

# Mount Airy Beautification Commission's "2016—Limited Edition" Town of Mount Airy Holiday Ornament



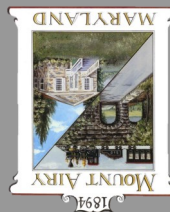
Limited Edition - 2016  
Town of Mount Airy  
Pewter Ornament  
featuring our  
"Town Seal"

In addition to working to continually improve the natural beauty of Mount Airy's Town parks, organizing the annual holiday decorations in Wildwood, Vest Pocket, East West Park, Mackenzie "the Caboose", and the Municipal Parking Lot, Beautification Commission members were asked by the Mayor to design a "Mount Airy Holiday Ornament" for the Town! Members worked with graphic designer, Jennifer Swanson to sort out the details of the design. Ms. Swanson is the designer of the Mount Airy Farmers Market Logo, Chili Cook-Off logos, etc. The 2-5/8" limited edition pewter ornaments will be made available to the public for purchase. More Town ornament information will be posted on the Town of Mount Airy website: [www.mountairymd.org](http://www.mountairymd.org).

Come out to volunteer to help the Beautification Commission beautify Town gardens, parks and help to decorate for the holidays. All are welcome! Like so many others, this Commission partners with individuals, community organizations, scout troops, and students working on service hours! If you have ideas to share, please come to a meeting. *The Beautification Commission meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at Town Hall.*

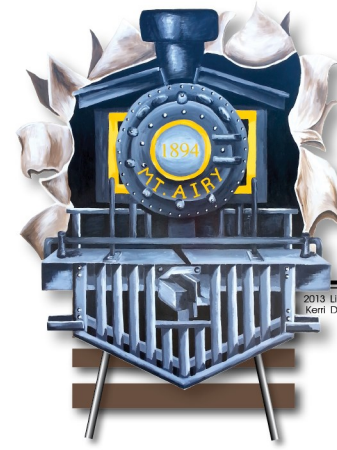


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THE TOWN OF  
MOUNT AIRY



# MOUNT AIRY TRACKS

A LOOK INTO OUR CHARMING TOWN

OCTOBER 2016

## MESSAGE FROM OUR MAYOR



All aboard the Fall Edition of *Mount Airy Tracks*, the Town of Mount Airy's publication for our town residents printed twice a year. The biggest excitement of the year, began in July with the hiring of our first Chief of Police, Mr. Doug Reitz. It will take several months before the Department will be ready to protect and enforce, but with the leadership of Chief Reitz and the support of Town Staff, we are dedicated and working incredibly hard to build this new department as soon as possible. What our community can expect to see change from this initiative is a greater focus on community policing. Through informative events, a police section on the town website, and Chief Reitz working with myself and the Town Council, we will ensure our Police are queued into the important issues to our residents all while effectively living out the new Department motto "Two Counties. One Community." A huge thank you to the Maryland State Police for their decades of dedicated service to the town! We look forward to a smooth transition and the continued support and coverage of the Maryland State Police.

The Partnership for a Healthier Carroll County has set up their "A Healthier Community is..." public chalk board next to Town Hall, from October 17 – October 31. The Partnership will be using this quantitative data for their future efforts to pursue a healthier county. Mount Airy is special place, representing both Frederick and Carroll Counties from our municipal limits. Our Frederick County residents are heard through this avenue too. Remember "Two Counties. One Community."

We proudly welcome several new businesses to town this year, all of which are listed in our convenient business directory located on the town website [www.mountairymd.org](http://www.mountairymd.org). The new Mt. Airy Health & Wellness Pavilion is an incredible example of a successful partnership development project between Carroll Hospital and Frederick Memorial Hospital. The Pavilion is able to bring more physicians, more specialists and more advanced health care services to Town!

Mayor's Community Forums are now held at the free standing Starbucks in the Mount Airy Shopping Center. The meeting is comfortable, informal, and many times one on one. Feel free to stop by and grab a cup of coffee! In this latest edition of *Mount Airy Tracks*, we hope you will get a better sense of your town and local government. If there is a topic that you would like to learn more about or a project that you are interested in, please call Town Hall at (301) 829-1424 or email me at [prockinberg@gmail.com](mailto:prockinberg@gmail.com).

Warmest Regards,  
Patrick T. Rockinberg, Mayor

## Community Events

**November 5, Fall Festival and Family Dinner** 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m., will be held at the American Legion Auxiliary Gold Star Unit 191. An evening of family fun including games, trivia, activities, crafts, make your own caramel apples, prizes, raffles & more! This is a free event, dinner is available for purchase.

