



# The Town of HAMPSTEAD Maryland

Volume 32 March 2024 - June 2024

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- [www.hampsteadmd.gov](http://www.hampsteadmd.gov)

## From The Mayor's Desk

As the calendar turns to March and the days become longer and warmer, we have hopefully put the cold, dark and dreary days of winter behind us. We are starting to see people out working on lawns and gardens, while children break out baseball and softball bats and gloves, and lacrosse sticks. Thoughts also turn to outdoor activities and our Town always offers events to enjoy and bring the community together. This year, the Hampstead Main Street Committee adds a new event by hosting three flea markets on the grounds of War Memorial Park. In June, we will see the return of the Farmers' Market under the water tower on the grounds of the PantherPlex, and Music in the Park returns with two shows a month on Saturday evenings. You can read more about these events later in this Newsletter.



In the last few years, I have written about and talked about the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and their new regulations regarding per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in public water systems and the impact these regulations will have on our Town. PFAS chemicals have been used for decades in consumer and industrial products but are no longer produced in the United States. Their historic and widespread use along with resilient chemical structure means they remain in our environment; including within our respective blood circulatory systems though these levels have been dropping for the past two decades. The studies and debates on how and in what amount to regulate PFAS continues with the EPA's initial water system limit set at four parts per trillion (that's a 1 followed by 12 zeros), which is the current lowest level of reliable detection. Measuring to this level of detection is a new norm and the health benefits of limiting PFAS to these levels are uncertain given water consumption is estimated to account for about 20% of PFAS exposure. However, whether the limit remains at 4 parts per trillion or is increased to a higher amount, our Town, like many others in this county, state and country has PFAS in its water supply.

As I indicated in the last Newsletter, we made a conscious choice to actively collaborate with the Maryland Department of the Environment and engineering firms to ensure our water system meets the new State and Federal regulations. In January, Hampstead signed contracts with two engineering firms to design and oversee the Hampstead Water System Modernization and Centralization Project. One of these companies is a leading national authority on PFAS and emerging contaminants, while the other is a very respected design firm with a background in water treatment facilities and systems.

The project is well under way with the design phase. Teams are surveying for new water pipelines, while also developing site plans for the new water treatment facilities. The areas of Town where the bulk of work will be done are the North Carroll Farms, Shiloh Run, Westwood Park, and Hampstead Valley communities. You may have already seen surveying crews out planting stakes in these areas and collecting data to finalize the exact locations where the new pipelines will be installed. The project entails four new larger, centralized water treatment facilities with new piping from the Town's wells connecting to these plants. Construction of the pipelines will be the first phase of construction with a start date of late fall 2024.

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## Town Manager's Corner

Spring provides the opportunity for new plans and projects to begin around Town. Antietam Broadband will soon begin installing fiber lines in order to give every residence the opportunity to connect to broadband internet. Antietam's contractor will be using directional boring to run the fiber lines in utility rights of way on most streets in town. Antietam will be putting door hangers on each residence where the boring will take place to inform them of the work being done.

A popular question lately has been "What's the trailer next to Fuch's?" It is the construction trailer for Wickersham Construction, which will begin grading the property in late spring. Following the completion of the grading plan, hopefully beginning by fall, Wickersham will oversee the construction of the new Hahn's processing plant. This project also includes an expanded Pork and Beans store and deli. You may have noticed the renovations being done at the Hampstead Grain Mill building. A developer has begun the planning process to restore the exterior and add apartments on the interior. These brand-new studio, one-bedroom and two-bedroom units should be a welcome addition as the current Hampstead rental market does not have enough supply to meet the demand. This project should also provide housing for our younger residents who have had difficulty finding affordable apartments in Hampstead.

I find it very refreshing to see new life being breathed into the old North Carroll High School property, now called the PantherPlex. The auditorium's use has been nearly non-stop, and the audience counts keep increasing. The use of the sports facilities also is increasing. Christiana Homeschool Academy occupies part of the second floor and the Boys and Girls Club occupies the remainder of the floor with their new facility. A lease has been executed for about 5900 sq ft of the former school library space with Hopkins Medical for a sports oriented physical therapy facility that should be open this summer. The Hampstead Farmer's Market will also return each Saturday morning to the PantherPlex campus in June through September. The Hampstead Firemen's Carnival will be held from August 5th through the 10th. I thank Blue Ocean, the owners of the property, and Coppermine, who manage the property, for ensuring that the new uses are beneficial to our community.

