

Seat Pleasant News

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FEBRUARY 2016

celebrate **BLACK** history MONTH

“A people without the knowledge of their past history, origin and culture is like a tree without roots.” - Marcus Garvey

As many African Americans continue to make strides in our communities many would like to know what more can be done to improve on the lives of African Americans. Most cannot be done by one, but can be done by many. We must remembering that it takes a community to work together to make great advances.

Making sure that our required needs such as education are put first. There are many ways to learn about Black History, here are a few suggestions to help you and your family ;

1. Look for new published information such as 100 African Americans who shaped American history by Chrisanne Beckner. And the book for children is ABC's of African American Inventor's by Craig Thompson.
2. Listen to and study African American music that influenced American culture.
3. Visit an African American cultural institution or event in your town or city.

If you have any suggestions for programs, classes or city development please email Community Services at www.seatpleasantmd.gov.

City Center Plan from Council President Simms

The City Council of Seat Pleasant is planning to move forward and would like to ensure that the concerns and participation from you, the citizens of Seat Pleasant are incorporated with plans for economic development for a new Government Center. We are in the planning and development stages of this process. The City will hire an Architect, Professional Engineer and Planners to assist the Council, and the citizens of Seat Pleasant with their input with this project. The City is inviting the residents of Seat Pleasant to participate in the needs assessment for this project. We have successfully completed the new Police Department. We are proposing to develop and make use of the old Feggans Center site. This proposed project will consist of a Government and Commercial section, a new City Hall, new City Council Chamber, new multipurpose room (formally known as the Crystal Room) with a fully equipped commercial kitchen and classrooms. The concept plan is to have the commercial section of the building to assist in supporting the costs and operation of the Government Center. The charrettes dates are Monday , March 14, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. and Monday April 11, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

CITY OF SEAT PLEASANT

MAYOR

Eugene W. Grant

COUNCIL PRESIDENT

WARD I

Elenora Simms

WARD II COUNCILMEMBER

Aretha A. Stephenson

WARD III COUNCILMEMBER

Reveral L. Yeargin

WARD IV COUNCILMEMBER

Gerald R. Raynor, Sr.

WARD V COUNCILMEMBER

Eugene F. Kennedy

AT-LARGE COUNCILMEMBER

Johnie L. Higgs, Sr.

AT-LARGE COUNCILMEMBER

Kelly Porter

ACTING CITY ADMINISTRATOR

Robert L. Ashton

TREASURER

Robert L. Ashton

CHIEF OF POLICE

Christopher Cotillo

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

Johnny Thompson

CITY CLERK

Dashaun N. Lanham

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Tiffani Darby



And Black History Month Program

**Join Us for FREE family movie nights every month
Starting on February 19th
Each month we will showcase a family movie that everyone can enjoy.
Also get complimentary snacks while supplies last.**

A people without the knowledge of their past history, origin and culture is like a tree without roots."



SEAT PLEASANT ACTIVITY CENTER
5720 Addison Road, Seat Pleasant MD , 20743
Friday, February 19, 2016
at 6:30 p.m.



It's that time of the year again... Tax Season

AARP will be assisting seniors who need assistance filing their taxes. Registration will begin on Monday, January 18th, 2016. Only taxes from 2015 will be filed. Taxes will be prepared every Wednesday starting February 3, 2016. You must have an appointment in order to file your taxes. Please call Seat Pleasant City Hall at 301-336-2600 to schedule your session.

PLEASE JOIN US

As we celebrate our journey and accomplishments for Black History Month, The City of Seat Pleasant would like you to join us.

**We will visit
African American Civil War Memorial & Museum
on February 18th**

**The Newseum : 1966: Civil Rights at 50
on February 26th**

Seats are limited, please call 301-336-2600 to reserve your seat.



City of Seat Pleasant

Police Department

December 29, 2015

Dear Residents,

The city of Seat Pleasant Police Department is looking for self motivated, service oriented volunteers within the City to participate and become a part of the City of Seat Pleasant CERT (Citizen Emergency Response Team). CERT members will be called upon and activated to assist during any crisis and/or emergency event occurring within the city limits and as needed outside of the city.

CERT Training will be provided by the Prince George's County Office of Homeland Security. Attached are two forms. One is the training announcement and the other is for registration. This information is for Basic CERT training classes coming in February 2016 - Adult only, April 2016 - Spanish-speaking only, and June, 2016-Teen-only. Please register as early possible. As of right now all of the seats for these classes are currently available. We truly need our communities help to register and participate in this worthy cause.

