June 2026 Town Bulletin

View and Print a PDF of this Document

Table of Contents

- Town Council News
- Annual Town Meeting
- Public Notices
- News from Grove Boards and Commissions
  - *Historic Preservation Commission* | *Planning Commission*
- News from Grove Committees
  - *Forestry & Beautification* | *Lake* | *Lighting* | *Meadows* | *Playground* | *Recreation* | *Sustainability* | *Woods*
- News from Grove Organizations
  - *Film Society* | *Acorn Library* | *WG Cares* | *Woman's Club*
- Addendum
  - *In Memoriam* | *Proclamation* | *Calendar*

Town Council News

The email address mayorandcouncil@washingtongrovemd.org can now be used to communicate directly with the Mayor and all Town Councilors.

The next Regular Town Council meeting is **Monday, June 8, 2026, 7:30 pm.** This will be a hybrid meeting at McCathran Hall and on Zoom. The public is invited to attend in person or

by Zoom.

Join the video meeting via Zoom, (or for audio only, dial 301-715-8592. Meeting ID: 297 850 640, Password 074385).

Actions at the May 18 Council Meeting

(View the pertinent documents)

- Held a closed session to obtain legal advice from Town attorney Suellen Ferguson on maintaining Town compliance with requirements in the Town Charter, County and State codes.
- Newly elected Town Councilors Peter Nagrod (pnagrod@msn.com) and Nick Patrone (npatrone@icloud.com) were sworn into office by Mayor Compton.
- Held a Public Hearing on, and then Adopted, Ordinance 2026-03 "Adopting the Town Budget and Tax Rates for FY27". Find the Ordinance here.
- Approved the Proclamation "Declaring June 5, 2026, to be National Gun Violence Awareness Day in Washington Grove" (attached to this Bulletin or read using this link)
- Introduced Anna Burke as the new Town Administrator. Anna will start June 1, and overlap with retiring Town Clerk Kathy Lehman until June 30.
- Appointed Margaret Church as Planning Commissioner for the 5-year term, July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2031.
- Assigned Councilor responsibilities for the coming year. **(see PDF)**
- Adopted Resolution 2026-04 "Renewing the Renewable Energy Conversion Incentives Program". **(see PDF)**
- Introduced Resolution 2026-05 "Driveway Access to McCauley Avenue for Block 18, Lots 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6" **(see PDFs)**

Mayor's Kudos

- *To Terry Arnold, master carpenter,* for designing and building 15 bee hotels for town residents' yards to encourage pollinators to flourish in Washington Grove. And for re-creating the "Ann's Folly" signs and plaque, oak leaves, and wood trim for the restoration of the tennis shed.
- *To Town residents Steve Werts and Dane Clark, and Councilor Kriss Grisham* for their extraordinary dedication and contributions in time and effort to accomplish the timely re-opening of McCathran Hall to public use following installation of the new sprinkler pipe system.

2026 Town Election

The annual Town Election was held Saturday, May 9, prior to the Town Meeting.

- John Compton was elected to a one-year term as Mayor.
- Peter Nagrod and Nick Patrone were elected to the Town Council for three-year terms.

As always, deep gratitude to those willing to give of their time, energy, and talents in serving the Town in those capacities. Thanks as well to all those who participated in the voting.

Return to the Table of Contents

Annual Town Meeting

The meeting was held in a hybrid format on Saturday, May 9, and was attended by approximately 60 residents/voters (about 35 in-person). **Documents available here.**

At the meeting:

- Mayor Compton delivered his "State of the Town" report.
- Recognized Kathy Lehman upon her retirement after 24 years of service to the Town as Town Clerk!
- Approved the FY27 Town Budget and tax rates.
- Councilor Kriss Grisham presented a pictorial review of the McCathran Hall sprinkler replacement project that was completed on time, as well as upgrades and refurbishments to the Hall fans, ceilings, walls and floors.
- Dane Clark and Steve Werts received the 2026 "*Volunteer of the Year Award*" by Mayor Compton for going above and beyond, contributing long hours to facilitate completion of the McCathran Hall sprinkler project, while making Hall improvements while they were at it.
- Mayor Compton also recognized Councilor Kriss Grisham for his dedication and hours spent overseeing the hall sprinkler project when the responsibility unexpectedly fell on his shoulders this year.
- Mayor Compton also recognized Terry Arnold for designing and building 15 bee hotels for town residents' yards to encourage pollinators to flourish in Washington Grove. And for re-creating the "Ann's Folly" signs and plaque, oak leaves, and wood trim for the restoration of the tennis shed.
- Brief reports were made by Planning Commission Chair Georgette Cole and Historic Preservation Commission Chair Bob Booher.
- Marida Hines and Terri Johnson received the "*2026 Preservation Award*" from the Historic Preservation Commission for their renovation at 204 Ridge Road.
- Paul Patrone from the Sustainability Committee reported on progress in meeting Washington Grove's goals for reducing its carbon footprint.
- Patty Klein, Woods Committee Chair, showed off pictures of the completed restorations of Whetstone Spring and Maple Spring in our West Woods.