I hope to see everyone at one of the Town's upcoming events this spring that are talked about in other sections of this newsletter.



## News From the Police Department

As we enter spring and look forward to summer the Police Department would like to share some thoughts with everyone.

**TRAFFIC SAFETY** - Spring driving may not have the same weather challenges as winter, but it changes traffic patterns nonetheless. Outdoor activities will bring more people onto the sidewalks and crosswalks. Walkers, joggers, and bicyclists will be out. Motorcycles will also return to the roadways. While operating a motor vehicle, remember to adjust for the change in traffic patterns.

A reminder on speed: the limit on Main Street is 30 mph, and our remaining roadways are generally under that as well. Spring is a great time to check the condition of your vehicle following the winter months. Make sure your lights and wipers are operating correctly. Check your tires and make sure they are in suitable condition.

**UPCOMING EVENTS** - Springtime events include the annual Hampstead Day. The event will occur on Saturday, May 18, from 8 am until 3 pm. Main Street will be closed to all traffic from Upper Beckleysville Road to Shiloh Avenue. This year's event will have a larger footprint, including the closure of Main Street from Shiloh Avenue to Mott Avenue. The primary detour around the event will be: Hampstead Mexico Road to Panther Drive, Panther Drive onto Willow Street, Willow Street to Houcksville Road, Left on Houcksville Road to Main Street. Cross traffic will be permitted only on Gill and Shiloh Avenues. Pedestrian and vehicle traffic will be heavy in the area throughout the day, and drivers should expect delays.

**THANK YOU FOR HELPING** - We want to pass along a thank you to all who helped with our annual Shop With a Cop program in December. The Hampstead Community assisted three area families in having a memorable holiday season. This program only works with the community support we receive, and much of that work occurs behind the scenes. Thank you to the business community, the Walmart staff, and the folks who helped with donations, logistics, and wrapping.

**DEPARTMENT NEWS** - Lastly, the Department welcomes two new members. Matthew Blanton and Dalton Cape have begun their careers as recruits attending the Police Academy at the Maryland Police and Correctional Training Center in Sykesville. We look forward to seeing them back in Hampstead this fall. Both being from the Hampstead area, Matt comes to us from the Carroll County Department of Public Safety Emergency Operations Center and Dalton from the Carroll County Sheriff's Office Detention Center. We are happy to have both as part of the team and look forward to working with them later this year.





# HAMPSTEAD VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY

*Serving the Town of Hampstead for more than 100 years*

## THE FIRE COMPANY RESPONDED TO 2,316 EMERGENCY CALLS IN 2023

### Exciting News!!

**Phase 2** – New Fire Station is scheduled for completion in May, the new station is a huge investment by the fire company in our community and will serve the citizens of Hampstead and Carroll County for decades to come.

**Phase 3** – Conversion of the interim station to the Event Center and Emergency Shelter will begin in June and hope to be finished by December 2024.

There is still time to purchase a memorial brick before opening of the station, act now so your bricks are in place for the commemoration.

Look for updates on the station opening and event center renovation, to purchase a brick, and for information on the many fund raising events we have planned to help pay for the new buildings, go to our website: <https://hampsteadvfd.org>

**Hampstead Volunteer Fire Department**  
410-239-4280  
Learn more at: [www.hampsteadvfd.org](http://www.hampsteadvfd.org)

### Food Trucks Are Back!!

Come join us on the parking lot of the PantherPlex  
5 pm to 8 pm  
April 9 & 23 • May 7 & 21 • June 4 & 18 • Sept 10 & 24

### Mark your calendars for our Annual Carnival AUGUST 5TH – 10TH



## Music in the Park

This year's Hampstead Train Station's Music in the Park will start on June 8th with everybody's favorite Hickory Wind. On June 22nd, we will be entertained by Music by Just Us. Other bands playing this season will be Troy Engle and Southern Skies, Bootleg Band, and Best Regards Band.

On September 14th, Music in the Park will be featuring Blue Moon Big Band, with over twenty musicians in this 1940s style big band. Blue Moon has recorded many CDs with songs like "Pink Panther", "Ain't That a Kick in the Head", "Isn't it Romantic", and of course, "Blue Moon", just to mention a few. Blue Moon Big Band has played in many venues across the country and was featured in the movie "My One and Only", starring Renee Zellweger and Kevin Bacon. "Last year's performance by Blue Moon Big Band was rained out, but we are hoping for good weather this year", Wayne Thomas, President of the Hampstead Train Station Committee, Inc., stated.