Thank you in advance for your time and to those who chose to participate. If you have any other questions, issues, or concerns you can contact me directly at 301-499-8700 or contact Mr. James Morrow, Volunteer Services Coordinator, Prince George's County Office of Homeland Security, at 301-324-4342.

Sincerely,

Chief Chris Cotillo
City of Seat Pleasant Police Department.

PREPARING FOR A WINTER STORM



Winter storms can range from moderate snow to a blizzard that last for many days. The winter weather has the ability to knockout heat , power and communication services. To prepare for a winter storm you should do the following:

Before winter approaches, add the following supplies to your emergency kit:

- Rock salt or more environmentally safe products to melt ice on walkways
- Sand to improve traction
- Snow shovels and other snow removal equipment
- Sufficient heating fuel, like dry, seasoned wood for your fireplace or wood-burning stove
- Adequate clothing and blankets to keep you warm

Make a [Family Emergency Plan](#)—Your family may not be together when disaster strikes, so it is important to know how you will contact one another, how you will get back together and what you will do in case of an emergency

Listen to a [NOAA Weather Radio](#) or other local news channels for critical information from the National Weather Service (NWS). Be alert to changing weather conditions

- Minimize travel, but keep a disaster supplies kit in your vehicle
- Bring pets/companion animals inside during winter weather

Move other animals or livestock to sheltered areas with non-frozen drinking water

During the Winter Storm

- Stay indoors during the storm
- Walk carefully on snowy, icy, walkways
- Avoid overexertion when shoveling snow; overexertion can bring on a heart attack—a major cause of death in the winter if you must shovel snow, stretch before going outside
- Keep dry, and change wet clothing frequently to prevent a loss of body heat (wet clothing loses all of its insulating value and transmits heat rapidly)
- Watch for signs of frostbite: loss of feeling and white or pale appearance in extremities such as fingers, toes, ear lobes, and the tip of the nose. If symptoms are detected, get medical help immediately
- Watch for signs of hypothermia: uncontrollable shivering, memory loss, disorientation, incoherence, slurred speech,

(Continued on page 5)

drowsiness, and apparent exhaustion. If symptoms of hypothermia are detected, get the victim to a warm location,

- remove wet clothing, warm the center of the body first and give warm, non-alcoholic beverages if the victim is conscious.
- Get medical help as soon as possible
- Drive only if it is absolutely necessary. If you must drive: travel in the day; don't travel alone; keep others informed of your schedule; stay on main roads and avoid back road shortcuts
- Share your destination, your route, and when you expect to arrive. If your car gets stuck along the way, help can be sent along your predetermined route.
- If the pipes freeze, remove any insulation or layers of newspapers and wrap pipes in rags. Completely open all faucets and pour hot water over the pipes, starting where they were most exposed to the cold (or where the cold was most likely to penetrate)
- Maintain ventilation when using kerosene heaters to avoid build-up of toxic fumes
- Refuel kerosene heaters outside and keep them at least three feet from flammable objects
- Conserve fuel, if necessary, by keeping your residence cooler than normal. Temporarily close off heat to some rooms.
- If you will be going away during cold weather, leave the heat on in your home, set to a temperature no lower than 55 °F.

Source: NOAA.gov

HOW RESIDENTS CAN HELP IN INCLIMATE WEATHER

During the winter months, fire hydrants and catch basins must be kept free of snow and ice.

This ensures the safety of your neighborhood during an emergency. It can take several days or even longer to remove snow near fire hydrants and from catch basins. Covered catch basins, whether from leaves or snow, can result in major flooding to your street and property.

PLEASE CLEAR THE SNOW FROM FIRE HYDRANTS AND CATCH BASINS NEAR YOUR HOUSE.

Any vehicle parked in such a way as to impede fire or ambulance travel, or snowplow and sanding operations will be towed. If you are in doubt about whether it is safe to park on the street, use this rule of thumb – if it is snowing, we will be sanding; if there is more than 3" of accumulation, we will be plowing-please try not to park on the street.

Don't put the snow back into the street !

BE AWARE: Snow plowed in front of driveways and walks is a routine downside of the snow removal operation; **it is not done on purpose.**

SIDEWALKS: The City plows a certain predetermined number of sidewalks as soon as possible; however, it can take up to 2 days or longer to complete this work. But you are to do the ones in front of your home.

REMOVAL OF PLOWED SNOW: Because the removal and hauling of snow is very expensive, the City does not have a policy of hauling snow after each storm. However, sometimes it is necessary to remove snow from certain streets in the downtown and business districts, school properties, and municipal parking lots. Each snow removal and clean-up operation will generate a cost, so we have to minimize the cost.

