



The Town of **HAMPSTEAD** Maryland

Volume 26

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www.hampsteadmd.gov

From The Mayor's Desk

In my last article, I noted how most events were cancelled for the summer. Now as we head into Fall, the Covid Virus has thankfully had a minimal impact on our Town and it is time to open up – using proper protocols. As a result, there will be trick or treating on Halloween, a Christmas Tree Lighting and something new – a Day of Gratitude, a Walk Along Main.



The Day of Gratitude will be held on Saturday, October 10th from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm (rain date the 17th) with the War Memorial serving as the central point but the idea is to get out and enjoy our new Main Street (see related article) by taking a walk and visiting as many of our local businesses as you wish. The Main Street Revitalization Committee, in conjunction with the Town, thought it would be a great idea to show our support for all the businesses that remained open through the pandemic, changed with the hand they were dealt and continued serving us.

Four examples of changing with the times were exhibited by Illiano's J & P Restaurant, Outlaw BBQ, Greenmount Station and Shipley's Jewelry. I am sure there were others and we will highlight them in future Newsletters. Mike Illiano completely renovated the interior of his Illiano's J & P Restaurant. Steve and Leah Rogers at Outlaw BBQ renovated the exterior of their restaurant and added a cement pad for an improved outdoor dining experience. In addition, they bought the old Sunset Inn building and have re-painted the exterior. Chris Richards at Greenmount Station added a permanent covered outdoor seating area to the southside of his building and temporary seating to the front. Seth Shipley remodeled with new jewelry cases, lighting and flooring at Shipley's Diamonds and Fine Jewelry. All of these businesses and others invested in our Town to better serve us so it only makes sense to thank them.

On Saturday the 10th, you can start your day by stopping by the War Memorial at 10:00 am and picking up thank you cards which you can customize and give to businesses as you walk along Main. This may sound a bit hokey but what a great way to express gratitude in addition to shopping local. As you have read in my prior articles, these businesses are the backbone of small towns such as ours. In addition to providing needed services, food and entertainment, they are the first ones to sponsor the local sports teams, town events and contribute to local fundraisers.

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Town Manager's Corner

Our Main Street Revitalization Project will soon be complete!!! It is hard to believe that this initiative began in 1998 with eighteen months of comprehensive planning efforts to develop a renewal strategy for the central part of Town. After the completion of the Hampstead Bypass in 2009 removed a significant amount of through traffic in Hampstead's downtown area, the State allocated funds for our streetscape project in 2013. After years of design work and public meetings, construction began in the summer of 2017. The Town would like to thank the residents and business owners for their understanding and cooperation. We hope to have a ribbon cutting ceremony in the spring so stay tuned.



The Town of Hampstead is now a walkable Main Street with many visible enhancements like new ADA compliant sidewalks, picturesque lampposts, a variety of landscaping, new cluster mailboxes, enhanced traffic signal timing, and soon, a newly paved road with brick colored crosswalks. There are also many improvements that you cannot see, like a new storm water infrastructure under the road to improve drainage and prevent flooding. BGE also replaced their aging gas mains.

Prior to our Streetscape Project, the Town replaced our 1936 water main and service connections beneath Main Street. The Town advertised a bid last month to replace the remainder of our 1936 pipe along Ralph Avenue, Shiloh Avenue, West Street, Rinaman Avenue, Hillcrest Street, and Upper Beckleysville Road. This second project should begin toward the end of October, take a break during the winter months, and finish up in the spring or summer of 2021.

Now that we have a new and improved Main Street, we hope that underutilized properties will become alive again. The Town continues to focus on providing a business friendly environment as to attract quaint and, if at all possible, locally owned businesses to our newly beautified downtown. Recently, a volunteer committee has been working with the Town to bring more events to our community. Their first event is the Day of Gratitude that the Mayor discusses in his article. ***We hope that you can join us!***

News From the Police Department

We have reached the end of summer and are transitioning into fall. It goes without saying that it has been anything but a traditional summer, and fall will certainly be somewhat different as well. Our ability to adapt to the Covid experience has improved as everyone has learned to adjust. The Police Department is no different. Our operations have returned to a more typical fashion. The Department Lobby is again open during normal business hours and Police personnel have returned to providing our traditional services within the new guidelines to keep everyone as safe as possible.



Some of our traditional events were missed this year. Summer passed without a carnival and National Night Out, our event that we look forward to each year. Many of the public events we typically participate in will not take place this year, and like everyone we look forward to the fall and next year.

Earlier this summer, the Police Department added two supervisors to our ranks with the promotions of Corporals Cranshaw and Vanik. We look forward to their continued service to the community as their roles within the Department continue to grow.

