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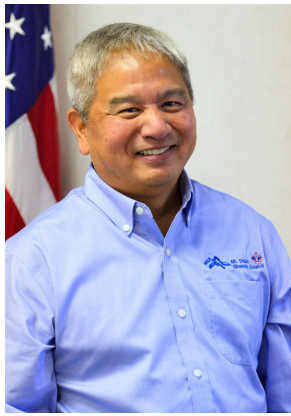
Welcome to the Muir Newsletter for March 2020!



March Roundtable Update

We have potential locations for our District Roundtable, but we are still trying to get a commitment for a location. Until further notice, we will not have a Roundtable this march 2020.

In the meanwhile, please share our Facebook group tabled "Muir District - MDSC" to your families (if you haven't already) to stay up-to-date with District news!



A New Muir District Professional

Please welcome Alan Young, Muir District's newest District Director!

Alan has an extensive Scouting background going back as a youth where he earned the rank of Eagle Scout and the Order of the Arrow Vigil honor. In addition to serving the Muir and Diablo Sunrise districts, Alan's other responsibilities includes staff adviser for the Shooting Sports, and STEM committees.

Alan's contact email is alan.young@scouting.org. His office number is (925) 674-6102.



A Word from our Chair

Hello Muir District, I am honored to be your new District Chair. I am excited to work with you as we continue to bring the Mission of the Boy Scouts of America to the youth of the Muir District.

As some of you may know, I have been involved in the Scouting program for almost 40 years. While many of those years were involved in working directly with youth, time was also spent volunteering on many committees at both district and council levels. Recently, I have just returned from attending Sea Base on a conference about recruiting Scouts with special needs into our scouting programs. I look forward to sharing that with you.

We have so many capable Scouters in the Muir District and I look forward to serving with you.

Yours in Scouting,

Sheila Rowntree
Muir District Chair
Mt Diablo Silverado Council, BSA
rowntreesheila@att.net



Commissioner's Minute

Below is a list of Commissioner Positions that you can volunteer for in the District. Please feel free to contact me if you are interested or have any questions!

Round Table Commissioners: Roundtable commissioners are responsible for the monthly Roundtable in the district. Roundtables are monthly meetings where scout leaders from all units attend. When skillfully executed, the roundtable experience will inspire, motivate, and enable unit leaders to provide a stronger program for their youth. There are two main purposes of Roundtables. First, to provide the skill to do – skills, techniques, information, program ideas – the know-how that makes for a successful unit. And second; to provide unit leadership with the will to do – the morale, enthusiasm, inspiration, and vision that periodically renews the desire to serve youth. Major responsibilities include: COMMISSIONER MANUALS: SECTION TITLE JUNE 2018 4

- Recruit and train a staff of Assistant Roundtable commissioners to put on quality roundtables for unit personnel.
- Plan and conduct monthly roundtable programs using the National roundtable guidelines.
- Make arrangements for roundtables, including meeting places, equipment and supplies.
- Conduct regular critiques to determine how roundtables can be improved.
- Use Commissioner Tools to enter roundtable attendance.

Unit Commissioner: Many unit commissioners serve more than one type of unit. One might serve a Cub Scout pack, a Scouts BSA troop, Venturing crew, Sea Scout ship or an Explorer post in the same chartered organization. Other unit commissioners may serve only packs, only troops, only crews, only ships or only posts or clubs. Check with your commissioner leader or coach to see how your district is organized. The unit commissioner is a Scouting generalist whose passionate overriding mission in Scouting is to help units better serve more youth through scouting. Specific responsibilities COMMISSIONER MANUALS: SECTION TITLE JUNE 2018 3 include just 5 things. Listed under each are suggested methods for accomplishing the responsibility.

