



in Gaithersburg



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City Officials

To contact these officials,
e-mail cityhall@gaitthersburgmd.gov



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From North – I-270 South, take Exit 11, Montgomery Village Avenue/MD-124. Turn left on Quince Orchard Road. At the 2nd traffic light turn right on North Frederick Avenue/MD355 South. At the 1st traffic light turn right on Perry Parkway, at traffic circle follow exit to continue on Perry Parkway. The hospital is approximately 1/2 mile on the right.



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Explore Urban Tree Canopies, Junior Mayors, North Gaithersburg, and so much more....

Municipal government is more than just recycling, street lights and playgrounds. In this edition of *inGaithersburg*, we invite you to explore more about your community, and how citizens and government interact to make Gaithersburg an enviable place to live and work.

Read about DDACTS, a Data Driven Approach to Crime and Traffic Safety, which allows Gaithersburg Police Officers to focus their attention on areas of concern.

Ever wonder what it means to be a "Tree City?" Gaithersburg has enjoyed that designation for 24 years. Learn how the City's arborist (yes, we have one on staff) oversees comprehensive programs to protect and enhance the urban tree canopy.

The new and improved gaithersburgmd.gov will debut soon. Enhanced navigation and a cleaner look will make it easy to find what you're looking for. Calendars that can be filtered to suit your interests, news stories graphically rotating on the front page, and an "Inside Gaithersburg" box that we can customize based on what people are searching for – these and many more features, including a new mobile version, put Gaithersburg at your fingertips, wherever you happen to be.

There's much more to explore in this issue, from a look back at where our Junior Mayors are now, to growth in the northernmost part of the City, to programs designed to enhance the financial wellness of some of our most vulnerable residents, setting them on a path to self-sufficiency.

You'll find it all
inGaithersburg!

Sincerely,
Sidney A. Katz
Mayor



The editorial content of *inGaithersburg* is produced by the Gaithersburg Department of Community & Public Relations
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5

DATA DRIVEN POLICING

A FOCUSED APPROACH TO PUBLIC SAFETY

Consider the volume of information now at the disposal of public safety officers. Streams of data coming in across in-car computers. Interagency communication from throughout the metropolitan region. Calls and e-mails from concerned citizens. And each bit has the potential to assist, prevent or solve a crime.

The Gaithersburg Police Department uses a variety of approaches to respond to calls for service and deal with issues affecting safety throughout the City. Operating under a Data Driven Approach to Crime and Traffic Safety (DDACTS), the Department identifies problem areas using data and follows up to ensure that police resources are dedicated to the appropriate locations. Data collection, followed by the meticulous analysis and deployment of resources based upon problematic areas, is at the core of the DDACTS approach.

“While technology has certainly increased the volume of information received, there is no substitute for the human interpretation of what a bit of data might mean, and how it can be used in the field,” says Gaithersburg Police Chief Mark Sroka.

Receiving and compiling data is the responsibility of Crime Analyst Elena Ingram. “With mapping tools and other technologies we are able to geographically represent crime data down to a specific community, looking at trends over time to assist us in focusing our efforts,” says Ingram. “Improving technology has really changed how we view the City, and how we make the



In-car computers are an integral part of DDACTS – Data Driven Approach to Crime and Traffic Safety

best use of the men and women in the Department.”

“Each day during roll call, I can project information onto a screen for the officers to review,” says Sergeant Beth Quinlan. “This allows our shift to see the type, frequency and location of crimes that have been occurring, which means that we can then strategically position ourselves for maximum effectiveness.”

Traffic data is also analyzed regularly. Repeated accidents or incidents

at specific intersections might call out the need for extra attention during patrols, especially when those incidents overlap geographically with crime statistics. “Initiatives to increase awareness of driver and pedestrian safety through education and enforcement often result from our analysis of which intersections present the greatest challenges,” said Chief Sroka.

In the summer of 2013, the Gaithersburg Police Department announced

the creation of a three-person Community Action Team (CAT). Working during peak periods of crime, CAT is designed for deployment into targeted communities throughout the City where data indicates need for attention. CAT is well integrated into the Department's overall mission of geographically-based community policing.

CAT works under the direction of the Operations Bureau Commander and is considered to be a proactive team. They are not dispatched to respond to calls for service like patrol officers are, allowing them to focus their attention on Part 1 Crimes (robberies, aggravated assaults, rapes, homicides, car thefts, etc.), and concerns voiced by citizens for what are known as "Quality of Life" calls (trespassing, disorderly conduct, public drunkenness, etc.).