**November 18, Holiday Preview** 5:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m., will be held Downtown. An evening of seasonal cheer, shopping, dining, hot cocoa, cookies, carriage rides, and entertainment by Dapper DJ. Sample wines from local vineyards while you shop!

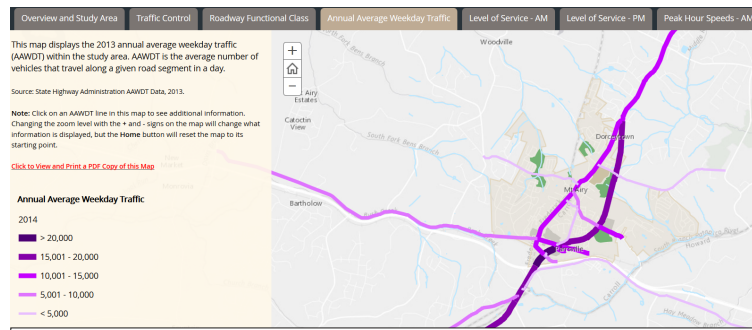
**November 20, Big Country Breakfast** 7:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m., will be held at the Mt. Airy Volunteer Fire Company Building.

**November 26, Small Business Saturday** This is the day to support local and celebrating the hometown heroes. Spending local, keeps more dollars local.

**December 3, A Main Street Christmas**, 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m., will be held Downtown. Twinkling Lights Santa Parade and Tree Lighting Ceremony with lighted floats, bands, fire trucks, choruses, dancers and of course, Santa himself! Visit with Santa in the Caboose after the tree lighting. Snow date is December 10.

**December 10 and 17, Santa Downtown** 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., held at Patapsco Bicycles. Visit with Santa at the bike shop!

**This is only a small sample of events in Town for the season, visit [www.mountairymd.org](http://www.mountairymd.org) for more event information.**



The Town looks forward to the consultants performing the MD Route 27 Corridor Study to schedule a second community meeting. This snapshot is from the website [www.route27corridorstudy.com](http://www.route27corridorstudy.com).

## MXD Draft Ordinance Nearing Completion

In a subcommittee group in 2014, the development of a new zoning classification to Mount Airy began called the Mixed Use District (MXD) Ordinance. It includes insights from Planning, Board of Appeals, Real Estate, and Development backgrounds to achieve a balanced zone that will ensure creative development scenarios, yet also compliment other areas of town. The October Planning Commission meeting will be reserved for a work session to wrap up comments, make final touches, and hopefully forward to the Town Council for introduction in November. As the Planning Commission is wrapping up the MXD, the Commission will be transitioning into working on the Sign Ordinance. A work session will be scheduled in the fall. The concept plans for Brittany Manor and Wildwood Park VII were approved at the April and August Planning Commission meetings. These proposed residential developments are planned for infill areas already existing within the town. Brittany Manor is a 73-unit single family development accessible from Back Acre Circle and Wildwood Park VII has proposed a section of 60-units of senior apartments or condominiums. *The Planning Commission meets on the last Monday of every month at 7:00 p.m. in Town Hall.*

## Economic Development

The Economic Development Commission has been studying the expansion of parking Downtown, with member Mr. Frank Dertzbaugh, providing a concept solution called “Esplanade Parking”. This term refers to a bridge of parking that would stretch from Hood Street to the “Caboose Parking Lot” behind the existing Downtown buildings along Hotel Street. This concept idea was brought before the Mayor and Town Council for their input. As a result, the Downtown Parking Committee was formed to continue the study to further identify the best area for additional parking, looking at six other potential areas. The Committee determined that multiple parking areas are needing to be constructed to address customer convenience and safety. New business incentives are being considered to offer assistance for businesses retention, expansion and attraction to Mount Airy. Business surveys are being generated for the Commission to study the best way to assist in the business incentive programs.

The December Business Card Exchange will be in Town Hall on Thursday, December 8, 2016 from 4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. All are welcome! *Economic Development meetings are on the 4th Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in Town Hall.*



