

Members of the Ukulele Club of Wheaton Senior Center

11701 Georgia Avenue

Wheaton, Maryland 20902

3 April 2025

Montgomery County Councilmembers

100 Maryland Avenue

Rockville, Maryland 20850

Dear Councilmembers,

We are writing as residents of Montgomery County regarding the upcoming budget cycle for 55+ classes, particularly at the Wheaton Senior Center. We are all ukulele enthusiasts who have benefitted from classes in the past. Upon hearing the news last year that these classes would no longer be offered, one of our members took the initiative to suggest the creation of a club whereby members would continue to meet weekly following a self-directed model. The suggestion was quickly approved. We were thrilled to later learn that a teacher from Carpe Diem Arts would meet with us twice a month. The response to such an arrangement has been well-received. All sessions have been filled to capacity with a wait list.

Our purpose in writing at this time is to express our gratitude for the 55+ programming that we all currently enjoy. We would like to see funding go towards classes that are especially popular, such as the ukulele classes at the Wheaton Recreation Center. Specifically, we ask that sufficient funds be allocated so that the beginning and intermediate classes could be reinstated. As evidenced by past enrollment, there is considerable and continuing interest in ukulele classes. Learning to play an instrument engages the brain, improving memory and concentration. Moreover, participants benefit from the camaraderie of the group activity.

We appreciate your attention to this matter and look forward to a positive response. Thank you for your service to Montgomery County.

Sincerely,

Signed by members of the Let's Practice Ukulele! Club,

Judy Gardner  
Susan Chaudry

Begins Zen

Frank

June Dean

Ivy

Quel & Selva

Chauhan-Doyles-Hymer

Robert A. Plathy

Lee Homewood

Jo Ann Keene

Lathie Tumin

Madel Eamus

Doral McVie

Judith Reiter

