



The Aberdeen Advocate

City of Aberdeen | 60 N. Parke Street Aberdeen, MD 21001 | (410) 272-1600

Fall 2019 Edition

Foreword from the Mayor and City Manager of Aberdeen

From Mayor Patrick McGrady

There is so much exciting stuff happening in Aberdeen! There's too much to print, but here's a sample:

- Prost German Restaurant will soon open its new location next to the Aberdeen Library.
- The Old Aberdeen High is being converted into a great new senior living center.
- MD State Highway Route 22 is finally done, and W Bel Air Ave will be paved starting shortly.
- We partnered with MDOT to complete a \$300k interior remodel of the Train Station.
- A School Resource Officer inside Aberdeen's Elementary Schools will help with our kids' safety.
- We started one of the best seasonal Farmers Markets in the area with visible growth.
- There's a full press on the County leadership to fund a new Recreation Center.
- Upper Chesapeake Medical Center, UPS, Horizon Cinemas and more are on the way.
- Every Aberdeen Police Officer is now wearing body cameras to keep everybody accountable and safe.
- Maybe the most visible sign of progress is the Middelton Road Extension; on the books since 1969.
- The Aberdeen Post Office built their ramp, and then we convinced them to renovate the exterior!



Yes, I'm excited because Aberdeen is truly on the move! But we need your help. If you're interested in becoming a volunteer on any of our several boards, just email me at pmcgrady@aberddeenmd.gov!

From City Manager Randy Robertson

It's been an honor and privilege to have a front row seat to the extraordinary progress our City has experienced in the last few years. At a recent City Council Meeting, Councilwoman Sandy Landbeck speculated whether the reason might be the "Starbucks Effect" . . . with a new Starbucks comes new opportunities. I'm not sure, but I do know we've experienced a host of fresh opportunities and unprecedented growth. New restaurants, businesses, roads, medical activities and housing are transforming our community. But we can't become complacent. To sustain this pace, must stay open to and embrace reasonable change. "Flexible, adaptable, resilient and capable" must be more than words as we examine new opportunities and, when necessary, challenge convention. To quote author Dr. Jim Collins, we must strive to move from "Good to Great." But to this we need your help; whether it's a lead on a new business or informing us about potholes or overgrown grass. City Hall is where the "rubber meets the road" for local governance, and as our customer, you should and can expect nothing less than our best efforts. From being one of Maryland's Safest Cities to Aberdeen's new Main Street Alliance, we're on a trajectory of historic growth and potential. With that in mind, we humbly ask for you to "Pardon our Dust"; it's a sign of progress!

As this City Council bids adieu, I want to thank each Councilmember for their service and contributions. I also applaud and thank our citizens for helping Aberdeen continue its march of progress. I am, and trust you too are anxious and eager about what lies ahead. Best regards and God bless.



Lights, Camera, Aberdeen!

Have you ever been to the movies, feet propped up in a luxurious leather recliner with food and drink by your side, and wondered when you could do the same here in Aberdeen? That day is coming and so is Horizon Cinemas! The theater will be centrally located in the Aberdeen Marketplace, next to the Planet Fitness. Featuring eight theater screens, reclining seating, a full-service bar, and an assortment of food on the menu, Horizon Cinemas will be the perfect family activity without leaving the comfort of the city!



The Middle of Middelton

Fifty Years. That's how long it's been since the very first mention of a Middelton Road extension appeared in city records. Well Aberdeen, it's nearly here! As you have noticed in the past few

months, we've been hard at work building a connector road between SR 22 and Beards Hill Road, including a brand-new roundabout at the intersection. With a current traffic count of approximately 5,000 vehicles per day along Beards Hill Road, the roundabout will provide a safe and efficient flow of traffic. We anticipate construction of the roadway to conclude in October, though there's always a potential that weather or an unforeseen circumstance may arise. So, pardon our dust, but it is a sign of progress!



Smoothie King Sighting

Here's another sign that Aberdeen is on the move! After your workout at Planet Fitness, what better place to cool off than to walk next door to the city's business: Smoothie King? What a great way to reward yourself than with a trip to the monarch of pureed fruits and vegetables!

UPS Facility on the Way

UPS is opening a new location at 600 Hickory Drive in Aberdeen! This new location will bring continued employment opportunities to our city. UPS is hiring Drivers and Package Handlers, offering full benefits!