Missed the meeting? You can view the video recording created by Montgomery Municipal Cable **(recording is here).**

Return to the Table of Contents

Public Notices

Public Comment Invited

On Resolution 2026-05 "Driveway Access to McCauley Avenue for Block 18, Lots 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6"
This Resolution will the subject of Town Council discussion and possible adoption at the June 8 Town Council meeting.

Read Resolution 2026-05 online.

National Gun Violence Awareness Day

By *Proclamation* of the Town Council and Mayor, *NATIONAL GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS DAY IN WASHINGTON GROVE IS* FRIDAY JUNE 5, 2026.
The *Proclamation* may be read **at the end of this Bulletin or here. Orange lights** will be in evidence in the Gazebo to recognize Gun Violence Awareness weekend, June 5-7. Orange is the color of the gun safety movement because hunters wear orange when out in the woods to announce themselves to other hunters and orange is a color that symbolizes the value of human life.

You can show your awareness and commitment to reducing violence by guns **by wearing orange on June 6th**.

FY26 Budget and Tax Rates Approved

The Budget and Tax Rates recommended by the Town Council were adopted by residents at the Town Meeting.

- Real Property Tax of $0.2214 per $100 assessed valuation. Per the State-Taxable assessed valuation of $123,569,725, the tax rate is decreased from $0.2270 in order to generate approximately the same revenue as the current year.
- Dwelling Tax of $212 per dwelling, reflecting the assessment for the cost of refuse and recycling collection
- Property Tax was increased $0.10 to $0.80 per $100 assessed valuation on operating property owned by public utilities and business personal property.

Safety and Security Presentation by Montgomery County Police

Join us on **Thursday, June 25 at 7:30 p.m.** for a Zoom presentation by Officer Melanie Romano, Community Services Officer with the Montgomery County Police Department, about recent auto vandalism, theft, and related incidents in Washington Grove and nearby communities. Time permitting, a Q&A will follow.

Zoom access: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89171615716?

pwd=2UDiQbvEJ1Sb1jvIQhZbLUOMj5u6bT.1
Meeting ID 89171615716, passcode 407524

If you would like our Community Services Officer to address any specific safety issues or concerns in the community, please send an email to Kriss Grisham at councilorkriss@gmail.com, or John Compton at mayor@washingtongrovemd.gov.

We also need Volunteers to reinvigorate our Emergency Preparedness and Safety Committee (EPSC)! Please consider supporting this interesting and important committee. Thank You!!

Return to the Table of Contents

News from Grove Boards and Commissions

Historic Preservation Commission News

Next meeting: Tuesday,June 16, 7:30 pm.
The public is invited to attend this virtual meeting via Zoom. For a copy of the agenda or to get the Zoom address, email Chair Bob Booher at booherfamily@comcast.net.

The Camp Meeting Movement as a Lean Archetype

The Project for Lean Urbanism (motto: Making Small Possible) published architect and urbanist Sara Hines' draft paper entitled, "The Camp Meeting Movement as a Lean Archetype," tracing the camp meeting from its origins and drawing lessons for today and for the future. Sara observes that

> **"...the camp meeting ground is a land-use form particularly American, evolved to create community, integrating architecture, nature, and urban design using innate rules of human behavior."**

She gives attention to Southern camps often ignored by other writers. "In the South, camps can seem like agricultural stock pens, sometimes without windows and arranged like a fortress around a central area, austere when unpopulated. Populated, they form nearly continuous front porches with no windows, only ventilation slots."

When introducing the phenomenon of the Neshoba County (Mississippi) Fair Grounds, whose original layout and buildings adhered to camp meeting traditions, she asserts that the spatial rules of a good camp meeting could produce community around secular interests with as much intensity as those grounded in religious fervor.

Looking to the future, Sara contends "we can achieve a wonderful, human-scaled community, designed using simple rules, developed and tested through camp meeting grounds..."