As the days grow shorter, we will be driving again in more low light and night time conditions. It is also time to start thinking about winter, it will be here before you know it. Now is the time to check your lighting, wipers and tires. If equipment needs to be changed or updated, now is the time to do so.

Usually we remind everyone our kids are back in school. We won't be seeing school buses as we usually do, but be mindful of our children in the area. Patterns may be somewhat different, and keep an eye out for children at times and in areas where we may not typically expect them. Remember it is our collective responsibility to keep our children safe.

The Main Street project is getting close to completion. With that come some considerations. As the construction ends, we can expect an easier flow of traffic through Town. The new road surface can make it easy to forget that the speed limit on Main Street is 30 mph. Officers will be enforcing the limit, please be mindful of your speed. Parking is also a consideration. Be aware of where you park your vehicle. Keep clear of driveways and crosswalks. Parking on the sidewalk is not permitted. Not only is it a violation of State and Town law, it will damage the new pavement. Parking violations will be enforced.

Finally, during the challenges of the past year, the community has continued to show it's appreciation to our Officers. It is difficult to express the impact these kind gestures have on our staff. Your Officers appreciate these acts, and it continues to reinforce that which the community at large already understands; Hampstead is a special place to work and live.

Public Works News and Notes

As fall has arrived and winter is just around the corner, here are some reminders from Public Works of little things that everyone can do to make the coming months just a little bit easier.

• **Please do not rake or blow your leaves into the street!** The Town does not have the budget or the equipment to dispose of leaves pushed out into our streets, and the accumulated leaves then create a driving hazard especially when wet. If the leaves clog our storm drains, we have to subcontract to get them cleaned out or face fines from the State. Either way, the costs are then passed on to taxpayers!

• **Yard Waste Pickup** continues until the third Monday in December. Please utilize this service to dispose of your leaves.

• **Make sure you have disconnected your garden hose** from the outside faucet to prevent that pipe from bursting.



• **Please remember that sidewalks must be cleared** of ice and snow accumulations within twenty-four hours for the safety of pedestrians (including children on their way to the bus stop the next day).



Town of Hampstead

• **Please understand when we plow streets clear of snow** we try to be sensitive to your freshly cleared driveway but there are times when blocking is unavoidable.

• **When you clear your driveway, PLEASE DO NOT** throw the snow into the street. This creates a hazard to drivers.

• **If you have a fire hydrant near your house please keep it clear** so the Fire Department can quickly access it during an emergency.

• **If the sky looks like snow please park your car in the driveway** - this will safe-guard your car and make our job of plowing the street faster for you. Parking in cul-de-sacs is prohibited during phase one or greater snow emergencies...and of course please do not park on the side of the street where you see a snowflake sign. Our plows need full access to better clear our Town and ensure the safety of all!

Thank you!



Serving the Town of Hampstead for more than 100 years

HVFC FACES COVID-19 ISSUES

As stated in the last news letter we have adjusted all operations in response to COVID-19. Our revenue loss projected to the end of December is \$160,000 from the cancellation of hall rentals, our spring fund drive, carnival and other fund raising events.

NEW ENGINE UPDATE

The Hampstead Volunteer Fire Company has taken delivery of our 2020 Seagrave engine at a cost of \$750,000 to be put in service projected for the beginning of November.

NEW BUILDING UPDATE

We are still working to finalize plans for our new buildings. The first phase will be a temporary building to store our equipment. The second phase will be to build the new firehouse out front for a total price of six million dollars.

Finally, on behalf of the Hampstead Volunteer Fire Company we would like to wish everyone
A Safe and Happy Holiday Season!

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

Main Street Spotlight



Tim and Carol, the owners of Pipe The Side Brewing Company, have lived in the Hampstead/Manchester area since 2001. They decided on Hampstead as the home for their business due to its rich agriculture, Main Street revitalization project and what grew into a tremendous amount of local, community support.

For those that do not already know, Pipe the Side Brewing Company started a handful of years back as two people with an idea and a home brew kit in their kitchen. That idea has grown quite a bit since then and Tim and Carol are looking forward to finally opening the doors and bringing their idea of an all-inclusive, welcoming taproom for the community and people visiting Hampstead to enjoy.

Their primary concept is to provide high quality, small-batch craft beer and cider, using as many locally grown and sourced ingredients as possible, both in the taproom setting and as to-go products.

The taproom vibe will be a fun mix of old and new art, music, board games and books. It's really a space that embodies many of the things enjoyed by Tim's son, Tim Jr., who passed away at the age of 23 in 2017. In addition to the taproom vibe, they've been working over the last two years to establish partnerships with local community makers to bring unique, one of a kind merchandise to their brand.