1. Supporting unit growth and retention through the Journey to Excellence.
 - a. Use the Unit Service Plan to help guide units to continuous improvement.
2. Making meaningful unit contacts that capture in commissioner tools their strengths, needs, and a unit service plan that enables continuing improvement.
 - a. Serve as the unit leader's friend and coach.
 - b. Offer encouragement and support.
 - c. Use a detailed collaborative assessment with the unit's leaders at least two times per year to review the unit's strengths and needs.
 - d. Create a Unit Service Plan based on the detailed collaborative assessment.
3. Linking unit needs to district operating committee and other resources.
 - a. Use members of the district operating committees to help meet the needs of your unit(s). As a unit commissioner you are not expected to know everything.
 - b. The district operating committee can provide access to subject matter experts who can address the unit's specific need.
 - c. Engage other resources (for example; from another unit) when needed.
4. Supporting timely unit, district, and council charter renewals.
 - a. Facilitate the on-time annual charter renewal of all assigned units using Internet Rechartering or the traditional paper rechartering method.
 - b. See that a completed charter renewal application is returned to the council service center.
 - c. Present the new charter at an appropriate meeting of the chartered organization.
5. Supporting unit leaders by delivering effective roundtables that provide program ideas relationship development, and timely communication.
 - a. Unit commissioner can promote roundtable attendance in their assign units.

Assistant District Commissioner: A district may have one or more assistant district commissioners. Each is responsible for an assigned share of the units in the district and the unit commissioners who serve those units. Assistant district commissioners are often assigned a geographic area of the district. They work closely with the district commissioner and district executive. Major responsibilities include:

- Become familiar with the vision the district commissioner has created and understand your role in fulfilling the vision.
- Recruit enough unit commissioners to serve their assigned units and area.
- Conduct personal coaching and orientation sessions for unit commissioners.
- Maintain regular contact with their unit commissioners to provide guidance in unit service needs.
- Meet with their team of unit commissioners at the monthly district commissioner meeting to plan specific actions to help units be more successful.
- Serve units with no assigned unit commissioner.

- Help unit commissioners evaluate and improve their unit service performance.
- Assist unit commissioners in using Commissioner Tools, including adding entries for commissioners who are unable to add their own.
- Track charter renewal status of all their units.
- Use Commissioner Tools to review the health of the units; review commissioner activity in recording contacts and creating unit service plans; and monitor roundtable attendance.
- Be sure to recognize the accomplishments of the commissioners in your charge.

Thank you, Yours in Scouting,
 Paul Steelhammer
 Muir District Commissioner
 Mt Diablo Silverado Council, BSA
 (925) 348-2985
PaulSteelhammer.MDC@gmail.com

Order of the Arrow Unit Elections

Unit Leaders, please contact your Wek Wek Chapter Election Team Leader Patrick Jaime at patrickj0208@yahoo.com to schedule your unit elections. Elections must be held by the end of February 2020 so please schedule the election as soon as possible. Please see the attached forms:

1 - 2020 Unit Election Info for Unit Leader: <https://drive.google.com/open?id=1tfPhlZbYNlsmMRu02-5kupailtlox-71>

2 - 2020 Unit Election Request Form: https://drive.google.com/open?id=1G2_b9MWPKi-BNVVx6mkqumk6Ht2m_6td

3 - 2020 Nominee for Election Information Form: https://drive.google.com/open?id=1r--_2H7j4hyBq65lETjuUJjKUrH0DT-C

4 - 2020 Unit Election Report: <https://drive.google.com/open?id=1cYiBMf36lKis869rTA2HwM6cz3wo68MU>

5 - 2020 Adult Unit Nomination Form: <https://drive.google.com/open?id=1dVC1RGI91YWxSnJlwHrgEgIL8rHARpBw>

Muir District Dinner

- March 21, 2020 from 5-8 pm is our Muir District Dinner, to be held at the Concord Senior Center, 2727 Parkside Circle, Concord, CA.
 - Registration is \$25 per person. To help defray the cost of the event and help support the Friends of Scouting campaign, your unit can sponsor or find a corporate sponsor for a table of 8. Sponsorship levels are at \$250, \$500, and \$1,000 which includes receiving a ¼ page (\$250), ½ page (\$500), or full page (\$1,000) add in the District Dinner program.
 - Fill out the attached form and e-mail to arnel.jaime@scouting.org. Payments can be made at the Council office. Please make checks payable to MDSC.

Below are the forms to download and print as pdf:

There is also a *Word document* version of this form on our [Muir District - MDSC Facebook Group!](#)

FOS Table Sponsor form: <https://drive.google.com/open?id=15lRaRGVEcxAjYVibzusO0sq-7AtJCrZl>

Scouter of the Year Nominations

- Time is running out. Please submit your Unit Scouter of the Year to arnel.jaime@scouting.org by this Friday, February 28 to make sure your it is included in the District Dinner program.