We hope you enjoy the read!
https://leanurbanism.org/the-camp-meeting-movement-as-a-lean-archetype/

Return to the Table of Contents

Planning Commission News

Next meeting: Wednesday, June 3, 7:30 pm.
The public is invited to attend this virtual meeting by Zoom videoconference. The agenda will be posted on the Town website one week prior to our meeting. Please make sure your name is associated with your Zoom device in order to be admitted from the Waiting Room. Residents and the public may access the meeting at:
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88137135118
Dial by your location 1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)
Meeting ID: 881 3713 5118

Building Permit Submission Deadline

The deadline to submit a building permit application for approval by the Planning Commission (PC) and review by the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) is the 2nd Wednesday of the month prior to the PC meeting at which the permit will be reviewed (this will be in the following month). This timing ensures the HPC will be able to complete a formal review before the PC meeting as this review is required for the PC to approve the permit in a timely fashion. If you are considering any renovation or building project at your house, be sure to get a copy of the procedures to apply for a Town Building Permit which will help you through the Town's process.

Building Permits Approved in April:

Pending Forest Conservation Plan and Subdivision Plan for 330 Ridge Road were discussed.

Public Ways & Property Permits (PW&PP) Approved in May:

Pending WSSC permit discussed A Planning Commission and Historic Preservation Commission Work session was held on Wednesday May 27, 2026 at 2 PM. It was an in-person meeting held at 103 Brown Street, the home of PC/HPC commissioner Bill Earl. We continued to discuss the possibility of a Preservation Waiver to allow additional flexibility for Building Permits.

Return to the Table of Contents

News from Grove Committees

Forestry & Beautification Committee News

The Forestry and Beautification (F&B) Committee has finalized the spring planting. The non-native invasive bush honeysuckle on Chestnut Road adjacent to #202 and 206 have

been removed. In their place we've added 4 American Cranberry Viburnum, 4 Marissa Viburnum, 4 Winterthur Viburnum, and 5 Northern Bayberry. The Committee will now be on hiatus until August when we start planning for Fall planting.

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday August 12 at 7:30 PM. Please remember that the F&B Committee keeps a list of resident requests for town trees. If you have a suggestion for where there is need for new decorative tree/s, or any tree at all, please contact one of the F&B Co-Chairs, Georgette Cole georgettewg@gmail.com) or Audrey Maskery (trees.beautification@gmail.com), or our Council Liaison Barbara Raimondo (councilorbarb@gmail.com).

Another Good Reason to Remove Japanese Barberry and Bush Honeysuckle

Last month we pointed out various non-native garden shrubs which would be better removed from your property. This month we highlight the fact that both Japanese Barberry and Bush honeysuckle create a great environment for deer ticks. These are spread by both white-tailed deer and by white-footed mice. Apparently, both of these provide a natural harbor for ticks, especially when there are several bushes together. Their removal not only provides more environmental space for native shrubs (which support our native pollinators!), but remove a potential source of tick-borne diseases. A large number of Grovers have already been diagnosed and treated for Lyme disease and at least one Grover has encountered a Lone Star tick, resulting in Alpha-gal Syndrome, which causes an allergy to red meat (beef and pork).

Barberry and Bush honeysuckle can be removed by physically removing the bush. For a resident this could mean digging, a weed wrench for smaller bushes, or cutting and painting the stem with an herbicide. Forestry and Beautification Committee has RJ Landscaping removing bush honeysuckle on Town land by digging them out with a small backhoe. No matter how you do it, future checks to make sure they aren't coming back are advisable. When you do this work, don't forget to wear protective clothing and check yourself for ticks afterward. There are excellent directions on how to deter ticks and how to make sure they don't attach to you at https://www.cdc.gov/ticks/prevention/index.html.

Return to the Table of Contents

Lake Committee News

Next Meeting: Tuesday, June 9, 2026, 7:30 pm. on Zoom

The Lake Committee meets on the second Tuesday of the month. Residents are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Join Zoom Meeting:
https://us05web.zoom.us/j/82167730076?pwd=qE3UbeK8gtY9bhxUgodLRMD84qitj8.1
Meeting ID: 821 6773 0076
Passcode: 8vcTKi

Lake Season Is Here!

We are excited to welcome everyone back for another great summer at Maple Lake. Thank you to all of the residents and volunteers who help make the lake a fun, safe, and enjoyable place for our community.

2026 Lake Operating Schedule

- **Weekends only through June 14, 2026**
- **Daily beginning June 15, 2026 through Labor Day**

Please watch the Town of Washington Grove Listserv for any updates regarding weather-related closures or schedule changes.