A New Era of Wellness

Have you seen the banner on the Aberdeen Corporate Park Building off SR 22? It's official, University of Maryland Upper Chesapeake Medical Center is on its way to Aberdeen! This facility will modify the current building as well as construct two new buildings at their Aberdeen Campus. The Center will include a full-service medical facility and psychiatric unit that will spearhead a new era of health and wellness in our city!



PROST is Hiring!

Are you or someone you know looking for a new job? PROST German Restaurant will soon open and accepting applications for chefs, line cooks, prep help, dishwashers, servers and bartenders. Must be able to work full time, nights & weekends and pass a background check. Call (443) 731-1889 or email resume to info@prostinn.com.

Taking Care of Business

Over the last few years, the City of Aberdeen has routinely reached out to local businesses in an ongoing effort to provide more interaction between the owner and the city staff. In 2019, we have had face-to-face contact with over 70 businesses across 32 weeks, equating to over 64 hours of feedback! If you're a local business owner, let us know how we can serve you!



Your Business is Our Business!



Have you always wanted to go into or own your own business? If so, Aberdeen has several financial incentives to get you started:

- A Real Property Tax Credit for the Transit Oriented Development (TOD) area available until 6/30/2022.
- A Business Improvement Incentive Credit to owners of renovated/rehabilitated commercial property until 6/30/2022.
- A TOD Water & Sewer Connection Charge Waiver for new & expanding TOD-based businesses.

Want more info? Contact Mrs. Phyllis Grover at 410-272-1600 EXT 216 or pgrover@aberdeennmd.gov

Aberdeen on the Move!

THE SECOND QUARTER OF 2019 HAS BEEN AN EXTRAORDINARY TIME OF PROGRESS FOR ABERDEEN! CHECK OUT A BRIEF TIMELINE ON A FEW OF THE FUN AND EXCITING THINGS THAT HAVE TRANSPIRED IN JUST FIVE MONTHS!



MARCH 27, 2019

The Red Cross visits Aberdeen City Hall and collects donations from two dozen individuals.



APRIL 10, 2019

Aberdeen residents share their vision of the future at the I-95 Land Use Study Workshop.



APRIL 13, 2019

Thirty canines and their families partake in the first "Pups in the Park" 3K by Blue Line K-9.



MAY 3, 2019

Over 300 job seekers meet with professionals at 2nd IT/Cyber Hiring Event.



APRIL 27, 2019

Hundreds gather at Festival Park for the 16th Annual Harford County Earth Day!



APRIL 20, 2019

600 runners participate in the "Bunny Run" 5K by Blue Cheetah in downtown Aberdeen.



MAY 11, 2019

Aberdeen's first Junk in the Trunk event hosts 50 craft vendors & flea marketeers.



MAY 27, 2019

One-hundred US Flags adorn the perimeter of Festival Park in honor of Memorial Day.



MAY 31, 2019

New Day Wellness celebrates the opening of their new location, 126 N. Philadelphia.



JULY 6, 2019

Aberdeen's first ever Starbucks opens with much fanfare and community excitement!



JUNE 7, 2019

Café Michelle opens at 6 N Parke St, offering fresh sandwiches, salads & pastries!



JUNE 3, 2019

Local artist Crystal Micriotti adds a colorful wildlife twist to the bollards at Festival Park!



JULY 8, 2019

50 years in the making, the long-anticipated Middleton Rd Extension Project begins.



JULY 26, 2019

Aberdeen installs a bronze Fallen Soldier Memorial Statue at Veterans Memorial Park.



JULY 31, 2019

Delegate Steve Johnson opens a constituent office in downtown Aberdeen (8 N. Parke St.)

**More
to
Come!**



Activism at Victory Street Park

Brandon, Jason, and Wendell, self-described “free-thinkers,” are looking to improve the Victory Street Park by renovating its basketball courts. “All three of us have always strived to make a difference in our community,” says Brandon, a teacher at Aberdeen’s Alternative Education program and local resident. “By giving this basketball court a much-needed face lift, hopefully kids in the neighborhood will see that their community cares about them...” The team envisions a color-blocking scheme in orange and blue with a VSP (Victory Street Park) emblem adorned with racing flags at center court. To help, email Brandon at bselby322@gmail.com.