Remember, driving in winter snowstorms should be avoided whenever possible. In every winter storm, there are times when road conditions are hazardous despite everyone's best effort. Our work to restore safe road conditions is completed quicker and more efficiently when roads are free of traffic and illegally parked vehicles.



City of Seat Pleasant

Office of Code Enforcement

Residents,

Happy New Year,

The City of Seat Pleasant is committed to maintaining quality neighborhoods and an excellent community environment. Our citizens expect us to do everything we can in this regard. We know that this can only be achieved through the cooperation of everyone involved. Our mission is to improve the quality of life for our citizens and eliminating conditions that cause blight in the City's neighborhoods.

§ 114-1. Purpose.

Chronic nuisance properties present grave health, safety and welfare concerns, which the property owners or persons in charge of such properties have failed to, take corrective action to abate the nuisance condition. Chronic nuisance properties have a tremendous negative impact upon the quality of life, safety and health of the neighborhoods where they are located. This chapter is enacted to remedy nuisance activities that repeatedly occur or exist at chronic nuisance properties by providing a process for abatement; and this remedy is not an exclusive remedy available under any state or local laws and may be used in conjunction with such other laws. Also, chronic nuisance properties are a financial burden to the City by the repeated calls for service to the properties because of the nuisance activities that repeatedly occur or exist on such property, and this chapter is a means to ameliorate those conditions and hold responsible the owners or persons in charge of such property.

Repeated violations:

Snow Removal

Time limit for removal. Snow and ice shall be removed within 24 hours after the end of snowfall. Sidewalks in front of commercial establishments and commercial parking lots shall be kept free of snow and ice at all times between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Violation fee- \$400.00 Each day

Motor Vehicles

Except as provided for in other regulation, no inoperative or unlicensed motor vehicle shall be parked, kept or stored on any premises, and no vehicle shall at any time be in a state of major disassembly, disrepair, or in the process of being stripped or dismantled. **Vehicles must be parked on asphalt, concrete, gravel, brick stone or any non-porous material; vehicles shall not be parked on the grass.** All vehicles within the city of Seat Pleasant need to be properly licensed. Out of state tags must be transferred, all resident of Seat Pleasant must have Maryland State Tags.; unless you are an out of state student or in the military (Must show proof). Violation fee- \$400 Each day

Sanitation

All exterior property and premises shall be maintained in a clean, safe and sanitary condition. The occupant shall keep that part of the exterior property, which such occupant occupies or controls in a clean and sanitary condition. Violation fee- \$400.00 Each day

6011 Addison Road • Seat Pleasant MD 20743-2125 • (301) 499-8700 • Fax (301) 499-8702
www.seatpleasantmd.gov

Accumulation of Deposit

A. It shall be unlawful for any person (including but not limited to any real person, partnership, corporation or firm) within the corporate limits of Seat Pleasant to cause or permit the accumulation of litter, either temporarily or permanently, on any property owned by, in the possession of or controlled by such person.

B. It shall be unlawful for any person (including but not limited to any real person, partnership, corporation or firm) within the corporate limits of Seat Pleasant to cause or permit the open storage for any period of time any icebox, refrigerator, stove, glass, building materials, building rubbish or refuse, furniture or similar items or materials, irrespective of age or condition.

C. It shall be the duty of any person (including but not limited to any real person, partnership, corporation or firm) to store all accumulated garbage, rubbish or litter in private receptacles in sound condition. Any business requiring outside receptacles must comply with any City, county and state requirements for enclosing them.

D. Upon the failure, neglect or refusal of any person (including but not limited to any real person, partnership, corporation or firm) who is duly notified to properly dispose of litter within the time limits provided in this section, the City of Seat Pleasant shall have the authority at such person's expense. Any charges or expenses assessed against a violator who is the owner of a property on which a violation is found and abated shall be a lien against the property to dispose of such litter.

E. Upon the failure, neglect or refusal of any person (including but not limited to any real person, partnership, corporation or firm) duly notified to properly dispose of any material in Subsection B or any material considered dangerous to the public within three days of the date of receipt (the returned receipt) or the physical posting of the property, after such date the City of Seat Pleasant have the authority to dispose of all material. It shall be the responsibility of the owner to reimburse the City of Seat Pleasant for the cost of disposal. Violation fee- \$400 Each day

Trash Enclosures

All uses other than single-family dwellings and duplexes shall provide adequate and accessible enclosures for the storage of trash and refuse in proper containers. Said enclosure shall either be an area fully contained within a building or be an area fully screened from public view by masonry, slatted chain link or solid wood fencing at least six feet in height; and uses existing prior to September 1981 which have not complied with the above shall be made to comply with the requirements of the above within 60 days from the date of enactment hereof. Violations and penalties. Any property owner not complying with the terms of this article shall be guilty, upon conviction, of a municipal infraction and subject to a fine of \$400 Each day

Firewood

All firewood must be placed 18" above ground.