Lifeguard Program

Preparations for the 2026 swim season are underway. We are pleased to announce that Matt Gregory will serve as Lifeguard Manager for the 2026 season. We appreciate the efforts of our lifeguards and volunteers who help keep the lake operating throughout the summer.

Lake Amenities

We are pleased to announce that, beginning June 15, 2026, a portable restroom and hand-washing station will be available at Maple Lake for residents and guests throughout the summer season. We hope these additional amenities will make visits to the lake more comfortable and convenient for everyone.

Swim Lessions

Kristin Schwarz plans to offer swim lessons beginning July 5 through July 30, 2026. July 31 will be a free-play day. Additional information regarding registration, scheduling, lesson availability, and other swim lesson details will be announced through the Town of Washington Grove Listserv as it becomes available.

Community Notes

Thank you to everyone who has volunteered to support the lake this season. Community involvement is what keeps Maple Lake successful and enjoyable for all residents.

The Lake Committee is interested in hearing from residents regarding wildlife activity around the lake. Has anyone seen geese nesting at the lake this season? If you have observed any nesting activity, please let a committee member know.

As we prepare for another enjoyable summer at Maple Lake, we encourage residents to stay involved, volunteer when possible, and

participate in committee meetings. Community involvement is what keeps Maple Lake a special place for everyone. We look forward to a safe, fun, and successful 2026 season.

Return to the Table of Contents

Lighting Committee News

Next Meeting: Wednesday, June 24, 2026 at 7:30 pm
Join Zoom Meeting
Meeting ID: 893 1602 0615
Passcode: 194354

The Town of Washington Grove provided testimony at a Maryland Public Service Commission hearing on May 12, 2006. Due to this hearing and other advocacy work from a group of Maryland Municipalities over the years there have finally been some positive outcomes in providing a path to the option of municipal streetlight ownership in Maryland! This option of municipal streetlight ownership would give Maryland municipalities more choices on picking cost effective, environmentally friendly, and aesthetic designs for their streetlights.

Report a streetlight that is out or that has an issue with a sensor here. It is important to provide a pole number when reporting streetlight issues. Each streetlight is on a pole with a unique pole number, and this is how we identify each streetlight. Thanks so much!

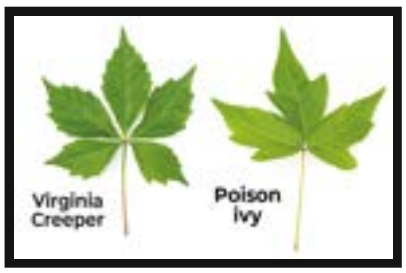
Comments, suggestions and ideas are welcome! Contact Virginia Quesada vq@qmediainc.com or Robert N. Johnson rnj@elecdev.com with questions or comments.

Return to the Table of Contents

Meadows Committee News

Next Meeting: Wednesday, June 17 at 7:30 pm
Zoom link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81284320450
Dial-in: +1 301 715 8592, Meeting ID: 812 8432 0450
Join Zoom Meeting

Wisteria Treatment



On May 18, a Montgomery Parks contractor treated the wisteria that is climbing many of the trees on the edge of the meadow. This was a follow-up to previous treatment by Montgomery Parks in July 2025 and completes spending of the grant from Sustainable Maryland. Additional treatments may be required to address this persistent non-native invasive. You may also notice poison ivy and the similar-looking Virginia creeper vines along the ground and climbing the trees. These native species are important food sources for wildlife. Birds eat the berries,

rabbits and deer browse the leaves, and pollinators gather nectar from the flowers. We humans however need to approach poison ivy with caution!

Fall Planting

Montgomery Parks has placed an order with Pope Farm for 390 wildflower and meadow grass plugs (19 species in total) to plant in the upper meadow. All adult Grovers plus older children with a parent's permission will be eligible to help when this is scheduled.

Weed Warrior Activity

In May, volunteers continued to focus on removing garlic mustard and mile-a-minute from the understory between the upper and lower meadows.

Recent Native Species Observed in the Conservation Park

Here are a few you may wish to look for:

- **Plants:** Jack-in-the-Pulpit, Virginia Springbeauty. Buttercups, Golden Alexanders, Pennsylvania Blackberry, Red Clover, Yellow Wakerobin, Carolina Horsenettle, Sensitive Fern, Common Dewberry, Snowberries, Hairy Bittercress, White Avens, and Trillium.
- **Animals:** Eastern Box Turtle, Tree Swallows (nesting in the lower meadow, but aerial feeding over both), Blue Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting. Eastern Bluebird (nesting), American Goldfinch, and of course, rabbits, foxes, and White-Tailed Deer.

