



LETTER FROM THE MAYOR



Dear Residents:

I hope the Miracle on Main Street Holiday event featuring the electric parade, holiday tree lighting and Santa's Treat was a bright start to your holiday season. You can continue the holiday events and activities at the Carroll Arts Center, 91 West Main Street, and Santa's House on Locust Lane.

The **14th Annual Festival of Wreaths** runs at the Arts Center from November 30th to December 4th. The Eric Byrd Trio, along with Lucy, Snoopy, Linus and Charlie Brown, will once again take to the Arts Center Stage and perform **A Charlie Brown Jazz Christmas** at 7:30 p.m. on December 2nd, and 3:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. on December 3rd. The Carroll Arts Center is pleased to host The Maryland Ensemble Theatre's presentation of **A Christmas Carol** at 8:00 p.m. on December 9th, and 3:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. on December 10th. The final holiday event at the Arts Center will be Walt Michael & Company's **Home for the Holidays Concert** on December 17th at 8:00 p.m.

Have children that need to talk to Santa Claus? Bring them down to **Santa's House** on Locust Lane from noon to 4:00 p.m. every Saturday in December until December 24th. Take your own photographs of the kids with Santa, too!

Shop and eat in downtown's unique, independently owned small businesses. Our Main Street businesses are truly a treasure and we should celebrate them with our holiday shopping. Shopping locally at small businesses is one of the best ways to help keep our local economy strong.

To celebrate the New Year, Westminster's 1st ever **5-4-3-2 The New Year! Event** will be held in the first block of West Main Street, beginning at 11:30 p.m. on Saturday, December 31st. Ring in the New Year Downtown by coming to see what Westminster will drop at midnight. Right now, it's a secret!

And lest we forget the true meaning of the season, please reach out to our neighbors in need and donate your time and resources to the many organizations and agencies that work all year to ensure that everyone has food, clothing and shelter. This is also the time of year to reflect on all of the things which we are grateful for and to give thanks for those blessings.

Sincerely,

Mayor Utz

Carroll Arts Center Events

Friday, December 9 at 8pm and Saturday, December 10 at 3pm and 8pm: A live production of "A Christmas Carol" has become a tradition at the Carroll Arts Center during the holiday season. This year the Center welcomes back the acclaimed Maryland Ensemble Theatre for their joyful version of Charles Dickens' classic tale. There's is a heartwarming adaptation that is designed to appeal to all ages. The main character of Ebenezer Scrooge, is a miser in the first degree and he thinks Christmas is "humbug." When Scrooge is visited by the spirits of Christmas Past, Present and Future, he starts to see his life in a different light. Beautiful staging, breathtaking special effects and stellar performances combine for a magical theatrical experience.



Tickets are \$15 for Adults and \$13 for CCAC Members, Students 18 and Under and Seniors 60+. For more information or to purchase tickets by phone with a major credit card, go to www.CarrollCountyArtsCouncil.org or call 410/848-7272.

Saturday, January 12 at 7pm: Iron Ridge Bluegrass returns to the Carroll Arts Center. The 4-piece band is one of the region's premiere country music ensembles and they are dedicated to the preservation of the old-time traditional bluegrass in the style of Bill Monroe, Dr. Ralph Stanley and others. They perform at numerous fairs and festivals throughout the northeast and they have a loyal local following. Their toe tapping, hand clapping music has infectious rhythms and natural harmonies. They play a variety of traditional country and gospel favorites. They have won numerous awards for their music, including the coveted top award at the Fiddler's Convention. Iron Ridge is comprised of Denny Kopp on mandolin, Jay Mosley on banjo, Joey Mosley on guitar and train whistle and Max Allison on upright bass. They all have bluegrass running richly through their veins!



Tickets for the concert are \$15 for adults and \$13 for Arts Council Members, Seniors 60+ and Students 18 & Under. For more information, call 410/848-7272 or visit purchase tickets online. The snow date for the concert is Sunday, January 22 at 7:00pm.

Please check our website for the most current and up-to-date schedule of events!