"Having the ability to deploy a proactive team to provide ongoing attention, often with short notice and without impacting staffing of our patrol shifts, is an integral part of community policing," said Operations Bureau Commander, Lieutenant Robert Wilkes.



Corporal Chris Jones reviews crime data during a daily roll call with the patrol shift.

CITY OF GAITHERSBURG/DAN LANE

The City of Gaithersburg Police Department is now on Twitter and Facebook. Follow @GPDnews for accurate and timely information, including crime tips, public safety issues, investigations, and current activities.

Some examples of CAT in action include:

- According to a July 2013 report, CAT received information about two suspicious individuals in front of a convenience store. The team responded and observed the two individuals matching the description. When stopped, one of the individuals was found to be armed with a pellet gun. It was believed that this individual may have been getting ready to rob the store or its patrons.

- In a September 2013 report, CAT responded to concerns from local residents about trespassing, alcohol violations and littering in Blohm Park. CAT conducted foot patrols in the area that resulted in the issuance of four criminal citations and five notices informing the individuals that they had been banned from the property.

"Looking at the numbers, listening to what our residents are telling us and what the officers observe during their tour of duty gives us the ability to effectively enhance the quality of life in Gaithersburg," says Chief Sroka.

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CITY YOUTH MAKING GAITHERSBURG A BETTER PLACE

JUNIOR MAYOR PROGRAM ENGAGES YOUNG LEADERS



JACOB LEVINE

Current Junior Mayor Jacob Levine receives his official name badge on his first day in office at the 2013 State of the City address.



MAYA WALKER

Since serving as 2012 Junior Mayor, Maya Walker enjoys traveling. She spent Thanksgiving in California, where she is considering attending a university.



ESTHER QUINONEZ

Esther Quinonez leads the Pledge of Allegiance during the City's 2010 Memorial Day Observance, just one of the many special events the Junior Mayors attend.



JAZMINE YAMBO

2009 Junior Mayor Jazmine Yambo is all smiles during a City Council meeting with Mayor Sidney Katz.

They may need a step stool to reach the microphone and someone to drive them to special events, but that doesn't mean they don't have a lot to say. Whether it's the environment or homelessness or even community safety, no issue is too big for Gaithersburg's Junior Mayor.

The program first began in 2007 as an offshoot of the "If I Were Mayor" statewide essay contest that teaches students how municipal government works, sponsored by the Maryland Municipal League in partnership with the Maryland Mayors' Association, Injured Workers' Insurance Fund and Local Government Insurance Trust. Every year, fourth graders across Maryland "think like a Mayor" and share how they would engage their community to make it a better place.

Taking this program one step further, members of the City's Educational

Enrichment Committee review all entries submitted by City residents and narrow them down to a small group of finalists who participate in a videotaped panel interview. From there, one winner is chosen to represent Gaithersburg youth for a year.

"The Junior Mayor program promotes the value of civil service and volunteerism and fosters the importance of involved youth who impact the community in a positive way," shares Gaithersburg Mayor Sidney A. Katz. "The hands-on experience these students gain complements what they're learning in school and gives them a good understanding of the inner workings of local government."

One would think kids of this age might only be concerned about the menu in the school cafeteria or extending recess, but essays addressing hunger, public safety, bullying, and jobs

reveal the important topics they really want to talk about.

In her 2010 essay, former Junior Mayor Esther Quinonez voiced, "If I were mayor, I would help the jobless people in the community." Esther, now an 8th grader taking honors classes at Lakelands Park Middle School, suggested free tutoring, English classes, and transportation as ways to assist those seeking employment.

Being Junior Mayor comes with a full agenda, as he or she participates alongside the Mayor and City Council in a number of special events and programs throughout the year. The skills acquired from partaking in this engaging civics program help further the students throughout their academic career.

"I learned to overcome my fear of speaking in front of a large group of people," says 2009 Junior Mayor Jazmine Yambo, now a freshman at

Gaithersburg High School who is on the honor roll and whose interests include photography. An exemplary student, Jazmine takes all honors and AP classes and wants to learn Korean or Mandarin.

In addition to learning speech delivery techniques and how government works, 2012 winner Maya Walker also learned valuable leadership skills. "I try to be a leader in many ways," says Maya, now a 6th grader at Gaithersburg Middle School. "I like trying to motivate other kids and help them with schoolwork when it's hard for them." Jazmine also shares, "Whenever my friends have a problem, I help them work it out."