Thank You

Ukkundo'Oohwaka

Nuisance and Abatement Officer

6011 Addison Road • Seat Pleasant MD 20743-2125 • (301) 499-8700 • Fax (301) 499-8702
www.seatpleasantmd.gov



City of Seat Pleasant

Office of Code Enforcement

Residents,

Happy New Year,

Due to winter season and cold weather, the Code Violations of painting of fences, siding, facing, shutters porches, steps or any other places where paint is chipped or worn is not due until March 1, 2016.

Thank You

Ukkundo'Oohwaka

Nuisance and Abatement Officer

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www.seatpleasantmd.gov

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
The City Council actions in the months of January:

ORDINANCE O-16-03
**AN Ordinance for the purpose of amending the City of Seat Pleasant Budget for
Fiscal Year 2015-2016 to pay for the website redesign.**

MONTHLY MEETINGS

The City Council meetings for the following days in the months of, **February, March and April
2016:**

Monday, February 1, 2016
Regular Work Session
Time: 6:00p.m.

Monday, February 8, 2016
Public Session
Time: 7:00p.m.

Monday, March 7, 2016
Regular Work Session
Time: 6:00p.m.

Monday, March 14, 2016
Public Session
Time: 7:00p.m.

Monday, April 4, 2016
Regular Work Session
Time: 6:00p.m.

Monday, April 11, 2016
Public Session
Time: 7:00p.m.

The meetings will be held at:

Seat Pleasant City Hall
Council Chambers
6301 Addison Road
Seat Pleasant, MD 20743-2125



**Honorable
Elenora Simms,**

COUNCIL PRESIDENT CORNER

The City Council actions in the months of January:

The City of Seat Pleasant FY2017 Budget review process will begin in April. The City Council would like to have your input regarding the budget. Please contact your Ward representative or one of the At-Large Councilmember's to give them your input for the budget. The budget hearing will be held in April 2016.

Feggans Center Redevelopment Public Hearing

Please join the Seat Pleasant City Council for the Public Hearing on the Feggans Center Redevelopment on one of the following dates:

Monday, March 14, 2016 at 7:00p.m.

Monday, April 11, 2016 at 7:00p.m.

The Public Hearings will be held at the Seat Pleasant City Hall.

The elected officials meeting attendance for the month of January:

Mayor & Councilmember	Public	Work Session	Special	Closed
Eugene Grant	A	A	N	N/A
Johnie Higgs, Sr.	P	P	N	P
Kelly Porter	P	P	N	P
Elenora Simms, Ward I	P	P	N	P
Aretha Stephenson, Ward II	P	P	N	P
Reveral Yeargin, Ward III	P	A	N	A
Gerald Raynor, Sr., Ward IV	A	P	N	P
Eugene Kennedy, Ward V	P	P	N	P
P-Present				
C-Cancelled				
N-None				
A-Absent				
E-Excused				
L-Late				
U-Unexcused				

Seat Pleasant City Council Holiday for Kids was held on Saturday, December 19, 2015. We thank each of you for joining us and participating in this event.



**SEAT PLEASANT
CITY HALL**

6301 Addison Road
Seat Pleasant, MD 20743

Phone: 301-336-2600
Fax: 301-336-0029

Seat Pleasant
"A City of Excellence"
6301 Addison Road
Seat Pleasant, Maryland 20743



**PRESORTED
FIRST CLASS
U.S. POSTAGE**

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

SEAT PLEASANT POLICE DEPARTMENT	301-499-8700
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY NON-EMERGENCY	301-352-1200
SEAT PLEASANT VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT	301-336-2331
BATES TRASH	301-773-2069
CITY HALL/CALL-A-BUS	301-336-2600
METRO ACCESS	301-562-5360
PEPCO/OUTAGES & WIRES	202-833-7500/ 877- 737-2662
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY DEPT. OF AGING	301-265-8450
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY DEPT. OF SOCIAL SERVICES	301-909-7025
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY ELECTION BOARD	301-341-7300
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY THE BUS	301-883-5600
WASHINGTON GAS/EMERGENCY	703-750-1000/ 703- 750-1400
WSSC/EMERGENCY	301-206-9772/301- 206-4002
SEAT PLEASANT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	301-925-2330
CARMODY HILLS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	301-808-8180
G. JAMES GHOLSON MIDDLE SCHOOL	301-883-8390