Outside of the business-based partnerships, Pipe the Side Brewing Company will continue to work with a diverse group of organizations/nonprofits through fundraising and awareness events both on and offsite. They believe craft beer provides a great platform to bring people together to support and strengthen communities.



Farmers' Market 2020 Season



The 2020 Hampstead Farmers' Market season ended on September 26th. Although attendance and number of vendors were down this year, the market was successful meeting every challenge COVID-19 threw our way.

While staying safe, customers could still buy fresh produce, baked goods, and craft items and have a good time. The market followed the guidelines established by the Maryland Department of Agriculture and the Carroll County Health Department, having customers and vendors practice social distancing and wear face masks. We appreciate everyone's cooperation as we navigated through these difficult times.

We look forward to vendors and customers enjoying the full market experience in 2021. Please join us next season for music featuring live bands and community tents and tables, allowing customers to enjoy socializing with friends and neighbors.

CHRISTMAS MARKET CANCELLED

The Hampstead Farmers' Market will not hold their annual Christmas Market at St. John's United Methodist Church on November 20th and 21st because of health concerns related to COVID-19. If you are interested in purchasing from any of our vendors during the off season, please consult our web page at www.hampsteadfarmersmarket.com for a complete list of vendors and their contact information.



Please join us in celebrating the first annual Day of Gratitude in Hampstead

Saturday, October 10, 2020 • 10 am - 3 pm

Come on out on October 10th from 10 am to 3 pm to celebrate Hampstead's first Day of Gratitude! Enjoy the first days of fall, listen to live music, and thank those who have supported us over the past few months.

Start at the War Memorial Park on Main Street where you can write "gratitude cards" to take to Hampstead's participating merchants, identified by balloons hanging outside their stores. You can also enter a raffle to win a basket of gifts, including antique items, merchant donations, and gift cards.

At noon, enjoy a free concert featuring Hampstead's own Bootleg. Food will also be available for purchase during the concert. Then, at 1:30 pm we will honor those who have helped the community through these difficult times.

Please join your friends and neighbors in a day of thanks and recognition of all our Hampstead merchants and others who have served the community during this time.

Please remember, even though we are outside, participants are asked to observe social distancing guidelines. We want everyone to stay safe and have a good time.



Hampstead Merchants Association

From spring to summer and now from summer to fall... How did the summer fly by so fast? Many of us are certainly anxious for 2020 to be behind us, looking for a healthy and hopeful 2021 without the dreaded mention or concern of the word "Covid-19". 2020 has been an unprecedented time for us all, especially our small businesses and business owners.

As we are all adjusting to our "new normal", businesses are trying to adjust to their new protocols and ways of promoting commerce, while keeping their employees and customers safe. We are certainly blessed to be in a close-knit community where our Hampstead citizens are very loyal to our "mom-and-pop" shops. It is also humbling to see how many of our merchants throughout town have adapted to these difficult times and have found new and unique ways to still offer their products and services.

The Hampstead Merchants Association (HMA) was unable to hold its monthly face-to-face meetings throughout the months of March through June. While this was difficult, we still strove to be a resource to businesses and owners with access to information on Federal, State and Local Grants and also by posting our merchants amended hours and business practices due to Covid-19. July marked our first general meeting in over 4 months. We had many member merchants owners and employees show up to our outside meeting at Lions Club Park, who were thrilled to finally be able to meet again. While so many of our merchants have been struggling, one connection is allowing them to continue on; Our Community. Our Main Street Merchants truly credit their well-being to the commitment had by our Hampstead Community and their loyalty and pride to shop local. Our merchants are truly grateful to our incredible community!

The HMA's August and September meetings were held at Ricky's Bistro and Lunazul, respectively. Both of these lunch meetings had record attendance and in turn helped promote commerce to two fantastic local family owned restaurants! Our October meeting will be held at Galloping Goose Vineyards in Hampstead and double as our 4th Annual MVHS Community Scholarship Fundraiser. This will be held from 5:30 pm - 8:30 pm on Thursday, October 15th.

HMA will also have the small business Hallmark in Hampstead event on Saturday, November 21st. Please feel free to check our registration page and see other monthly merchant updates on our website: www.hampsteadmerchants.net.

On behalf of all of our local businesses, we truly thank Hampstead and our incredible citizens for supporting our Main Street Merchants and making the personal decision to shop and stay local in 2020. Thank you!

Fondly,
Connor F. Eline
2019-2020 HMA President



Christmas Tree Lighting

Hampstead's Annual Christmas Tree Lighting will be held this year on Friday, November 20th at the Main Street War Memorial Park. The event is co-sponsored by the Town and local merchants and is one of the most anticipated nights of the year. The event will be different this year, due to social restrictions and remote learning, but Santa will still be here to take pictures with all the kids! Stay tuned for updates as discussed in the Mayor's article.