Below are the forms to download and print as pdf:

There is also a *Word document* version of this form on our [Muir District - MDSC Facebook Group!](#)

Muir District Camporee

- The Muir District Camporee will be on April 24 – 26, 2020 at the Sugarloaf Open Space. Please download a copy of the registration form and submit to Stan Jungenberg at stan.jungenberg@aryzta.com
 - Registration form is here: https://drive.google.com/open?id=1mdp9E5chG3HOytMWG_vtFhx3ooq0iN4N
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Muir District Facebook Page

For updates on what's happening in the Muir District, please join our Facebook Group.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/325497627480390/?ref=bookmarks>



This was announced 2/17/2020.

Dear Scouting Family,

Today, the national organization of the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy to achieve two key objectives: equitably compensate victims who were harmed during their time in Scouting and continue to carry out Scouting's mission for years to come.

While the word "bankruptcy" can be intimidating, **it is important to know that Scouting programs will continue.** Your regular unit meetings and activities, district and council events, other Scouting adventures and countless service projects will take place as usual.

We took this action today amid increasing financial pressure on the BSA from litigation involving past abuse in Scouting. We are outraged that there have been times when individuals took advantage of our programs to abuse innocent children and sincerely apologize to anyone who was harmed during their time in Scouting. We believe victims, we support them, we provide counseling by a provider of their choice, and we encourage them to come forward. Our plan is to use this Chapter 11 process to create a Trust that would provide equitable compensation to these individuals.

As we go through this process, we want to make certain that all Scouting parents and volunteers know the following:

- **Scouting is safer now than ever before.** Approximately 90% of the pending and asserted claims against the BSA relate to abuse that occurred more than 30 years ago. As someone close to Scouting, you know the safety of children in our programs is the BSA's absolute top priority and that one instance of abuse is one too many. That's precisely why over many years we've developed some of the strongest expert-informed youth protection policies found in any youth-serving organization.

From mandatory youth protection training and background checks for all volunteers and staff, to policies that prohibit one-on-one interaction between youth and adults and require that any suspected abuse is reported to law enforcement, our volunteers

and employees take youth protection extremely seriously and do their part to help keep kids safe. You can read more about the BSA's multi-layered safeguards and our efforts to be part of the broader solution to child abuse at www.scouting.org/youth-safety. In fact, this is a resource that you can share with friends and family who are interested in understanding what the BSA is doing to keep kids safe.

- **Scouting continues.** Scouting programs will continue to serve youth, families and local communities throughout this process and for many years to come. Just last year, communities across the country benefited from more than 13 million Scouting service hours, and young men and women earned more than 1.7 million merit badges that represent skills that will help them succeed throughout their lives. Studies prove and parents agree that Scouting helps young people become more kind, helpful and prepared for life, and as long as those values remain important to our society, Scouting will continue to be invaluable to our nation's youth.
- **Local councils have not filed for bankruptcy.** Local councils – which provide programming, financial, facility and administrative support to Scouting units in their communities – are legally separate, distinct and financially independent from the national organization.

We know you will likely have questions about these issues and things you will see in the news. We have posted information about our restructuring on a dedicated website, www.BSArestructuring.org.

This site includes a helpful [Resources](#) page, where you will find a short video explaining what Chapter 11 means for Scouting, as well as a FAQ and a reference document that will help you discuss this announcement with youth in our programs. The site also includes a [Milestones](#) page, which will be your best source for the latest updates throughout this process.

If these resources don't answer your questions, please feel free to reach out to us through Member Care at 972-580-2489 or MyScouting@Scouting.org. We will do everything we can to provide helpful, transparent responses and ensure your Scouting experience continues to be a great one.

Yours in Scouting,

Jim Turley
National Chair

Ellie Morrison
National Commissioner

Roger Mosby
President & CEO

If you have additional questions regarding this subject, please contact our Scout Executive John Fenoglio, john.fenoglio@scouting.org; Director of Field Service Lew Sisson; lew.sisson@scouting.org; or Director of Support Service Joe Barton, joe.barton@scouting.org.