## Streets and Roads Updates

Road repaving projects will occur at the end of the fiscal year, in the spring and summer of 2017. This year white and double yellow lines were able to be repainted. Lines are on the schedule for maintenance every two years. Those arrows and other road markings are on the schedule for later this year. A request was placed to the Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA) as to the difficulty with making a left turn from South Main Street onto Northbound Route 27. Confusion comes in from the two through lanes of oncoming traffic from the exit ramp of I-70 East coming into Town. The driver turning left from South Main Street can be confused by both lanes having the through designation. Mr. Larry Hushour, Chairman of the Board of Parks and Recreation has requested participation from the Streets and Roads Commission with the development a request to the SHA for funding of a pedestrian crossing on Route 27 at Center Street as part of the Rail Trail extended. Sabra, Wang & Associates Inc., the consultant performing the Route 27 Corridor Study hosted a community forum on June 15, 2016 at the Fireman’s Activities Building. Information on the project can be found via the new website [www.route27corridorstudy.com](http://www.route27corridorstudy.com). *The Streets and Roads Commission meet on the even numbered months on the 4th Thursday at 7:30 p.m.*

## Can I Flush this? Probably Not.

Companies promote flushable wipes, towelettes, cleansing cloths, kitty litter, diapers, etc. as convenient and safe. The Water & Sewer Commission reminds everyone that flushable simply means it will go down your toilet. It does not mean that it cannot clog your sewer line. A sewer line blockage can be expensive and extremely unpleasant. What can you do? Only flush toilet paper down the toilet. Toss wipes, towelettes, cleansing cloths, etc. into trash receptacles where they belong. It is as simple as that!



As an initiative to encourage economic development, the Commission reviewed current water usage and future demand to determine that approximately 81,000 gallons per day could be assigned by the Planning Commission to new development within the Town. The Town Council approved the recommendation. The Planning Commission will manage the assignment of the water to individual development and redevelopment projects. Join the Water and Sewer Commission today as a volunteer and help ensure that Mount Airy continues to provide one of the best water and sewer systems in the state. *Water and Sewer Commission meetings are held the 1st Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. in Town Hall.*

## Parks and Recreation

Reminder and Announcement: As of new Ordinance 2016-4, “the use of tobacco products and tobacco substitute products are prohibited in town parks, including the Town’s Rails to Trails pathways and associated properties.”

The Board of Parks and Recreation had a fun year of 5K’s and Fun Runs. The Board has created an Official 5K Route available for anyone who would like to start their own 5K event. The board is purchasing new route marker signs to pair with the Route.

We thank the Mount Airy Youth Athletic Association (MAYAA), Four County Little League (FCLL), and the Mount Airy Main Street Association (MAMSA) for hosting five movie nights this summer! It was a great season for outdoor films. The schedule for next year will be available in June! Have your community group host a movie night open to the public next year, sign-up before May! Contact Town Hall for inquiries at 301-829-1424. *The Board of Parks and Recreation meet on the 3rd Thursday of every month at 7:30 p.m. in Town Hall.*



## Recycling and Sanitation

For a Commission that only meets every other month, Recycling and Sanitation volunteers work hard and accomplish mountains of work each time they get together. Working with Ms. Annmarie Creamer, Frederick County’s Recycling Outreach Program Coordinator, the Commission is discussing a mobile app for Mount Airy residents. Frederick County residents already have the app available for download, called “My Waste” through Municipal Media Inc. There is a schedule feature to learn recycling pick-up dates, especially important for when a weekday holiday can change the normal schedule. Other features include, “What Goes Where?” for the user to search for a specific material to be disposed, such as batteries or Styrofoam. It will guide the user through the appropriate disposal process. Take the “Be a Better Recycler” Quiz or report a problem related to recycling and sanitation. Ms. Creamer reported “13,000 out of 76,000 Frederick County residents have downloaded the app already and the app is on their website, so those without a mobile device can still access it.”



Several residents have questioned the Town about the persistent delivery of free newspapers to mailboxes, driveways, yards, and sidewalks. The Town of Mount Airy advises any resident who wishes to stop receiving the newspapers to contact the paper directly and request to be removed from their distribution list.



Willow Creek Manor Farming at the new 15-week Main Street Farmers Market this spring and summer.

Chairman Jim Stargel has taken the initiative along with several members of the Commission to begin a Mount Airy “Green Team”. The goal is for the Town to become Sustainable Maryland Certified. Mount Airy would like to join other municipalities in Maryland to gain the designation, which will tally points toward the designation for new and existing programs in Mount Airy related to going green and saving money to sustain the quality of life for many generations to come. The Town is already going green through the Farmer’s Market program, hosting a local business directory, and other measures. *Recycling and Sanitation Commission meet on the odd numbered months every 3rd Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. in Town Hall. Green Team meetings are on the even numbered months at 7:00 p.m.*

## Remembering Back When

Circa 1912 was the old dairy located beside first firehouse. This was on the site of the existing parking lot for Olde Town Catering Co., the Upper Deck Sports Bar & Grille, Cryin’ Johnnies, and George’s Girls Jewelry & Repair.