Although their "terms" have ended, these former Junior Mayors continue to be involved in their community. "Being a Junior Mayor taught me how to volunteer my time," says Maya, who is also a member of the Yearbook Club. When she is not out in the community volunteering, Maya donates books, toys and clothing to others in need. "I'm always looking for ways to make things easier or brighter around school or home."

Current Junior Mayor Jacob Levine reflects on his term, which expires this spring when he'll hand off the gavel to

JUNIOR MAYORS

- 2007 - Jameka Watts**
- 2008 - Andy Sanchez**
- 2009 - Jazmine Yambo**
- 2010 - Esther Quinonez**
- 2011 - Emmanuel Afriyie**
- 2012 - Maya Walker**
- 2013 - Jacob Levine**

the next ambitious fourth grader. "Being Mayor can be fun," says Jacob, now a fifth grader at Diamond Elementary School where he is a Safety Patrol Lieutenant and a reading buddy. "Attending all of the community events has made me aware of everything that goes on in the City of Gaithersburg."

Jacob had the unique opportunity to honor his great grandfather, who served during World War II, in special remarks he composed for the City's Memorial Day observance. "My great-grandfather drove a Sherman Tank," wrote Jacob. "I was super-lucky to go to the museum with him and ride on the tank. That was truly the great-

est experience I have ever had and was so special to share with my great-grandfather. I am proud of my great-grandfather because he saved so many lives."

When he's not busy leading the Pledge of Allegiance, riding in parades or delivering remarks at City events, Jacob enjoys playing the saxophone, reading, writing, and working on his own comic book.

So, what advice do these former Junior Mayors have for their successors? "Be creative and be yourself, because only you can pursue what you want in life," offers Esther. Jacob advises, "Attend all of the events you are invited to because it's a lot of fun and teaches you the importance of being involved in your community." "Enjoy every second of it because you will miss it when it's over," says Jazmine.

To all future Junior Mayors, Maya recommends, "Stand tall, wear nice clothes, and live it up - it's going to be a fun year." Good advice to all, Junior Mayor or not.

For more information on the Junior Mayor program, contact Gaithersburg's Community Services Division at 301-258-6395 or visit www.gaithersburgmd.gov.



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NORTH GAITHERSBURG — AN ECONOMIC ENGINE FOR THE CITY

Developers and property owners near the new interchange at I-270 and Watkins Mill Road are betting that employers, homeowners and shoppers will welcome the convenience of easy access off the twelve lane behemoth that runs through Gaithersburg.

“We knew that the prospect of the interchange would spur development,” said Gaithersburg’s Economic Development Director, Tom Lonergan. “Yet even before a single shovel has hit the ground to build the exit, we’re already seeing the tangible signs of its impact.”

All of north Gaithersburg, the area above Quince Orchard Road/Montgomery Village Avenue, hugging both sides of I-270, has experienced resurgence in recent years. Spectrum, Parklands and Watkins Mill Town Center are blossoming along East and West Watkins Mill Road, welcoming residents and businesses to bustling new neighborhoods.

Kaiser Permanente’s largest facility in Maryland occupies a nearly 200,000 square foot office building that sits just behind the newly opened Hampton Inn & Suites (or actually in front when you eventually get off at the new interchange).

The Humane Society of the United States, nestled into a wooded area at the end of Professional Drive, recently received approval to move forward with a sketch plan that paves the way for the possible use of the property for its national headquarters, but also provides the option to accommodate both commercial and residential uses. Developing a “signature” building visible from the interchange that would



COURTESY OF AECOM © DON PEARCE PHOTOGRAPHERS, INC.

Kaiser Permanente’s largest facility in Maryland sits at what will be the new exit at Watkins Mill Road off I-270.

help define Gaithersburg was part of the discussion.

Lockheed Martin, which sits on 44 acres of prime real estate along Rt. 355, has been an employment powerhouse in Gaithersburg since the mid 1960’s. The company is consolidating employees from other facilities to this easily accessible location.

And IBM, which acquired the property at the corner of Rt. 355 and Montgomery Village Avenue in 1962, recently announced it will be closing the property in 2016, and is brokering the site to buyers for possible redevelopment.

“It’s hard to overstate the importance of this geographical quadrant to the health of Gaithersburg’s economy,” said Lonergan. “It is a center of employment, and is one of the largest remaining industrial zones in the City.”