The iNaturalist app can help with identification of plants,animals, and fungi.

Return to the Table of Contents

Playground Committee News

Next regular meeting: Monday, June15, 7:30 pm
Join Zoom Meeting
Meeting ID: 837 6777 3121

The Playground Committee has been at work throughout May on developing an RFP for a professional firm to complete a design for the town playground. We hope to present the RFP for approval at the June Town Council meeting, and then we will resume our work on smaller maintenance projects for the existing equipment.

Our regular May meeting was postponed to **Monday, June 1, at 7:30pm**. We will still hold our June meeting at our regularly scheduled date and time on Monday, June 15, at 7:30pm.

If you would like to share your thoughts on the playground, please email us at wg_playground@googlegroups.com.

Return to the Table of Contents

Recreation Committee News

Next Meeting: Wednesday, June 17, at 7:30 pm. Everyone is encouraged to join and bring new ideas!

Music Weekend

Join us at the **2nd Annual Grove Karaoke Night,** June 13, from 6:30-9 PM at McCathran Hall. The first hour is for kids, and then at 7:30, the adults take over. Light refreshments will be available. Many of us had a blast last year and we hope you can join the fun!

The Jazz Brunch will be from 10 am to Noon on June 14, at the Gazebo (rain location is McCathran Hall). The Joey Antico Band will be playing again this year! The Magic Art Bus will also be there between 10-11:45 am to entertain the kids.

Save the Date

The Town's 4th of July Celebration will begin at 10:30 am on July 4th, with the costume judging for all ages **including pets this year**! More info to follow.

Return to the Table of Contents

Sustainability Committee News

Next Meetings: Tuesday, June 2, 2026, 7:30 pm
Join Zoom Meeting
Meeting ID: 344 019 9688

EV Expo Thanks

Our thanks go out to everyone who contributed to the success of the Earth Day EV Expo on April 25. Fourteen Grovers brought their electric vehicles and plug-in hybrids to Woodward Park that afternoon, and although we didn't get an accurate count, we saw lots of neighbors stop by to talk with them. Thanks also to the movers and shakers, the setter-uppers and take-'er-downers, the sign makers, the pop-up canopy providers, the snack provisioners, Utility Advisors, and the weather gods who held off the rain.

And a Special Thank You Goes to ...

. . . Terry Arnold, Bee Hotelier Extraordinaire, who built 15 wooden bee hotels for us to distribute to Grovers who requested them. We're grateful to Terry for handcrafting perfect accommodations for generations of future pollinators.

Community Garden Update

The community garden inside the tennis fence has started its fourth full year of growing vegetables for donation to local food

banks. In July 2025, the garden surpassed one ton of donated vegetables since its inception, on the way to its most productive year to date. Recipient organizations include St. Martin's, So What Else, and Manna.

Year	2022	2023	2024	2025	**2022-25**
Pounds of food donated	69	932	822	1,588	**3,411**

The other purpose of the garden is education. Gardeners take home their learnings as volunteers or visitors to start or improve their own home gardens, and 2025 was the third consecutive year that we hosted children from the Summer in the Parks program. Beyond learning about growing food and tasting some of what we grow, the kids learn about topics like beekeeping and how to attract pollinators.

Planning for the 2026 garden got underway in December 2025. The first work party of the new year was held on March 26 when we planted seed potatoes and cabbage seedings. We hope for another year with over 1000 pounds of donations. New volunteers, both regulars and those who can only pitch in on special occasions, are always welcome. Please contact Anne Vincent, David Stopak or Bruce Daggy to be added to the mailing list.

Return to the Table of Contents

Woods Committee News

Next meeting: Monday, June 1, 7:30 pm.

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88906220497?pwd=PCX7VSCIB8tdCTGPyxZwpU1476pcHv.1

By Phone: 301-715-8592

Meeting ID: 889 0622 0497

Passcode: 612323

All are invited to attend our meetings. We also welcome new volunteers and members who want to work with the Committee to help protect our East and West Woods Preserves. This is an excellent time to join the Woods Committee!

Upcoming Efforts to Remove Japaness Barberry

The Woods Committee, in partnership with Forestry and Beautification and the Conservation Meadows committees, are planning several events in the coming months to physically remove Japanese barberry, a non-native invasive (NNI) plant, from our Town public lands. Japanese barberry also is known to promote a micro-climate, ecological niche

for black-legged ticks or 'deer ticks' (Ixodes scapularis) that can transmit the pathogens causing Lyme's disease, anaplasmosis, babesiosis, and the Powassan virus, to humans and pets. This plant is becoming more abundant in the West Woods, the Conservation Meadow, and our Parks. Please watch for dates to be announced! We need your help to keep our Woods and other Town public lands safe, vibrant, and free of Japanese barberry and other NNI plants!