Here's a Youtube video that explains what it means for you.
<https://youtu.be/rUQTVzeBhXw>

We want to highlight important points that are most relevant to the Mt. Diablo Silverado Council:

- The Mt. Diablo Silverado Council has not filed for bankruptcy. Our Council is legally separate, distinct and financially independent from the national organization.
- Scouting programs will continue. This means that unit meetings and activities, district and council events, other Scouting adventures and countless service projects will take place as usual. In short, we expect no changes to the local Scouting experience in the Mt. Diablo Silverado Council area.
- Scouting is safer now than ever before. Over many years, we've developed some of the strongest expert-informed youth protection policies found in any youth-serving organization. I can also assure you that our volunteers and employees take youth protection extremely seriously and do their part to help keep kids safe.
- Restricted donations – past, present or future – can only be used for their designated purpose. In addition, Friends of Scouting (FOS) and other annual donations made to our Council will continue to fund necessary day-to-day expenses that are critical to local Scouting programs.

While we do not anticipate the national organization's bankruptcy filing will have any direct impact on the local Scouting experience or your involvement with our Council, I understand you may still have questions about these issues and things you will see in the news. To that end, the national organization has established a dedicated restructuring website, www.BSArestructuring.org.

This site includes a helpful [Resources](#) page, where you will find a short video explaining what Chapter 11 means for Scouting, as well as a FAQ. The site's [Milestones](#) page will be your best source for the latest updates throughout this process.



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IMMEDIATE ACTION REQUIRED

Note: if you have already submitted your background check authorization form to the Council Office when you received this email from BSA, then you can disregard this reminder.

The Boy Scouts of America (BSA) is committed first and foremost to keeping youth safe. Part of that commitment includes continually updating our youth protection policies to help ensure we are always on the forefront of youth safety.

As you know, one of the BSA's many barriers to abuse is a mandatory criminal background check during the adult volunteer application process. **The BSA will now also perform periodic rechecks of criminal backgrounds to support the continued safety of youth in our programs.**

Please complete the process listed below at your earliest availability to help us continue to provide the safest environment possible for our Scouts and leaders. **Please note that these steps must be completed before your 2020 annual registration can be processed.**

1. Review the two separate disclosure documents linked below that are being provided to you separately for your review. They are titled "Background Check Disclosure" and "California State Law Disclosures (Non-Credit)."
2. Once you have reviewed them, print the separate document titled "Additional Disclosures & Background Check Authorization." Review the additional disclosures on that form, then complete and sign the Authorization using an ink/wet signature. *Note: A print signature is required for this document. Electronic signatures will not be accepted.*
3. Turn in the signed "Additional Disclosures & Background Check Authorization" form promptly to your unit leader or local council service center.

If you choose to decline the background check, or if you do not complete the Additional Disclosures & Background Check Authorization form and return it to your unit leader or local council service center, your 2020 annual registration will not be processed.

We are truly grateful for your continued commitment to keeping youth safe and for helping them learn, grow, and thrive through Scouting programs.

[Background Check Disclosure](#)

[California State Law Disclosures \(Non-Credit\)](#)

[Additional Disclosures & Background Check Authorization](#)

(This is the one you actually submit to the Council)



Congratulations to the Newest Muir Eagle Scouts

Matthew Hubbard, T492, 1/30/2020. Project Name: "CVCHS Little League Bleachers/Benches". Project Description: Removing cracked, splintered planks of wood from 2 existing bleachers (18 planks) and 2 existing picnic tables (10 planks). Clearing area of garbage, cleaning and painting rusty, dirty metal

structure. Sanding, priming, and painting new planks, drilling holes, attaching to metal frames with washers and bolts. This project improved both safety and appearance of seating for the Little League area.

Quinn O'Connor, T484, 2/3/2020. Project Name: "SFA Sound System". Project Description: GoFundMe fundraising, researching sound systems, planning where and how to install, buying and installing a sound system for the St. Francis of Assisi School, to replace a sound system that did not send sound to all parts of the quad. Purchasing four speakers and a mixer then drilling and wiring along the ceiling to distribute sound well, up high so the students will not be likely to knock them down. The Scout received permission from the priest to have the school principal be the beneficiary, since it is a Catholic school run by the St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church.