The performances will be at the new amphitheater, located at 1211 N. Main Street, adjacent to the old Hampstead School. The music starts at 6 pm and

will play until 8 pm. Free admission and parking. Bring a picnic basket or purchase food and drinks on site. Everyone is welcome.

Businesses wishing to help sponsor Music in the Park are encouraged to contact the Hampstead Train Station Committee, Inc. All contributions are greatly appreciated.

Information on the events may be found at [www.hampsteadtrainstation.com](http://www.hampsteadtrainstation.com).



## Gardens at Richards Cemetery



We are ready for a new season at the Gardens at Richards Cemetery located on the corner of Terrace Drive and Willow Street. Since last season we have finished the rock wall along the front of the garden. This wall was inspired by the walls in Gettysburg. This is a typical design that the Richards

family may have built around the farm back in the 1800's. The wildflower garden has already been planted and lots of cleanup was completed this past Fall. We invite everyone to come out and walk the gardens and enjoy the beauty of nature at one of Hampstead's hidden gems. If you can help by volunteering some time at the Garden or donating to the project, please reach out to Councilman Unglesbee at the Hampstead Town Hall at 410-239-7408.



## Main Street Committee

Hello Hampstead! In case you have never heard of us, the Hampstead Main Street Committee is made up of business owners, homeowners, and dedicated folks who love our town and want to make our Main Street an exciting place to be. In addition to community events, we are also working to keep our Main Street beautiful. To learn about our projects, please follow us on Facebook: Hampstead Main Street.

Despite Mother Nature having other plans for last year's Fall Fest, the Hampstead Main Street Committee is at it again. The 2024 Hampstead Fall Fest will be held on October 12th, rain or shine.

The Hampstead Main Street Committee will also be hosting three flea markets this year, located at War Memorial Park. Flea Market dates are: April 20th, June 15th, and August 17th. Have ideas, or want to get involved? We would love to hear from you! Email us at [hampsteadmsc@gmail.com](mailto:hampsteadmsc@gmail.com), or stop by and see us on Hampstead Day. We will be sharing a table with the Hampstead Merchants Association.



## Hampstead Farmers' Market to Open Its Fifteenth Season



The fifteenth season of the Hampstead Farmers' Market will begin June 1, 2024, and run every Saturday from 8:30 am to noon through September. We are fortunate to be at the same location we have been since 2021- PantherPlex at 1400 Panther Drive, Hampstead, Maryland 21074.

This season promises to offer many customer favorites from years past with the addition of a few new vendors too. There will be new breakfast and lunch offerings in addition to the breakfast sandwiches, pretzel dogs, hot dogs, and hamburgers that everyone enjoys. Of course, the market will offer fresh vegetables, fruit, meat, and dairy products that come directly from the farm to our customers, as well as artisanal crafts.

Once again, there will be Music at the Market, featuring several local bands playing from 9 am til noon. Tables, tents, and a separate seating area will allow customers to listen to great music while eating breakfast and lunch and catching up with friends.

Come to the Hampstead Farmers' Market beginning June 1, 2024, to start your weekend with warm weather, food, great products priced right, and socializing with neighbors, friends, and family.





## Hampstead Spotlight - Dr. Deogracias V. Faustino

At the age of 23, Dr. Faustino graduated from medical school at the University of Santo Tomas, Manila, Philippines in 1961. The following year he migrated to the US. He completed his residency of Internal Medicine in several states before moving to Fort Howard, MD in 1968, where he worked in North Charles Hospital for one year, before moving onto Springfield State Hospital in 1969. In 1970, Dr. Faustino took over the practice of Dr. Knight in Greenmount, MD. He also served as staff physician in Carroll County General Hospital and was President of the Carroll County Medical Society for two years. Dr. Faustino enjoyed being the North Carroll High School football team physician for many years. He was active in the Political Action Committee in Washington D.C. for the APPA (Association of Philippine Physicians in America) and was also part of the Medical Ethics Committee for Med Chi.



Many of Dr. Faustino's patients stayed with him throughout the years. He came to think of them as family. The doctor's two daughters, Sherry and Sharleen, as well as Susan Yingling, worked by his side for many, many years. After practicing in Hampstead for 54 years, Dr. Faustino is looking forward to starting a new chapter in his life by spending his retirement years with his eldest daughter, Sheila, in the Philippines.