Enjoy the Woods!

We encourage you to visit the recently restored Maple Spring, located just south of Maple Lake, to enjoy the beauty of blooming skunk cabbage and native ferns, and the serenity of the beautiful natural stream flowing to Maple Lake.

The Woods Committee will continue to water marked groups of young trees in the East Woods to support their survival. We are most grateful to our summer hires, Corey Hix, Tomas Bernal, and Ted McCrehan for their dedicated efforts. We truly value and appreciate teamwork!

We hope this year brings many opportunities to enjoy the seasonal beauty in our East and West Woods Preserves.

Pat Klein and the Woods Committee

Return to the Table of Contents

News from Grove Organizations

Film Society

For our last film of the 2025-2026 season, we bring you an award-winner written by Aaron Sorkin and Ben Mezrich and known for its rapid-fire, realistic dialogue.

The Social Network
Friday, June 12, 2026, 7 pm
Directed by David Fincher, 2010, USA, shown with English subtitles, 120 minutes.

In 2003, Harvard sophomore Mark Zuckerberg (Jesse Eisenberg) conjures up a communication revolution, but he isn't the only one dreaming big. Lawsuits mount and friendships fracture in a modern tale of ambition and betrayal. Fast, smart, and compelling, this movie unveils events that shaped the way we live today.

We'd love to discuss this film with you after the final credits.

Return to the Table of Contents

Acorn Library

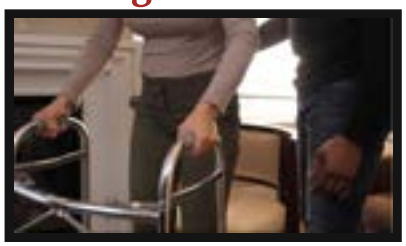
We are beginning a weekly story time for kids at Acorn Library. **Storytimes will be held at 3 pm on Sunday afternoons.** Visitors and neighbors from outside town are welcome to join us as well. Bring your friends to come enjoy the stories, stay a while to explore and choose some books to take home with you!

If you have never been to Acorn Library, you'll find it on Maple Road, the last driveway on the right as you drive toward Center Street. Acorn Library is never locked and visitors are welcome anytime. Lights are turned off at night, but you are welcome to turn them on. Just turn them off if it's dark when you leave.

Questions? Call Betsy Klinger at 301-325-1956 or email betsyklinger@aol.com.

Return to the Table of Contents

Washington Grove Cares



Washington Grove Cares lends clean and lightly-used durable medical equipment. If you'd like to borrow something, call us at 301-944-2962 or send an email to washingtongrovecares@gmail.org. To donate items, please do the same.

Here's what we currently have on hand, although the items available will likely grow and change.

- A transfer wheelchair, folding and lightweight.
- Two foldable walkers with front wheels.
- A platform walker, which relieves hands and wrists from supporting all your weight.
- A bed assist rail with adjustable height and a cushioned grab bar, for help getting out of bed.
- An adjustable-height toilet seat with a frame and hand grips, useful after knee or hip surgery.
- A toilet seat riser, bubble-type. Easy to install by pressing down on it, it has no hand grips.
- Two pairs of regular aluminum crutches.
- A pair of forearm crutches.
- A cane with four prongs, also known as a quad cane.
- A sock or stocking aid, useful for people with limited reach.
- A 4-legged stool with adjustable height.

Washington Grove Cares connects town residents who need assistance with town residents who can provide it. Request help with the same contact information as above. If you're already regularly helping a neighbor, reach out to us and we can help you. Finally, to join our crew of volunteers, just fill out our volunteer form and we'll be in touch with you.

Return to the Table of Contents

Woman's Club of Washington Grove News

Next meeting: Thursday, June 18, 7 pm. at the Woman's Club Clubhouse

A Year of Looking Back, and a Year of Looking Forward,
As We Celebrate our Centennial Year

Our Year of Helping

Each spring, we begin collecting children's underwear for our ***Annual Liz Robertson's Memorial Underwear Drive*** for the less fortunate children around us. Far too many children have to go to school without underwear ☹. With our drive, we try to help by collecting new underwear for the children at Seneca Heights Family Shelter. They are so grateful not only for the underwear, but that people care about them enough to make sure they don't go without such important clothing.