By rough count, in the commercial corridor along Rt. 355 north of Mont-



The Humane Society of the United States is considering uses for its property on Professional Drive, including a possible headquarters building.

gomery Village Avenue and east of I-270, there is about 1.8 million square feet of commercial space in nearly 20 corporate buildings, with 85 different companies employing more than 3,085 people.

“Just a few years ago, Professional Drive led Gaithersburg in commercial vacancy rates at just over 20%. I’m happy to report that as of late December, 2013, that number was down to just 6.5%,” said Lonergan.

Grow Gaithersburg

Debuting soon:

www.growgaithersburg.com, a new website focusing on Economic Development in Gaithersburg. Here you'll find information on available commercial properties, the local workforce, and programs that help businesses grow in Gaithersburg.



The north east quadrant of Gaithersburg is home to about 1.8 million square feet of commercial space and more than 3,000 employees.

Recognizing the advantages of a Gaithersburg address, Emergent BioSolutions announced last fall that it will be relocating its corporate headquarters to Professional Drive, purchasing a 130,000 square foot office building adjacent to its existing 48,000 square foot research facility. With anticipated growth in the next five years, Emergent expects to employ 370 people in Gaithersburg. The pharmaceutical company develops specialized biodefense products to address medical needs and emerging health threats, and recently announced the \$222 million acquisition of Canadian based Cangene, resulting in additional U.S. government procured therapeutics.

“Emergent is making the move with the assistance of economic development incentive funding from the City of Gaithersburg, Montgomery County and the State of Maryland,” said Lonergan. “It is the perfect example of how the use of incentive funding for targeted industries to assist with space improvements and other costs can result in the attraction of meaningful employers, further distinguishing Gaithersburg as the region’s premier place to do business.”

The interchange at I-270 and Watkins Mill Road is expected to cost \$165 million.

With \$40 million pledged early in 2013, and Governor Martin O’Malley pledging an additional \$125 million from the gas tax for final design and construction, the project is poised to begin.

Once an Indian trail, and later a major road west, Rt. 355 has long been an important path through Gaithersburg. Now with the coming of major employers, neighborhoods teeming with new residents, and the unique dining, retail and service businesses that support them, the northern stretch of Rt. 355 in Gaithersburg is no longer just a throughway. It is the destination.

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FINANCIAL WELLNESS RESOURCES *in* Gaithersburg



Graduates celebrate the completion of a Job Readiness course conducted by Interfaith Works. From left: Maria Perez, Martha Yeboaa, Outreach Coordinator/Translator Priscila da Rocha, Akpeyedje Degbe, Vocational Counselor Janel Thompson, Makale Sy, and Early Head Start Coordinator Marlene Clark.

According to the 2012 Montgomery County Self-Sufficiency Study, published by Montgomery County's Community Action Agency, a family of two adults with two children needs to make in excess of \$89,000 a year to live in Montgomery County without any form of public assistance.

Job loss, housing stress, medical issues, underemployment, insufficient language skills – all of these can present roadblocks to attaining financial wellness. Fortunately there are a number of resources in Gaithersburg to help individuals and families gain a foothold.



Free credit counseling is an integral part of the annual Montgomery County Housing Fair. The next one will be held on Saturday, May 3 at the Activity Center at Bohrer Park.

“The journey to financial wellness takes commitment, education, and, at times, emergency support,” says Gaithersburg Community Services Division Manager Maureen Haddon. “Ongoing career and academic training, living wage employment, and access to high level English and literacy classes are all critical components as residents strive to attain financial self-sufficiency.”

Through partnerships with the member agencies of the Gaithersburg Coalition of Providers, the City of Gaithersburg participates in and helps fund a range of programs that provide tools for residents to use as they work to advance their educa-

tion and income and develop sound income management skills.

The case study of Mrs. Z demonstrates how a continuum of services provided the opportunity for someone to take charge of her own life.

Mrs. Z was referred to the Housing Counseling Program at Family Services, Inc. by her therapist. She'd been jobless for three years after having worked as an accountant for 30 years. She was depressed, with a high level of stress that manifested itself in physical issues.

Her limited savings were being quickly depleted by rent, utility, insurance and car payments. But she was too ashamed to ask for help.

"When Mrs. Z came to me, we had a long talk about her situation and what steps we can take to help," said Housing Counselor Lucia Torres. "With these cases, you need to look at everything going on in the client's life, and then develop a plan of action that is realistic and attainable."