The 2019 Aberdeen Farmers Market ended with an amazing ‘Back to School’ blowout. Here are some numbers for the season. There were 17 market days, 7 of which saw significant wet weather (resulting in 2 cancellations). 8 of the 17 markets were special promotional nights, which had numerous giveaways including **244 IronBird tickets** and free coffee from the new Starbucks. Keep shopping local at nearby farms and craft vendors and we’ll see you in 2020!



Let’s Pick Up, Aberdeen!

Hey Aberdeen, trash is getting out of hand. It’s just a few, but those few who continue have got to be brought in line. Times are changing and it is not acceptable to pollute our environment. But changing the hearts and minds of those who continue to use Aberdeen as a

waste receptacle may be the hardest challenge of all. So, if you see someone throwing their trash on the ground or out a car window, report them to the Aberdeen Police! And if you see some trash alongside the road, pick it up! If not you, who?



Toters: Year in Review

Speaking of trash, it’s been a year since Aberdeen phased out the trash sticker program. We’re happy to report tremendous success both in an increase in refuse collection (8 tons /month) and an increase in recycling collected (11 tons/month). This move has saved approximately \$258,000 for city residents who no longer need to purchase stickers! A mechanical arm was also purchased to assist with collection, improving efficiency of refuse pickup and reducing safety concerns. Now that’s progress!



Trimming Trees

Fall is just around the corner and a great time to trim up those overgrown shrubs or trees. Check out City Ordinance **16-O-02** on the City of Aberdeen website for more info!



When in Doubt...

...Throw the Wet Wipe Out!

Our Wastewater Treatment team has seen a drastic increase in sewer system clogs caused by the disposal of fats, oil, grease, rags and other non-biodegradable products flushed down the drain. These wipes cause a significant amount of damage, costing tens of thousands of dollars a year in damaged pumps and manpower. Please ensure that these wipes and other non-biodegradable products do not enter the sewer system.

Safe School Travels

Parents, it’s another school year in Aberdeen! And for our kids, the commute to and from school can be one of the most dangerous times of the day. Here’s some tips for you as a driver and for your children as they make their way to class:

For Mom & Dad:

- Slow down and stay alert!
- Enter and exit driveways/alleys slowly and carefully.
- Watch for children near roads during school days.
- Look for kids at intersections, medians and curbs.
- Stay off your phone. Concentrate on the road!

For the Kids:

- Cross streets with assistance from Crossing Guards.
- Use traffic signals and crosswalks.
- Never run out into the street, even if it looks safe.
- Avoid crossing in between parked vehicles.
- Walk in front of the bus so the driver can see you.

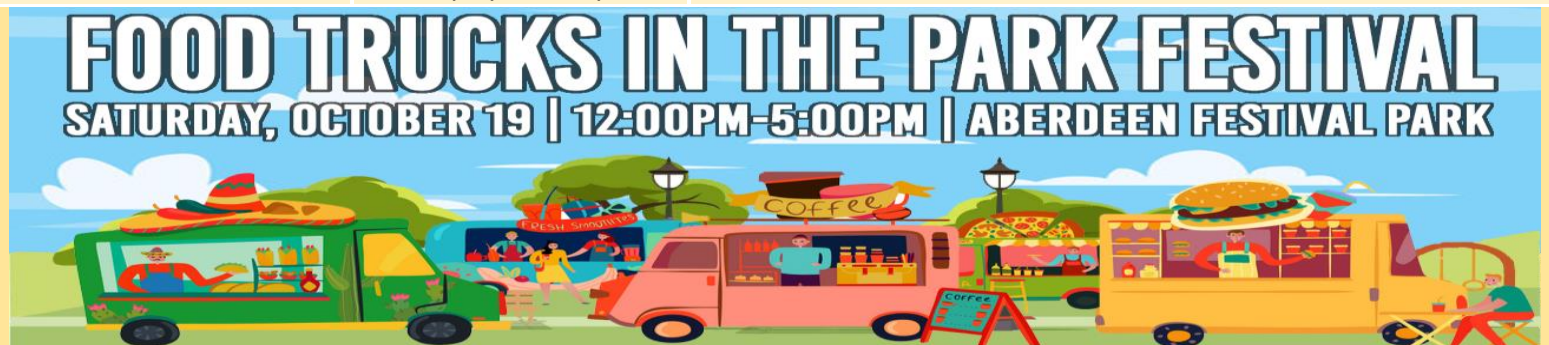
Upcoming Events

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| September 13/14, 2019 4PM-9PM & 11AM-9PM | APG Oktoberfest | A two-day, local version of the famous fall festival held each year in Munich, Germany. aberdeen.armymwr.com for more info. |
| September 13, 2019 6PM-10PM | Aberdeen Lions Club Purse Bingo | Come down to the American Legion Bernard L. Tobin Post 128 for Purse Bingo! Tickets are \$22 in advance and \$25 at the door. |