To make donating easier, we now have an Amazon Wishlist with the sizes and genders we need. Access the list at https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1SSYARK386SJV?ref_=wl_share

Cash donations are also appreciated. We keep a list of underwear we've received and what is still needed and we can buy on your behalf. Just be sure to mark in the memo of your check that it's for the **Underwear Drive**.

Our Year of Looking Forward

The Club will be hosting an event on July 3rd to kick off the Town's annual 4th of July celebrations and our Country's 250th anniversary. More information will be coming!

Town Directory Reminder:
If you haven't yet turned in your information for our next Town Directory, **please send it by May 8**. If you've already sent it, thank you! If we haven't heard from you by May 8, and you still live in the Grove, we will assume that your information has not changed from the last Directory!

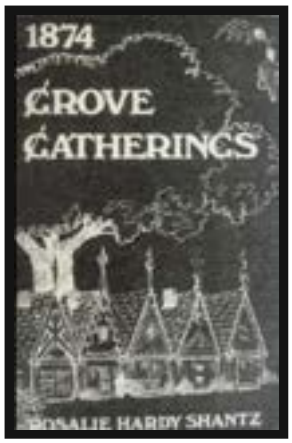
To make it easier, if your information hasn't changed, or if there's only a minor change, you can send an email with your Name and Address and say either No Changes or Only the Following Change, but Please include your name and address so we know who you are, and

send to Marilynn Frey at marilynnf@comcast.net, CC to John Klinger at johnsklinger@gmail.com.

Your information will only be used in the traditional Directory. It will not be made available online!

Our Year of Looking Back

by Meredith Horan



This year, the Woman's Club of Washington Grove celebrates its centennial. The following is the fifth in a series of excerpts from *A History of the Woman's Club of Washington Grove*, as Recorded in the Minutes 1926 to 1998 by Sylvia Tate Horan, published 2001.

Regina Franck took the Club helm in 1969 and 1970. The Flower Show continued in June 1970, under chairman Ethel Peters of Starmont Daylilies (top of hill under Route 200 near Oakmont). The Club canvased residents and collected $895 for tree repair. Forty new chairs were purchased for the Clubhouse. In August 1973 Rosalie Shantz agreed to write a history, a remembrance, of Washington Grove in connection with the Town centennial. The 1978 House Tour was the first
Sunday in June. Tickets were $1.50.

The Easiest Ways to Donate

To make donating easier, we now have an Amazon Wishlist which will be updated for upcoming drives we will hold during the year. Access the list at https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1SSYARK386SJV?ref_=wl_share.

Your donations are always needed! Just drop them off either in the box on the Clubhouse porch or on Wendy Weisbard's porch at 119 Grove Road. And of course, monetary donations are always appreciated. Checks should be made out to the Woman's Club (WCWG) with a notation in the memo field if you want the money to go toward something specific. Checks can be dropped off with Cynthia Werts at 410 Oak Street or mailed to Cynthia at PO Box 354.

Our outreach work can only happen with the continued support of our Little Town with the Big Heart. We always need shelf-stable foods and non-SNAP items, because those needs never stop!

Return to the Table of Contents

Addendum

In Memoriam

Nick Suzich

Nick Suzich passed away on May 18, 2026, after a courageous battle with a rare neurodegenerative disorder, multiple system atrophy (MSA). Nick was a devoted husband and father, retiring early to become a stay-at-home dad to his two sons, Pete and Tim. He volunteered tirelessly as a Boy Scout leader, and he served in the Grove for many years as Chair of the Board of Elections. A funeral mass for Nick is scheduled for Friday, May 29 at 11 am at St. Francis of Assisi, 6701 Muncaster Mill Road, Derwood; his family will schedule a celebration of his life in the Grove this summer. Learn more about Nick here.

Bill Saar

Longtime Grove resident **Bill Saar** passed away on May 4, 2026. Above all, Bill was a wonderful parent. With his first wife, Mary Murray, Bill raised his son, Skylar, in the house he built on Grove Avenue; and with his second wife Ramona Finn Saar, he raised Will, Logan, and Spencer there as well. Over the years, the house became a welcoming gathering place for the boys and their friends—especially as a space for practicing and playing live music. Learn more about Bill here.

Return to the Table of Contents

Proclamation

PROCLAMATION
DECLARING FRIDAY JUNE 5, 2026 TO BE
WASHINGTON GROVE GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS DAY

This proclamation declares the first Friday in June to be National Gun Violence Awareness Day in the Town of Washington Grove to honor and remember all victims and survivors of gun violence and to declare that we as a country must do more to end this public health crisis.