Happy Halloween!



Saturday, October 31st is Halloween! Trick or Treating is scheduled in the Town from 6 pm to 8 pm as usual. As in previous years, if a house does not have their porch lights on, please take it as a sign they wish not to participate. While the main goal of Halloween is always to ensure that the children have a good time, the secondary goal is making that achievable in a safe environment. We count on parents and homeowners alike to ensure that both goals are met.

**Be Smart....Be Safe....Be Respectable....
and Have A Great Halloween!**

Mayor's Message (continued)

At 12:00 pm, Bootleg will begin playing at the War Memorial stage until 3:00 pm. You are welcome to bring a chair (while maintaining proper distance) and listen to this great local band. There will be food provided for those who did not get carry out from one of our restaurants. During the first break, we will honor a local company that has had a lot to do with how our new Main Street looks.

We look forward to seeing you outside and enjoying Main Street while shopping at and enjoying our local businesses. Make a day of it with Breakfast, followed by a walk and shopping then listen to Bootleg while enjoying the company of your neighbors. Finally, more shopping then dinner at one of our great restaurants.

As for Halloween, the same rules as always will be in place. This year, October 31st, falls on a Saturday and Trick or Treating will take place from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. We leave it to parental responsibility and homeowner discretion as to whether you wish to participate. The homeowner will signal participation as usual by having a porch light on. We see Halloween as an outdoor event with minimal personal contact and risk. Personally, the children deserve some fun after the last seven months.

The Christmas Tree and Decoration Lighting will occur on Friday, November 20th at 7:00 pm. School children are not presently in school so plans for them to perform will change. The event will likely be scaled back this year but the lights will go on. As plans develop, we will update the Town's Web Page, Facebook and prepare Press Releases for the Northern News, Merchandiser and Carroll County Times.

I hope to see you on October 10th and please continue supporting our local businesses through this holiday season.

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 the link below:



[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.



Military Banners

The Military Banners displayed on Main Street during the summer have been taken down and will be going to the families of those honored on the banners.

Applications for the 2021 Military Banner Program are now available for the opportunity to honor your loved one on Main Street. The 2021 application is posted on our Facebook page or click below for a copy of the application.



[Military Banner Application Form](#)

Environmental Action Awards



Hydrant Flushing



Beginning at about **9:00 pm on Wednesday, October 14th**, 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, October 15th. 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!**

Bulk Trash Day - October 17



Bulk trash pickup is for in-Town residents only (those who live within the incorporated Town limits and pay Town taxes). These days are reserved for large items like old chairs, appliances, etc. Residents should place bulk items out by Friday evening. ****Please refrain from putting bulk items out on regular trash days - our trash collector will not pick them up except on the designated Bulk Trash dates. We cannot pick up tires, paint, motors, items with freon, oil or other hazardous waste or construction materials.**

If you have any questions, please call us!

410-239-7408

Town of Hampstead

1034 S. Carroll Street
Hampstead, MD 21074

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Upcoming Meetings and Town Events

October

- 10 - Day of Gratitude - 10:00 am - 3:00 pm - Main St.
- 12 - Columbus Day - Town Hall Closed
- 13 - Town Council Meeting - 7:30 pm - Town Hall
- 14 - Hydrant Flushing - 9:00 pm
- 17 - Bulk Trash Day (Put out trash Friday evening)**
- 28 - Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting - 7:00 pm
Town Hall
- 31 - Halloween - 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm

November

- 10 - Town Council Meeting - 7:30 pm - Town Hall
- 18 - Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting - 7:00 pm
Town Hall
- 20 - Christmas Tree Lighting - 7:00 pm - Main Street
- 21 - Hallmark in Hampstead - Times to be announced
by Participating Businesses
- 26-27 - Thanksgiving Holiday - Town Hall Closed
- 28 - Small Business Saturday - Shop Local!**

December

- 8 - Town Council Meeting - 7:30 pm - Town Hall
- 16 - Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting - 7:00 pm
Town Hall

December

- 21 - Last Yard Waste Pickup
- 25 - MERRY CHRISTMAS!!**
- 24-25 - Christmas Holiday - Town Hall Closed

January

- 1 - New Year's Day - Town Hall Closed
- 4 - Christmas Tree Pickup
- 11 - Christmas Tree Pickup
- 12 - Town Council Meeting - 7:30 pm - Town Hall
- 18 - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day - Town Office Closed
- 27 - Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting - 7:00 pm
Town Hall