3rd Annual Gallery of Gifts

The Carroll Arts Center continues their annual tradition by transforming their Tevis Gallery into the "Gallery of Gifts" during the holiday shopping season. This special cash and carry exhibit will resemble a boutique rather than a traditional gallery exhibit, as 27+ artists will display their festive wares. There will be a wide variety of hand-crafted creations from inexpensive stocking stuffers, holiday décor and traditional arts and crafts, to truly elegant special gifts. Local artists combine with regional artists for a distinct flavor of fashion, fantasy and whimsy. To lessen the holiday stress, there will be complimentary gift bagging for all purchases!

The shopping frenzy will begin at a meet the artists' reception on Thursday, December 8th from 5 to 7 pm. There will be complimentary wine, cheese, hot chocolate and holiday confections. The "Gallery of Gifts" will be open December 8-January 12 from 10 am to 4 pm Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, and from 10 am – 8 pm on Thursday. The Gallery of Gifts will also be open during all of the holiday shows in the theatre through that busy time period. Admission is FREE.

14th Annual Festival of Wreaths

November 30 – December 4: The Festival of Wreaths has become one of Carroll County's most well-attended holiday events and is being imitated by other organizations throughout the region. This year's Festival will feature more than 220 uniquely decorated theme wreaths on display for the public through a five-day silent auction. The Festival is sponsored by PNC Bank and The Carroll County Times; proceeds benefit the Carroll County Arts Council.

Previous Festivals have been spectacular successes, generating an average of \$25,000 per year in support of the Arts Council's wide variety of public programming. The Festival exemplifies holiday generosity in many ways, through the incredibly valuable wreaths that are contributed, as well as the generous bids from the community. The public is invited to vote for their favorites throughout the event and awards in several categories will be presented on Saturday afternoon.

"We are particularly proud of the Charity Challenge portion of this event," reports Executive Director Sandy Oxx. Any Carroll County 501(c) non-profit organization can enter and an entire room will be set aside to display these non-profit wreath entries. In addition, the wreath that wins the "Charity Favorite" award, as voted on by the public, will also get a check for \$250 for their organization. Ms. Oxx said, "It is our way of 'giving back' to the community that has so generously supported us. Non-profit entries have always been a major part of this event and we enjoy putting those creations in the spotlight."

Festival Hours are 10am to 8pm Wednesday through Saturday and Noon to 4 pm on Sunday. Bidding ends promptly at 4pm on Sunday, December 4. High Bidders need not be present at auction close. Admission is free.

Bulk Trash Schedule for 2012

Reminder

This standard bulk trash collection schedule will be followed WITHOUT THE NEED TO CALL FOR A PICKUP. All bulk waste will be collected from residences throughout the City on this every-other-week schedule. Residents are required to place bulk pickup items out by 7a.m. on the designated pickup day to ensure collection.

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| <p>January</p> <p>S M T WTh F S 1 N 3 Y 5 6 7 8 T M Y E W 14 15 N 17 Y 19 20 21 22 T M Y E W 27 28 29 30 Y</p> <p>Christmas trees will be picked up on Jan 9, 23 & 29</p> | <p>February</p> <p>S M T WTh F S Y 2 3 4 5 T M Y E W 11 12 13 14 Y 16 17 18 19 N M Y E W 25 26 27 28 Y</p> | <p>March</p> <p>S M T WTh F S 1 2 3 4 T M Y E W 10 11 12 13 Y 15 16 17 18 T M Y E W 24 25 26 27 Y 29 30 31</p> |
| <p>April</p> <p>S M T WTh F S 1 T M Y E N 7 8 9 10 Y 12 13 14 15 T M Y E W 21 22 23 24 Y 26 27 28 29 T</p> | <p>May</p> <p>S M T WTh F S M Y E W 5 6 7 8 Y 10 11 12 13 T M Y E W 19 20 21 22 Y 24 25 26 27 N M Y E</p> | <p>June</p> <p>S M T WTh F S W 2 3 4 5 Y 7 8 9 10 T M Y E W 16 17 18 19 Y 21 22 23 24 T M Y E W 30</p> |
| <p>July</p> <p>S M T WTh F S 1 2 3 N 5 6 7 8 T M Y E W 14 15 16 17 Y 19 20 21 22 T M Y E W 28 29 30 31</p> | <p>August</p> <p>S M T WTh F S Y 2 3 4 5 T M Y E W 11 12 13 14 Y 16 17 18 19 T M Y E W 25 26 27 28 Y 30 31</p> | <p>September</p> <p>S M T WTh F S 1 2 N M Y E W 8 9 10 11 Y 13 14 15 16 T M Y E W 22 23 24 25 Y 27 28 29 30</p> |
| <p>October</p> <p>S M T WTh F S T M Y E W 6 7 8 9 Y 11 12 13 14 T M Y E W 20 21 22 23 Y 25 26 27 28 T M Y</p> | <p>November</p> <p>S M T WTh F S E W 3 4 5 6 Y 8 9 10 11 T M Y E W 17 18 19 20 Y N N 24 25 T M Y E W</p> | <p>December</p> <p>S M T WTh F S 1 2 3 4 Y 6 7 8 9 T M Y E W 15 16 17 18 Y 20 21 22 23 N N Y E W 29 30 31</p> |