WHEREAS, every day, 125 people in the United States are killed by gun violence and more than 260 are shot and wounded, with an average of more than 19,000 gun homicides every year; and

WHEREAS, people in the United States are 26 times more likely to die by gun homicide than people in other high-income countries; and

WHEREAS, the State of Maryland has 805 gun deaths on average every year, with a rate of 13.4 deaths per 100,000 people, a crisis that costs the state $10.5 billion each year, of which $384 million is paid by taxpayers. Maryland has the 34th highest rate of gun deaths in the US; and

WHEREAS, gun homicides and assaults are concentrated in cities, with more than half of all gun homicides in the nation occurring in 42 cities; and

WHEREAS, cities across the nation are working to end the senseless violence with evidence-based solutions; and

WHEREAS, protecting public safety in the communities they serve is among the government's highest responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council believes support for the Second Amendment rights of law-abiding citizens goes hand-in-hand with keeping guns away from those who are a danger to themselves or others; and

WHEREAS, gun violence prevention is more important than ever as we see gun violence continue to impact communities across the country; and

WHEREAS, in January 2013, Hadiya Pendleton was tragically shot and killed at age 15; and on June 5, 2026 to recognize the 29th birthday of Hadiya Pendleton (born: June 2, 1997), people across the United States will recognize National Gun Violence Awareness Day and wear orange in tribute to Hadiya Pendleton and other victims of gun violence and the loved ones of those victims; and

WHEREAS, the idea was inspired by a group of Hadiya's friends, who asked their classmates to commemorate her life by wearing orange; they chose this color because hunters wear orange to announce themselves to other hunters when out in the woods, and orange is a color that symbolizes the value of human life; and

WHEREAS, anyone can join this campaign by pledging to wear orange on June 5th, the first Friday in June 2026, to help raise awareness about gun violence; and

WHEREAS, by wearing orange on June 5, 2026 people across the United States will raise awareness about gun violence and honor the lives of gun violence victims and survivors; and

WHEREAS, we renew our commitment to reduce gun violence and pledge to do all we can to keep firearms out of the hands of people who should not have access to them and encourage responsible gun ownership to help keep our families and communities safe.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, THAT MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL OF WASHINGTON GROVE *declare the first Friday in June, June 5, 2026, to be Gun Violence Awareness Day. We*

encourage all citizens to support their local communities' efforts to prevent the tragic effects of gun violence and to honor and value human lives.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in demonstration of the Town's commitment to National Gun Violence Awareness Day and the victims of gun violence, that orange lights be in evidence in the Town gazebo for the 3 nights June 4 through June 6, 2020.

Proclaimed this 18th day of May, 2026

Return to the Table of Contents

Calendar for June 2026

TOWN OF WASHINGTON GROVE JUNE 2026 MEETINGS AND EVENTS			
June 1	Monday	7:30 p.m.	Playground Committee, Zoom
June 1	Monday	7:30 p.m.	Woods Committee, Zoom
June 2	Tuesday	7:30 p.m.	Sustainability Committee, Zoom
June 3	Wednesday	7:30 p.m.	Planning Commission, Zoom
June 5-7	Fri-Sun	All Day	National Gun Violence Awareness Weekend
June 7	Sunday	3 p.m.	Acorn Library Story Time
June 8	Monday	7:30 p.m.	Regular Town Council Meeting, McCathran Hall/Zoom
June 9	Tuesday	7:30 p.m.	Lake Committee, Zoom
June 12	Friday	7 p.m.	Film Society Presents, "The Social Network," McCathran Hall
June 13	Saturday	6:30 p.m.	Music Weekend Karaoke Night, McCathran Hall
June 14	Sunday	10 a.m.	Music Weekend Jazz Brunch
June 14	Sunday	3 p.m.	Acorn Library Story Time
June 15	Monday	7:30 p.m.	Playground Committee
June 15	Monday		Maple Lake Open for Daily Use
June 16	Tuesday	7:30 p.m.	Historic Preservation Commission, Zoom
June 17	Wednesday	7:30 p.m.	Recreation Committee
June 17	Wednesday	7:30 p.m.	Meadows Committee, Zoom
June 21	Sunday	3 p.m.	Acorn Library Story Time
June 24	Wednesday	7:30 p.m.	Lighting Committee, Zoom
June 25	Thursday	7:30 p.m.	MC Police: Safety and Security Presentation, Zoom
June 28	Sunday	3 p.m.	Acorn Library Story Time

Return to the Table of Contents

Copyright © 2026 Town of Washington Grove, All rights reserved.

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can update your preferences or unsubscribe from this list.