## Hampstead Merchants Association

The Hampstead Merchants Association is looking forward to a busy 2024 in supporting our local business membership! We are pleased to announce the Board and Board of Directors for 2024: President: Donna Lyons- M&T Bank, Vice President: Michele Alessi- Snickerdoodles Bakery and Coffeehouse, Treasurer: Matt Cannon- Truist Bank, Secretary: Susan Trump- Back In Business, Board of Directors: Jim Roark- Town of Hampstead, Molly Rose- Hampstead Main Street Committee, and Rev. Dr. Melissa Randolph- North Carroll Cooperative Parish. Board meetings are held the 2nd Monday of each month, 5pm-6pm at the Town Hall meeting room. The 3rd Thursday of each month will be a General Meeting and Happy Hour, 5:30pm-7:30pm at various locations around town. See event schedule below for those locations.



We also want to thank C&R Pub for hosting our annual membership drive in January. The event was a huge success with over 45 in attendance. It was a pleasure socializing and networking with current members, as well as meeting all the new prospective members who joined us. There is no deadline for membership, you are free to register anytime directly on our website. <https://www.hampsteadmerchants.net/join-hma>.

We are in the process of updating our website and Facebook page with the contact info, events schedule, and event recaps as they happen. Please feel free to upload your business events and info to our Facebook page as well. If you are not able to post an event on Facebook, email us the details and we will post for you.

HMA has incorporated a Business Educational Series for 2024. The series is offered quarterly, and topics are based on feedback received from our membership. This series will have a presenter deliver information on a specific topic. We recently kicked off the series with a Fraud Presentation hosted by M&T Bank. The presentation was very informative, and the audience was able to share stories and how fraud has affected them personally and their business. We are in the process of lining up presenters for topics like marketing and social media (newest trends and cost effective), insurance for the business and owners (make sure business has enough coverage and coverage for business owners), and the economic development group of Carroll County (ways this organization can help small business owners). Please feel free to email us with any ideas that would benefit the group!

We are also excited to announce our partnership with the The Hampstead Main Street Committee. The HMSC has done a terrific job of completing projects that have enhanced our Town and for our residents to enjoy! They also will be sponsoring the Fallfest, several flea markets, cleanup day and other fun events throughout the year. This partnership will enable us to continue supporting the business community but also our amazing town. Please reach out if you would like to volunteer at one of the HMSC events!

Lastly, a HUGE thank you to our Hampstead community for supporting your local businesses!

Schedule of second quarter events:

April 5th Biz Bowl, 5:30-8:30pm, Greenmount Bowl

April 18th General Meeting and Happy Hour, 5:30-7:30pm, Maison Greene

May 16th Legislative Update Luncheon 11:30am-1pm, Greenmount Station

June 20th General Meeting and Happy Hour, 5:30-7:30pm, Greenmount Station



## Hampstead Day



On May 25, 1974, the Town of Hampstead came alive with the inaugural celebration of what would become a tradition for generations to come: Hampstead Day. The festivities

began with a pancake and sausage breakfast and ended with a roast beef dinner hosted by the Hampstead Fire Company. Throughout the event, attendees were treated to a variety of entertainment options, including an antique automobile show and an art showcase. For those with a sense of adventure, there was even an opportunity to take a swing with a sledgehammer at a car donated by Wheeler Chevrolet, all for the bargain price of 25 cents for two swings. Music filled the air as the North Carroll High School and historical Alesia Bands delighted audiences with their performances. There was also an antique and flea market, with over 100 vendors. Now, as we mark this milestone anniversary of Hampstead Day, we reflect on the traditions upheld over the years. Here's to 50 years of Hampstead Day, and to many more years of laughter, friendship, and community spirit!



**50th Annual Hampstead Day**  
**Saturday, May 18, 2024 • 8 AM - 3 PM**

## 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 **Town of Hampstead** 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!*

## From The Mayor's Desk (continued)

Construction of the water treatment facilities will begin in the summer of 2025, with an end date of summer of 2026.

The purpose of this project is to ensure that the water that is supplied to our residents and businesses remains some of the safest and cleanest water in the state. The largest cost with this project is the equipment that will be installed to remove the PFAS from the water before it leaves the treatment facilities. Through a series of tests conducted by leading water laboratories and one of our engineering firms, it was confirmed that the best form of remediation of PFAS would be through installation of Granular Activated Carbon (GAC) systems. This process uses GAC filtration media to capture and collect the PFAS as water passes through the media. The GAC equipment, and the skids required to accompany the equipment, are rather large, so the new water treatment facilities to be built will be larger than our existing facilities.

