October 2023

This newsletter is a resource for all residents and businesses. The Town is always looking for citizens willing to volunteer their time, talent, and services in various capacities (strategic planning, monthly events, newsletter ideas, and new initiatives). If this is you, please contact us and share your name, phone number, and email. We would love to speak with you.

Business Spotlight

Special THANK YOU to our businesses for the generous support you give the Town.

6901 Ames Street
Morningside, MD 20746
301-736-2300
Email:
generalmailbox@morningsidemd.gov

From the Desk of Mayor Benn Cann

Hello Morningside,
Hopefully, you are enjoying this Fall weather! As you know, it is my pleasure to serve as your mayor. I want to provide you with some brief updates on the progress we have made in our Town over the last few months.

- **Economic Development**: We have been working on securing grants to assist in new initiatives (We will have updates by the next newsletter). The Town has also obtained a lobbyist, Darryl Barnes | Evans, Barnes & Associates. He is a former Maryland State Delegate for our very own District 25.
- **Infrastructure Improvements:** Road repairs and infrastructure maintenance remain top priorities. We are actively working on upgrading the Town Hall Municipal Building. We are also moving forward with installing three digital signs to better communicate activities, events, etc.
- **Education:** Working with our Board of Education Member Kenneth Harris on ways to engage the community and schools on initiatives
- **Public Safety:** We are actively recruiting two additional officers. We have also appointed Corporal Vena Mitchell to Lt., effective 10/8. As crime around us continues to rise, I have instructed the Police Department to be more visible in the Town during their shifts.
- **Community Engagement:** We continue to host great events, bringing businesses and residents out to meet and greet one another. Our next event will be on 10/28, "Trunk or Treat". You will find additional information in the newsletter. I am sure you appreciate having a fun and safe environment to exhale.
- **Environmental & Sustainability:** I want to encourage you as much as possible to recycle (pick up is every Monday). Please do your part and help keep our Town clean by picking up after your dogs (we have bins around town to dispose of poop and helping us keep a litter-free town as you have guests, please share with them the pride we have in the Town's appearance.

As we move forward, the Council and I remain dedicated to representing your interest and working tirelessly to make our home here in the Town an even better place to live, work, and raise a family.

Dates to Remember:

Nov. 7, 2023 – Town of Morningside Work Session – 7 p.m.

Nov. 14, 2023 – Town of Morningside Regular Meeting – 7 pm

Nov. 16, 2023 – Senior Luncheon/Bingo – 11:30 am (Reservations Required)

Nov. 23, 2023 – Town Offices Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday

Nov. 24, 2023 – Town Offices Closed

Dec. 9, 2023 – Breakfast with Santa – 9 am @MVFD (Reservations Required)

Dec. 12, 2023 – Town of Morningside Work Session – 7 p.m.

Dec. 19, 2023 – Town of Morningside Regular Meeting – 7 pm

sidewalks within 24 hours after a snow event. As always, thank you for your assistance and cooperation.

Town Administration:

The Administrative Office continues to provide courteous, knowledgeable, and efficient service to Town residents and the public to the best of our abilities.

Our office has attended several virtual meetings that will benefit the Town in multiple ways. We are continuously seeking information and knowledge to make our office better handle the day-to-day business, along with keeping the residents informed on what we are doing.

On-going work with the Council ensures we get the best services and purchases with the ARPA grant we received. There are several projects in the pipeline, and we look forward to the timely completion of each one.

All information has been submitted for our annual audit. The auditing company for the Town is LSWG, and all audits are due to the state by October 31, 2023

The meeting room is available for rental. We continue to have everything from baby showers to repasts here. We have even hosted a wedding! The calendar is now open until December 31, 2023. Please continue to contact us if you have any questions at (301)736-2300 or generalmailbox@morningsidemd.gov

We also wish everyone a joyous, peaceful, and prosperous Holiday Season.

Official Notice:

The Town of Morningside will again have speed cameras on Suitland Road. There will be two cameras in the 6500 block of Suitland Road. One will be in front of the Exxon Station near the intersection of Skyline Drive westbound, and the 2nd camera will be located across the street in front of the strip mall eastbound. Once the cameras are in place, there will be a 30-day warning period; after that, a $40 violation ticket will be issued. These cameras are a safety tool to prevent another accident or fatality.

Code Enforcement:

The Morningside Code Compliance Officer surveys the Town to determine compliance with the Town ordinance. The Code Compliance Officer and the Morningside Police Department enforce on-street parking violations.

Morningside Recreation Committee:

The committee meets on the 1st Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. in the conference room at the Town Hall. All are welcome to attend. We do our best to plan, provide, and execute events and activities that are inclusive to Morningside and the surrounding communities for free or at a minimal fee.

Our next event will be October 28th from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Town Hall "Trunk or Treat and a Movie". We will also have games, prizes, and a Halloween Costume contest. There will also be judging for the best-decorated Trunk. Pre-registration is required. You can call the Town Hall at (301) 736-2301. There will be cash prizes for the costume and trunk decorating contests.

Upcoming Events:
November: 11/16, our Senior Residents of the Town will have a pre-Thanksgiving and Bingo event.
December: 12/9, our Annual Breakfast with Santa at the Morningside Fire House. Reservations are required, and it will be a first-come first-served event.

If you are interested in becoming part of the Recreation Committee or have any suggestions for events or activities, please join us on the 1st Tuesday of the month.

Seniors, You're Cordially Invited

As we gather to give thanks this year, we invite you to share in our Holiday Cheer!
Please join the Town of Morningside on
Thursday, November 16th at 11:30am.
At the Town's Municipal Center (6901 Ames St)
For our annual Seniors Thanksgiving Feast Luncheon.
Seniors, please reserve your spot no later than
Friday, November 13th by calling 301-736-2301.
If you're in need of transportation assistance please let us know.

****

Town of Morningside's Annual

Date: Saturday, December 9, 2023
Time: 9:00am
Location: Morningside Firehouse-6200 Suitland Road, Morningside, MD 20746
Menu: Pancakes, Sausage, Fruit, Juice and Coffee
Cost: $5.00 per person
Magic Show, Door Prizes and Santa's Secret Shop a place to purchase small gifts.

Space is limited you must pre-register for this event. We will be taking reservations starting November 20, 2023.

For more information, please call 301-736-2301.