Brenden Jin, T444, 2/4/2020. Project Name: "Borges Ranch Indigenous Planting". Project Description: This project is a conservation project. It included Fundraising at Rocco's Pizza, price comparison between Tractor Supply Company and Concord Feed, purchasing and renting a UHAUL truck, delivery of materials, researching how to install the fencing, especially on a slope, planting a grove of five indigenous trees to replace dead trees, and installing hog wire fencing around each tree. The ranger applied for the necessary permit to dig, and at the Scout's request the ranger watered the area thoroughly the day before the project began to soften the ground for digging holes for trees and fence posts. The fences protect the trees from cattle which are a 4H project, and the trees provide shade for the cattle, improve air quality, and add to the natural beauty of the area.

Christian Schmidt, T370, 2/13/2020. Project Name: "Marching Band Uniform Racks for LHS MB". Project Description: Replacing 2 heavy, difficult to move racks, with 3 new uniform racks made lighter, to accommodate increased number of uniforms this year. The new racks are made of welded steel, with less wood, so are easier to move, and they hold more marching band hats (shakos). The new racks are 26 inches long, 8 and 2/3 inches wide, and 71 2/3 inches tall. The three racks can hold 40 uniforms and up to 42 shakos. The metal racks were welded, an angle grinder was used to ensure the corners of the angle iron weren't sharp, sanding blocks were also used, then the metal racks were painted. Casters were installed for ease of movement, with brakes at the back for keeping them in place as needed.

Benjamin Maier, T444, 2/18/2020. Project Name: "Building Picnic Tables for the YV Library". Project Description: Construction of two hexagonal redwood picnic tables for the front garden area of the Ygnacio Valley Library. The project included buying materials, sawing and sanding wood to proper dimensions, assembling the section, and coating each table with stain. When dry, the tables were assembled in the front garden area, adding rubber padding and attaching both benches with chain. The front outside garden area is a popular spot for middle school and high school students to gather after school. The picnic tables give them a suitable place to sit, eat, do homework or socialize, remaining within the safe boundaries of the library. This project improved the experience of the students and the people inside the library.



Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmasters. To be registered as TRAINED in your role you need to complete the following courses

- Scoutmaster/ Assistant Scoutmaster Position Training
- Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills
- Hazardous Weather
- YPT Youth Protections

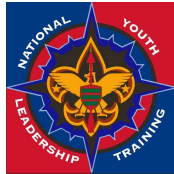
HAZARDOUS WEATHER TRAINING

Please take or update your training before your first outdoor or camping activity.

Since April 2018 BSA has required adult volunteer direct-contact leaders in all outdoor programs to take the NEW (April 2018) *Hazardous Weather Training* (SCO_800). This training is [available online](https://www.mdscbsa.org/hazardous-weather-training/).
<https://www.mdscbsa.org/hazardous-weather-training/>

This change affects [basic position-specific leader training](#) for:

- Cub Scouting (Cubmaster, Assistant Cubmaster, Den Leader, Assistant Den Leader)
- Scouts BSA (Scoutmaster, Assistant Scoutmaster)
- Venturing (Crew Advisor and Associate Advisor)
- Sea Scouts BSA (all Adult Leaders)
- Exploring (Advisor and Associate Advisor)



The BSA NYLT Conference presents what a leader must BE, what a leader must KNOW and what a leader must DO, by applying modern leadership and team development theories in a co-ed environment.

Participants camp, work, play and learn – living a month in the life of a model troop/team/crew condensed into an intense week long or two weekend conference. They experience the stages of team development, practice from a “toolbox” of leadership skills and learn that leadership requires vision, goals, and planning.

Participants learn how to be a leading influence in their own unit; discovering resources, methods, games and new skills to make unit meetings, treks and other activities more exciting and worthwhile. They also develop skills that help them emerge as leaders outside their units – at school and in the community.

Who may attend?

Qualified candidates will meet the following criteria...

- Young men and women are at least 13 years of age or completed eighth grade.
- Scouts BSA that have achieved the first class rank.
- Currently serve in a youth leadership position, or possess the skills and ambition to undertake a role in leadership.
- Have completed Troop/Crew Leadership Training in their unit.
- Are comfortable with long-term camping.
- Are endorsed by their unit leaders as exhibiting maturity, a positive attitude, focus and aspirations to serve through leadership.