This project will be one of the largest and costliest projects the Town has faced. The early estimations for this project are approximately \$29 million dollars, a large amount for a Town with approximately 2,300 water customers. The fact that our Town was proactive in addressing the PFAS issue paid off in 2022. In January of that year, Town Staff and one of our engineering firms submitted an application to the Maryland Department of the Environment seeking state and federal assistance with the project. Late last year we learned we would be receiving an \$18.9 million dollar EPA grant along with a \$650,000 MDE forgivable loan to assist with this project. We also have \$1.5 million in American Rescue Funds to apply to the project and are involved in a class action lawsuit against the makers of PFAS products and should receive some monetary compensation through that lawsuit. While the grant, loan, and lawsuit compensation are very helpful, the Town will still face a cost of about \$5 million dollars in this project. We plan to address this through the issuance of a long-term bond to finance the remaining costs which will spread over 20 to 25 years.

As stated above, Hampstead is not alone in the remediation work necessary for PFAS, we are just ahead of the curve. By being ahead of the curve, it allowed us to secure grants and loans, employ the best firms to assist us, and avoid supply chain issues that will occur around the rest of the country. PFAS and the issues it brings cannot be ignored and I am proud of the way we have reacted to the problem and handled it head on. We will provide updates on the project as it progresses.

I look forward to seeing you out and about our Town this Spring and Summer!

## Military Banners

There are a few spots remaining in the 2024 Military Banner Program to honor your loved one on Main Street. The 2024 application is posted on our Facebook page, under Forms & Permits at [hampsteadmd.gov](http://hampsteadmd.gov) or simply click this link:



### [Military Banner Application Form](#)

The American Legion contributes \$50.00 towards the production of each banner. Donations are tax deductible.

## Scholarships Available

The Town will award four \$1,000 scholarships in May 2024.

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 under News and Announcements at [www.hampsteadmd.gov](http://www.hampsteadmd.gov), the Town Office, and Manchester Valley High School Guidance Office. Don't miss this opportunity!

## UCMR5 Notification

Our water system has been sampled for a series of contaminants as required by Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) 5th Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR5).

If you are interested in examining the results or would like more information, they are available for viewing at:

<https://hampsteadmd.gov/reports>

For more information or any questions please contact Kevin Hann, at 410-239-6659 or [khann@hampsteadmd.gov](mailto:khann@hampsteadmd.gov).



## 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 are a significant part of our annual income and helps to keep our property tax rate low.



## Hydrant Flushing

Beginning at about **9:00 pm on Wednesday, April 17th**, 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 18th. 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!**



## 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 Forms & Permits at [hampsteadmd.gov](http://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

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Hampstead, MD 21074

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**Hampstead Day • May 18, 2024 • 8:00 am - 3:00 pm**

## Upcoming Meetings and Town Events

### March

- 12 Town Council Meeting - 7:30 pm - Town Hall
- 16 **Bulk Trash Pickup**
- 27 Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting  
7:00 pm • Town Hall
- 29 Good Friday - Town Offices Closed

### April

- 1 Yard Waste Pickup Begins (every Monday through the beginning of December)
- 9 Town Council Meeting - 7:30 pm - Town Hall
- 17 Hydrant Flushing - 9:00 pm
- 20 **Community Flea Market** - War Memorial Park  
9:00 am - 2:00 pm
- 24 Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting  
7:00 pm • Town Hall
- 30 **Water Bill Payments Are Due**

### May

- 14 Town Council Meeting - 7:30 pm - Town Hall
- 18 **50th Hampstead Day** - 8:00 am to 3:00 pm
- 22 Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting  
7:00 pm • Town Hall
- 27 Memorial Day - Town Offices Closed

### June

- 1 **Farmers Market Opening Day** - 8:30 am - Noon  
on the PantherPlex grounds
- 8 Music in the Park - 6:00 pm - War Memorial Park
- 11 Town Council Meeting - 7:30 pm - Town Hall
- 15 **Community Flea Market** - War Memorial Park  
9:00 am - 2:00 pm
- 19 Juneteenth - Town Offices Closed
- 22 Music in the Park - 6:00 pm - War Memorial Park
- 26 Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting  
7:00 pm • Town Hall