Torres and a Financial Literacy worker collaborated and began developing a monthly budget while suggesting that family resources be explored. Mrs. Z was advised to pay her bills with her remaining

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savings, and was referred to Montgomery County Social Services to apply for eviction prevention support. She was also referred to Gaithersburg HELP, a nonprofit organization that helps with prescription assistance and food, and to Interfaith Works for vocational counseling. Financial literacy classes were recommended through the Bank On Gaithersburg program, which offers no cost checking and savings accounts

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and free financial education. Mrs. Z followed up with all of these referrals.

Montgomery County Social Services and the Upper Montgomery Assistance Network provided emergency funding to prevent her eviction. She concentrated on her budgeting and her job search, and is now working part time and proud to say that she is up to date with all of her bills. Under less stress, Mrs. Z says she's taking less medicine for depression, and she's now sleeping better and has more energy.

"These are the cases that give us hope," says Herndon. "We know that self-sufficiency is attainable. It just takes commitment and creative thinking, with government agencies and nonprofits working together with the client to achieve it."

See **FINANCIAL**, page 18


Compassionate Care

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Kitty Raichura, DVM, CVA**

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The City's new website will feature a streamlined design with better organization and easier navigation.



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to all of these e-services will soon be at your fingertips.

The City's commitment to excellent customer service goes beyond face to face interactions. There are a number of online e-services that make doing business with the City fast, efficient and convenient.

Customers can register for recreation classes, programs and events using RecXpress, order recycling containers, submit service requests, pay speed camera and parking tickets issued by the City, and sign up for emergency and other City communications.

Alert Gaithersburg, the City's emergency notification system, delivers important messages and timely updates simultaneously to registered e-mail accounts, smartphones and other devices. Subscribers receive instant alerts such as weather warnings, traffic and road closures and emergency status updates.

To further enhance electronic communications, the City recently launched the new inGaithersburg newsletter, highlighting City news and events in an easy-to-read format delivered to subscribers each week.

"We're making strides to ensure that however you want and need to interact with your local municipal government, you have the tools to do so," said Director of Community and Public Relations, Britta Monaco. "This weekly newsletter is just one more way for us to help Gaithersburg residents and businesses connect with their community."

In addition to headline news, inGaithersburg Weekly also features quick links to upcoming meetings, program registration, special announcements, and more. Subscription options also include an economic development newsletter and e-mail updates when new employment and bid opportunities are posted.

Last year the City of Gaithersburg was the only government in Maryland and one of just 115 government entities nationwide to earn a perfect score or "A" transparency grade by the wiki site, Sunshine Review. Efforts to enhance that transparency were recently made with a new e-service that allows the public to track development activity within Gaithersburg by reviewing permits and plans and following them through the entire review process.

Connecting to these e-services will be easy with the all new gaithersburgmd.gov.

The City's newly redesigned and restructured website will boast effortless



navigation and a cleaner image. With the major overhaul nearing completion, the scope of the project encompasses the deployment of a new content management system to meet the needs of today's computer savvy community.

Visitors will immediately note that the website has a whole new look and feel. Prominent images will highlight programs, events and activities on a rotating carousel on the homepage, providing a visual reflection of what's going on in the City on a daily basis.

The homepage will also emphasize key initiatives such as online permitting, strategic direction updates, budget comment opportunities, and how to subscribe to e-mail services. Easy access to items most commonly requested, including meeting minutes, City projects, employment information, and bids and RFPs, as well as headline news and the City's calendar of events, will all be highlighted.

Not only will the new website have more visual appeal, it will also take fewer clicks to find what you're looking for. "Organizationally, we've moved the website

from a departmental model to a service model," says Monaco. "Understanding that a site visitor may not intuitively know that a particular service lives within a certain department, instead we created a drop down menu for services to allow for seamless navigation."

Better search capabilities further enhance the experience, with the ability to now search by date and type. "A new robust calendar with filtering options will make it easier than ever to figure out what you want to do in Gaithersburg," Monaco says.

Significant changes go beyond the desktop experience. The website upgrade incorporates responsive design, allowing it to be automatically formatted for a variety of devices including smartphones and tablets.

"In this day and age, when users are increasingly accessing information while on the go, it was essential to make use of responsive design," explains Web Administrator Jeff Baldwin. "By eliminating certain elements of the desktop version such as extraneous images and heavy graphics, smartphone and tablet users will have access to all the core information in a much more efficient way."

