Park - 6:00 pm - War Memorial Park
- 12 Town Council Meeting - 7:30 pm - Town Hall
- 16 **Bulk Trash Pickup**
- 23 Music in the Park - 6:00 pm - War Memorial Park
- 27 Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting
7:00 pm • Town Hall
- 31 **Water Bill Payments Are Due**