Heard about the Chesapeake Bay cleanup? Concerned about local flooding? This FREE workshop series takes place on **the third Thursday of every month** (except December) at Aberdeen City Hall (60 N. Parke St). The next workshop takes place on **September 19th from 6-7PM**. The topic is "Storm Water Management Practices".

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| September 27, 2019 9AM-1:30PM | Wage Connection Employment Expo | Wage Connection is hosting a career fair to connect jobs with job seekers at 975 Beards Hill Road. |
|---|------------------------------------|--|



The Food Trucks in the Park event is presented by the City of Aberdeen and Maryland Food Truck Week with the support of Maryland Best Food Trucks, Cluster and Vine, and Au Jus Solutions. This event is a family-fun event that will feature a wide variety of food trucks, craft vendors, adult beverages, and live entertainment. Interested in participating as a food truck or Craft Vendor? Contact Stefani Spector 410-272-1600 EXT 220 or sspector@aberdeenmd.gov.

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|-------------------------------------|---------------------|---|
| October 26, 2019 8AM-11AM | Cats & Bats 5K 2019 | Blue Cheetah's famous Cats & Bats 5K run is back! Run or walk a timed 5K (\$25) or the 1-Mile "Fun Run" (\$20)! |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|---|



Aberdeen's Board of Elections is announcing a Municipal Election for Mayor and four Council seats on Tuesday, November 5, 2019, 7 AM to 8 PM at the Aberdeen Activity Center. Register to vote with the Harford County Board of Elections or, if you are already registered, check to be sure that your voter registration is active and current. For more information, go to: harfordvotes.info.

Voter registration applications are available in the City Hall lobby. The voter registration deadline is October 15, 2019.

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| November 11, 2019 | Veterans Day | City Hall Closed. |
| November 28, 2019 | Thanksgiving Day | City Hall Closed Thursday (11/28) & Friday (11/29). |
| November 30, 2019 All Day | Small Business Saturday | Shop local AND eat local! Shop Aberdeen's small businesses then dine at our local restaurants as they serve up the most delectable food! |
| December 7, 2019 TBD | Christmas Street Festivities | Join us for some yuletide merriment in downtown Aberdeen at the 2019 Christmas Street Parade and holiday-themed activities. |
| December 15, 2019 TBD | Christmas Around the World | Travel around the world without leaving Aberdeen! Sample foods from different countries and experience the holidays in a new and exciting way. Contact Crystal Owens (410) 272-1600 for more. |
| December 21, 2019 8AM-11AM | Reindeer Run 5K 2019 | Blue Cheetah is at it again with this Christmas-themed run. Run or walk a timed 5K (\$25) or the 1-Mile "Fun Run" (\$20)! |
| December 25, 2019 | Christmas Day | City Hall Closed. |



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60 North Parke Street
Aberdeen, Maryland 21001
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Resident

2019 Trash/Recycling Schedule

| Date | Holiday | Schedule |
|------------|------------------------|---|
| 11/11/2019 | Veterans Day | Trash delayed one day, no bulk, Saturday yard waste (11/16) |
| 11/28/2019 | Thanksgiving Day | Thursday's collection moved to Friday |
| 11/29/2019 | Day After Thanksgiving | No bulk, Saturday yard waste (11/30), picking up Thursdays collection |
| 12/25/2019 | Christmas Day | Trash delayed one day, no bulk, no yard waste |
| Zone | Trash/Rec. Day | Zone 3 |
| 1 | Monday | 1 st and 3 rd Friday |
| 2 | Tuesday | 1 st and 3 rd Friday |
| 3 | Wednesday | 2 nd and 4 th Friday |
| 4 | Thursday | 2 nd and 4 th Friday |

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