The integration of emergency notifications and social networking tools within the new website will further connect users to up-to-the-minute information. Alert Gaithersburg updates will be prominently featured on the homepage. Twitter feeds and Facebook page links will be displayed on appropriate content pages, and a media library complete with photos and YouTube videos will provide easy access to multi-media materials.

A brand new economic development website is also being developed and will debut following the launch of the new City website. Look for growgaithersburg.com soon.

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INVESTING IN OUR ENVIRONMENT

ENVIRONMENT

REFORESTATION EFFORTS *in* Gaithersburg

You are probably familiar with the City of Gaithersburg logo. Whether seeing it on a City street sign or flipping through a City publication, the distinct outline of an oak tree encircled by the letter G is hard to miss. While this symbol represents the famed Forest Oak tree, a landmark that was felled by a storm 17 years ago, it also epitomizes the environmental standards the City has adopted and its investment in a healthy and robust urban tree canopy.

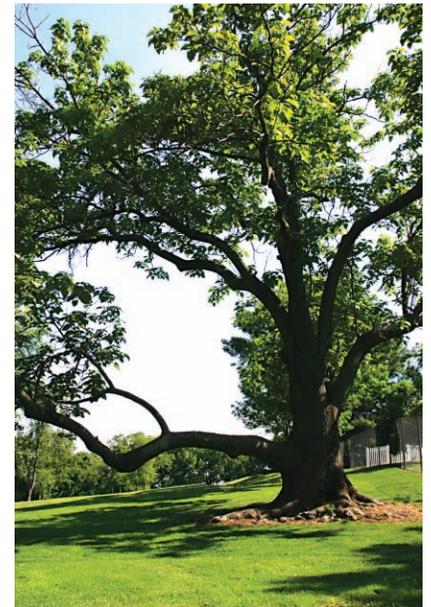
Named a “Tree City USA” for 24 consecutive years by the National Arbor Day Foundation, Gaithersburg is recognized for its commitment to the environment and its aggressive approach to preserving and enhancing its urban forest. To qualify for this special designation, the City has to meet four national standards, including having a tree board or department, having a tree care ordinance, maintaining a comprehensive community forestry program, and celebrating Arbor Day with an observance.

Meeting these standards is no easy task, but the benefits make it all worthwhile. “Trees not only improve the overall quality of life, they help clean the air, regulate temperatures, filter water, help to reduce runoff, and provide habitats for birds, animals and insects,” say Public Works Operations Administrator Adam Newhart. “Also, trees can add to property value and they are very effective at reducing noise pollution in urban areas.”

Newhart, a certified arborist and qualified tree risk assessor, assists the City’s Landscape and Forestry team with selecting and ordering trees, works to find areas where new trees can be planted, and investigates tree



Students plant trees in Malcolm King Park as part of a grant from the Governor’s Stream Restoration Challenge.



The award-winning Royal Paulownia on the grounds of Bohrer Park was named Maryland State Champion in 2012 for being the largest of its species in the state.

issues on City owned property. With several thousand trees lining Gaithersburg streets and thousands more in public spaces, it is the City’s goal to inspect all trees every three years, with routine pruning maintenance as needed. “We also rely on the public for many immediate issues that arise, whether it is a broken branch or a thunderstorm bringing a tree to the ground,” says Newhart. “It’s important that we act quickly to make the area safe.”

In 2012, Gaithersburg was awarded \$72,000 from the Governor’s Stream Restoration Challenge, a competitive grant program to establish 1,000 acres of stream-side forests in Maryland by 2015. As part of the grant, the City and the Audubon Naturalist Society are working with the Gaithersburg High School ESOL Student Service Learning Club, City of Gaithersburg High School Student Union, Identity, Inc., Muddy Branch Alliance, Kentlands Go Green Group, and Asbury’s Beloved Commu-

nity, to plant five acres of trees along Muddy Branch. The initiative is designed to improve water quality on this important stream that flows through Gaithersburg into the Potomac River.

New trees will help reduce the amount of pollutants that enter Muddy Branch and will help provide additional filtration for runoff. The trees and their root systems also prevent erosion by stabilizing the stream bank and their shade improves the stream for wildlife.

The reforestation project is not only vital to the City’s environmental health, it also serves as a teaching tool, engaging the next generation in conservation awareness and action as they participate in community tree plantings.