Note: To enable broad council participation and the best youth experience, the number of participants from each unit may be limited. Additional reservations and out-of-council registrations are subject to availability.

Stay tuned for the registration link for NYLT Summer Course on the Council Website.

Save the Date: Muir-Briones Day Camp 2020 – July 6-10

Muir-Briones Day Camp is looking for key staff volunteers for 2020.

- Day Camp Director (Sept 2019 – July 2020)
- Communications Coordinator (Sept 2019 – July 2020)
- Volunteer Coordinator (April 2020-July 2020)
- Food Service Manager (June 2020-July 2020)

Descriptions:

Day Camp Director – Reports to the District Executive (staff member of the council), Must attend Camp School (Training which is good for 5 years), Is part of the Council Day Camp committee that meets once a month on the 3rd Monday of the month, has overall responsibility for Day Camp, Supervise the volunteer personnel and operating details of the camp.

Pre-Camp Duties: Prepares camp budget, Locate and Secure Camp Location (location Agreement), hold meetings with key staff, pack reps and troop reps, opens up camp registration on Jan 1, conducts Volunteer training, updates standards binder, Orders supplies, puts together daily prize program and orders prizes. Assigns scouts to dens based on rank, tries to keep scouts from the same pack same rank in a den together.

During Camp: Accreditation including show the accreditation team around camp, answers questions, goes over Day Camp binder. Supervises set and take down of camp, leads the opening and closing ceremonies along with Program Director, Daily prize program and takes care of problems arising at camp.

Communications Coordinator - Promotes day camp attendance and volunteer recruiting at: Roundtables, Pack meetings, Troop Meetings, Schools,

Newspapers/Social Media/On-Line News. Communication with Parents about camp including hours, sign-in, pick-up, what to bring, what is expected.

Unexpired current Youth Protection Certificate

Fill out an Adult Application if not registered with you Pack, Troop or Crew.

Volunteer Coordinator – Assigns adult and Jr. Helpers to tasks at camp. Collects volunteer paper work including, medical forms, shooting forms, Youth Protection, leaders guide signature, Adult Applications and Youth Applications for Jr. Helpers (if not already registered).

Food Service Manager - This person needs a food handler's card and will be responsible for camp kitchen. Duties include picking up donated fruit and Vegie's on Saturday before camp, Pick up (buying) popcorn and snow cone supplies as need from Cash and Carry, picking up (buying) hot dog lunch supplies at Sam Club on Thursday night of camp, Picking up (buying with donated gift cards) volunteer breakfast items from Safeway. You will be supervising kitchen volunteers with coffee and hot water making, preparing veggies and fruit, popping popcorn, making snow cones, washing and sanitizing dishes and machines.

Working on Eagle? Here are your contacts:

District Advancement Chair: Bill Spalding: 925-586-9136, spaldingwilliam62@gmail.com

District Eagle Project Approval: Carl Bodin: 415-816-7307, cbodin@usa.net

District Eagle Board of Review: Karen Hansen: 925-825-9132, eaglechairkarenhansen@gmail.com



Twitter



Facebook



Like us on Facebook

District Communications Contact

If you would like to contribute items to the Muir Newsletter or the Muir Facebook Page or Instagram, please contact **Patrick Jaime**, patrickj0208@yahoo.com by the *21st of every month* so that it can be added to the outgoing newsletters.

District Committee Leadership

- **Alan Young** - District Director, alan.young@scouting.org
- **Sheila Rowntree** - District Chair, rowntreesheila@att.net
- **Paul Steelhammer** - District Commissioner, PaulSteelhammer.MDC@gmail.com

Want to change how you receive these emails? You are receiving this newsletter because you have a Scout, you are a registered leader, or you are interested in Scouting events in the Concord, Clayton, Martinez, or Pacheco areas. **Please do not unsubscribe! This is your source for valuable information on Scouting in the Muir District as well as for the Mt. Diablo Silverado Council.** If you have any questions or concerns regarding the newsletter, please contact **Patrick Jaime**, patrickj0208@yahoo.com. **If you do not wish to receive this newsletter, please reply to this email and Patrick will take you off the District email list. If you unsubscribe yourself, you will not receive any communications from Council, and we don't want that to happen.**

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).