Pickup Schedule Key

- T** Tree limbs/Brush
- M** Metal, Tires, Batteries, Large Appliances
- Y** Yard waste
- E** Bulk Trash East of MD Rt31 *including Village of Meadow Creek, excluding Carroll Meadows
- W** Bulk Trash West of MD Rt31 *including Carroll Meadows, excluding Village of Meadow Creek
- N** NO PICKUP, City offices closed for Holiday

*NOTE: If the scheduled pickup day falls on a City holiday, bulk trash items will be collected on the next scheduled date.

For any questions regarding the above schedule, please contact the City Information Desk at 410-848-9000

City of Westminster

Recreation and Parks Upcoming Events

Dec / Jan / Feb

American Red Cross Blood Drive
Tuesday, December 13, 2011 1:00 –7:00 p.m.
Westminster Family Fitness Center
11 Longwell Avenue

Give the gift of life and brighten someone's holiday season. Call Shelly or Eva for more information or an appointment. One lucky donor will win a *free month at the Westminster Family Fitness Center!* Call 410-751-5501.



TINY TOTS MID-WINTER BEACH PARTY
Friday, January 20 9-11:30 a.m.

Babylon Community Building,
 behind 11 Longwell Avenue
 Come dressed in your suits and shades
 and enjoy this fun way to beat
 the winter blues!



TINY TOTS CANDY LAND PARTY
Friday, February 19 9-11:30 am

Babylon Community Building
 Behind 11 Longwell Avenue
 Kids will enjoy sweet treat-themed games,
 Crafts stories...a super sweet and deli-
 cious time!



Ages 3-5 (must be potty trained)
 \$15 per child

Call 410-848-9161 or go to www.westminstermd.gov for a registration form!

Community Building at Westminster Municipal Pool
325 Royer Road, Westminster

The Community Building at the Westminster Municipal Pool is available for rentals for your holiday celebration, birthday arty, baby or bridal shower and even meetings!

Accommodates up to 40 people.

The cost is \$30 per hour and a refundable \$75 deposit is also required at the time of rental.

Call 410-857-9071 for availability.

Permit applications are available on our website at

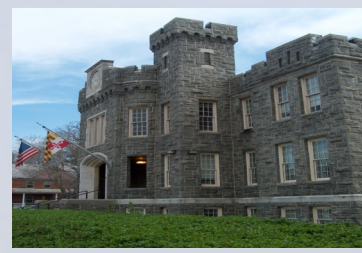
www.westminstermd.gov.



GET FIT IN 2012!

WESTMINSTER FAMILY FITNESS CENTER
11 LONGWELL AVENUE, 410-751-5501

Memberships start as low as \$25! No contracts, convenient hours, modern equipment and plenty of parking make our center the best around! Give us a try! Group fitness classes included in every membership! Shed those holiday pounds today!



City of Westminster Recreation and Parks

410-848-9161  www.westminstermd.gov