See **ENVIRONMENT**, page 19

RESOURCES & FACILITIES

Gaithersburg City Hall

31 S. Summit Ave. 20877-2038
301-258-6300
Fax: 301-948-6149
TDD/TTY: 301-258-6430
www.gaithersburgmd.gov
cityhall@gaiithersburgmd.gov

Office of the City Manager

301-258-6310
cityhall@gaiithersburgmd.gov

Planning & Code Administration

301-258-6330
plancode@gaiithersburgmd.gov

Animal Control 301-258-6343

Commercial & Residential Inspections

Automated Scheduling 301-258-6338

Commercial, Residential & Fire Systems

Plan Review 301-258-6330

Environmental Services 301-258-6330

Neighborhood Services 301-258-6340

Passports 301-258-6330

Permits & Licenses 301-258-6330

Planning & Zoning 301-258-6330

Rental Housing & Landlord Tenant

Affairs 301-258-6340

Community & Public Relations

Public Information

301-258-6310
cityhall@gaiithersburgmd.gov

Community Services

One Wells Ave. 20877-2071
301-258-6395

Homeless Services- Wells/Robertson House

One Wells Ave. 20877-2071
301-258-6390

Finance & Administration

301-258-6320
finance@gaiithersburgmd.gov

Information Technology

301-258-6325
it@gaiithersburgmd.gov



Gaithersburg City Hall

Human Resources

301-258-6327
hr@gaiithersburgmd.gov

Gaithersburg Police

14 Fulks Corner Ave. 20877-2066
Non-emergencies: 301-258-6400
Emergencies: 911
police@gaiithersburgmd.gov

Public Works

800 Rabbitt Rd. 20878-1600
301-258-6370
publicworks@gaiithersburgmd.gov

Parks, Recreation & Culture

506 S. Frederick Ave. 20877-2325
301-258-6350
Fax: 301-948-8364
TDD/TTY: 301-519-2828
parksrec@gaiithersburgmd.gov

FACILITIES

*Activity Center at Bohrer Park, Summit Hall Farm

506 S. Frederick Ave. 20877-2325
301-258-6350
parksrec@gaiithersburgmd.gov

Aquatics

*Gaithersburg Aquatic Center

(indoor – temporarily closed for repairs)
2 Teachers Way 20877-3423
301-258-6345
aquatics@gaiithersburgmd.gov

Water Park (outdoor - seasonal)

512 S. Frederick Ave. 20877-2325
301-258-6445
waterpark@gaiithersburgmd.gov

Continued on the next page >



Kentlands Mansion

***Arts Barn**

311 Kent Square Rd. 20878-5727
301-258-6394
artsbarn@gaithersburgmd.gov

***Casey Community Center**

810 S. Frederick Ave. 20877-4102
301-258-6366
caseycomm@gaithersburgmd.gov

***Community Museum**

9 S. Summit Ave. 20877-2071
301-258-6160
parksrec@gaithersburgmd.gov

***Concert Pavilion at City Hall** (seasonal)

31 S. Summit Ave. 20877-2038
301-258-6350

***Gaithersburg Upcounty Senior Center**

80A Bureau Dr. 20878-1430
301-258-6380
srcenter@gaithersburgmd.gov

**Gaithersburg Youth Centers
Olde Towne**

301 Teachers Way, 20877-3422
301-258-6440
yc-oldetowne@gaithersburgmd.gov



Arts Barn

Robertson Park

801 Rabbitt Rd. 20878-1657
301-258-6166
yc-robertson@gaithersburgmd.gov

***Kentlands Mansion**

320 Kent Square Rd. 20878-5726
301-258-6425
kentlandsmansion@gaithersburgmd.gov

***Miniature Golf Course** (seasonal)

514 S. Frederick Ave. 20877-2325
301-258-6420
minigolf@gaithersburgmd.gov

***Skate Park** (seasonal)

510 S. Frederick Ave. 20877-2325
301-258-6350
skatepark@gaithersburgmd.gov

*Rental opportunities for meetings & social events



Water Park



Miniature Golf Course

FINANCIAL, continued from page 13

Financial Wellness Resources
Free to Those Who Qualify

English/Literacy, Vocational Counseling & Training, Youth Employment

- English and literacy classes (some are fee-based)
- One-on-one vocational counseling and workshops
- Employment listings and financial aid programs
- Summer youth employment fair and summer job training

Financial Assistance, Housing & Financial Counseling

- Funding for eviction prevention and utility cut-offs
- Budgeting, credit and banking workshops
- Housing counseling and foreclosure prevention
- Homeownership incentive and MPDU programs

- Free income tax preparation and information on the Earned Income Tax Credit program

For information on area resources and financial wellness programs, contact the City of Gaithersburg Community Services Division at communityservices@gaithersburgmd.gov or 301-258-6395 x1.

CELEBRATE SPRING AND SUMMER

FOR A COMPREHENSIVE LIST OF EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES
VISIT WWW.GAITHERSBURGM.D.GOV

inGaithersburg



St. Patrick's Day Parade

St. Patrick's Day Parade

March 15, 10 a.m.
Rio Washingtonian Center

Young Artist Award Concert

March 22, 7:30 p.m.
Asbury Methodist Village

Multicultural Health Fair

April 5, Noon – 5 p.m.
Activity Center at Bohrer Park

Environmental Awareness Week

April 5 – 11
Various Locations

Bike Rodeo

April 12, Noon – 2 p.m.
Bohrer Park at Summit Hall Farm

Montgomery County Housing Fair

May 3, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Activity Center at Bohrer Park

Kentlands Day Celebration

May 3, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Kentlands Main Street Area

Paws in the Park Dog Walk & Fest

May 4, Noon – 4 p.m.
Bohrer Park at Summit Hall Farm

Active Aging Expo

May 5, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Activity Center at Bohrer Park

Bike to Work Day

May 16, 7–9 a.m.
Great Seneca Hwy.
& Orchard Ridge Dr.

Gaithersburg Book Festival

May 17, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.
City Hall Grounds

Gaithersburg Chorus Spring Concert

May 17 & 18, 7:30 p.m.
May 20, 7 p.m.
St. John Neumann Catholic Church/Asbury Methodist Village

Memorial Day Observance

May 30, 11 a.m.
Christman Park

Jubilation Day Gospel Celebration

May 31, 3:30 – 8:30 p.m.
City Hall Concert Pavilion

Celebrate Gaithersburg in Olde Towne Street Festival

June 8, Noon – 5 p.m.
Summit & Diamond Avenues

4th of July Fireworks & Concert

7 – 10:30 p.m.
Montgomery County Fairgrounds

SportsFest

July 19, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Bohrer Park at Summit Hall Farm

National Night Out Against Crime

August 5, 6 – 8 p.m.
Various Neighborhoods

Montgomery County Agricultural Fair

August 8 – 16
Montgomery County Fairgrounds

Kentlands/Lakelands 5K & Senior Olympics Qualifier

August 30, 8 a.m.
Market Square

Labor Day Parade

September 1, 1 p.m.
Olde Towne

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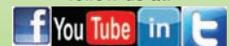
 Gaithersburg-Germantown Chamber of Commerce, Inc.

Discover what the GGCC can do for you at:

ggchamber.org
or by calling

301.840.1400

follow us at:



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ENVIRONMENT, continued from page 16

“The students have benefited both socially and academically by taking part in the plantings,” says Parks and Recreation Community Facility Manager Maura Dinwiddie. “It’s particularly important for the newest members of our community to have opportunities to get involved, make new friends and enjoy nature while contributing to a bigger cause.”

The students learn about tree site selection, the public comment process and environmental stewardship while giving back to their community as they dig, move soil, mulch, prepare planting sites, and plant trees in their own backyard. With 250 trees already planted, a total of 655 trees will be installed by project’s end.

With a comprehensive forestry program, it is the City’s goal to replace any tree that is removed. The type of tree planted is taken into consideration so it’s the right fit for the location. “We plant a broad variety of trees, especially when we do reforestation work in parks or wetland areas,” says Newhart. “The majority of the trees we plant are deciduous since most of the

tree work we do is in the public right-of-way.”

Depending on their size, tree removal on private property, including the relocation and topping of trees, requires a City permit. “We always recommend replanting a tree when possible, although care must be exercised in selecting the location and species,” says Newhart. City code also requires a historic area work permit for trees located on historically designated sites.

In addition to providing environmental benefits, a habitat for wildlife and natural beauty, trees can also honor loved ones and celebrate special occasions through the City’s Commemoration program. For a tax-deductible donation, the City will plant a young, native tree in a Gaithersburg park or public area, creating a lifetime memory that the entire community can enjoy.

For more information and to report tree issues please contact the Department of Public Works at 301-258-6370 or visit the City’s website at www.gaithersburgmd.gov.



the new gaithersburgmd.gov

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 - Class & Event Registration
 - Recycling Bin Requests
 - Parking Ticket Payment



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