

# Berwyn Heights Bulletin

Incorporated 1896 ★ Sixth Oldest Municipality in Prince George's County

March 2014



## Talent Show

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Town Council Election

**Candidate Filing Deadline - March 4**

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## GET ALERTS

Local Public Safety, Weather, Traffic  
and now...

### Town of Berwyn Heights Closings & Cancellations

Sign up with Nixle or Town Twitter mail:

<https://local.nixle.com/register/>

<https://twitter.com/BerwynHeightsMD>

*See Berwyn Heights Town and Police websites for more information.*

## TAX TIME IS COMING!

### REMEMBER YOUR TOWN

Please remember to specify Berwyn Heights as your municipality on your State income tax return. Each year Berwyn Heights loses out on income tax revenues when residents put down the wrong municipality, or do not put down any municipality. Income tax revenues that should come to Berwyn Heights often go to College Park because we share the same zip code. To prevent your income taxes going to College Park, or another town, or the County, mark **BERWYN HEIGHTS** as your municipality on your State income tax return.

## TOWN COUNCIL ELECTION

TUESDAY, MAY 6, 7am - 7pm

### TUESDAY, MARCH 4, Filing Deadline

#### *For Town Council Candidate*

Qualifications:

- × At least 21 years of age;
- × Duly registered to vote in Town of Berwyn Heights;
- × Town resident for at least six months prior to the date of the election;
- × File Nomination Petition with at least 5 signatures of eligible voters by March 4.

Forms and information are available at the Town office, 5700 Berwyn Road, Tel. 301-474-5000; or go to our website: <http://www.berwyn-heights.com/forms.html>

### *Election Information*

**Voter Registration:** Contact the Prince George's County Board of Elections (301-430-8020) to request an application; or download an application from their website, or fill out an online application at:

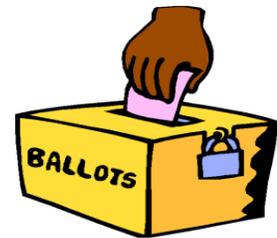
<http://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/sites/Elections/VoterInformation/Information/Pages/default.aspx>

**Supplementary Registration:** The Town of Berwyn Heights carries out supplementary registrations valid only for voting in Town elections. You can register with the Town up to April 7, 2014 at the Town office during office hours 9 am - 5 pm. Please bring a valid ID.

**Absentee ballots** can be requested starting April 7, 2014 and are available until one week prior to election, April 29.

**Candidates Night**, a forum for candidates to introduce themselves and answer questions from residents, is scheduled for Wednesday, April 23, 2014, 8:00 pm at the Town Center.

For more information, please contact Kerstin Harper, Town Clerk at (301) 474-5000; or send an e-mail to: [kharper@town.berwyn-heights.md.us](mailto:kharper@town.berwyn-heights.md.us)



## Town Meeting January 8, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 p.m. Present were Mayor Calvo, Mayor Pro Tem (MPT) Wilkinson, CMs Almoguera, and Kulpa-Eddy. CM Dennison had an excused absence. Also present were Town Administrator (TA) Murphy, Chief of Police Antolik, Treasurer Lape, Clerk Harper and citizens.

Mayor Calvo led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### 1. Minutes

Clerk Harper read a summary of the December 12 Town meeting minutes. On a motion by MPT Wilkinson and second by CM Kulpa-Eddy, the December 12 Town meeting minutes were approved 4 to 0.

### 2. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Lape gave the Treasurer's report for the month of December. MPT Wilkinson noted that year-to-date revenues are substantially below last year's. Treasurer Lape said that this likely is a mistake where a "0" was accidentally omitted from the figure. She will check and make a correction to the report.

### 3. Mayor's Report

Mayor Calvo reported on the state of the Town. He said that the Town came out of its first year of the triennial reassessment in good financial shape. While residents saw a reduction in real property taxes due to the lower real estate values, the Town had to cope with a decline of around \$300,000 in property tax revenues. Unlike most neighboring municipalities, Berwyn Heights did not raise its tax rate, but chose to cut spending, while protecting its priorities, and draw from the surplus. The Town was able to do this because 1) income tax receipts continued to go up and made up part of the shortfall; and 2) the Town did not overspend during the good times of rising revenue but managed its finances responsibly.

Mayor Calvo said he has high hopes that the Town will weather the years to the next reassessment. He now wants to focus on how to make property values go back up, and what the Town can do to make Berwyn Heights a more attractive place to live. He thinks that there are four important ways to go about it.

1. Continue to provide the core services of police protection, trash pickup, code enforcement and friendly customer service at the Town office in a financially responsible way;
2. Continue to improve quality of life in Berwyn Heights by up-

grading parks, adding sidewalks, promoting economic development, and supporting the initiatives of the Green Team as well as the activities of other community organizations;

3. Restructuring Town government to give more operational control to a new Town administrator, as TA Murphy is getting ready to retire and new leadership is taking the reins in the other departments. He believes that it is time to phase out the old commissioner style of government, which relies extensively on informal cooperation, and does not work so well anymore; and
4. Planning for a wholesale renovation of Town streets, many of which are in bad shape despite the crack-sealing and patching by the Public Works Department. The Town's 3 cent road tax and the reduced Highway User Revenues from the State of Maryland are not sufficient to maintain the infrastructure at an acceptable level. In addition, the Town's facilities need upgrades beyond the improvements made over the last couple of years. The Town may also want to consider building a permanent police station instead of renting space that gets more expensive every year. This Council may give consideration to putting together a capital improvement plan that funds these long term infrastructure needs.

He is hopeful this can be accomplished. This Council has been the most productive of the Councils he has served with, with each councilmember making important contributions.

### 4. Department Reports

**Administration:** CM Almoguera reported that the FY 2013 audit is complete and has been published. In the new "Geraldine Love" meeting room the heating ducts have been installed but additional work is needed to install a cold air return duct.

**Code Compliance:** CM Kulpa-Eddy reported on the state of the Code Compliance Department. The last year saw both plusses and minuses involving personnel, vehicles and an ordinance. The department lost its long-time director, when Sonjia Solomon resigned in September. Two part-time code officers, Charles Hall and Kyle Snyder, and a part-time code clerk, Zelda Bell are working hard to keep the department running, with TA

Murphy acting as a temporary director. Residents are requested to be patient if inquiries are not answered right away, as the code office is not staffed on an ongoing basis.

On the plus side, the Code Department has one brand-new code vehicle and one new, used vehicle, obtained from the Police Department's stock of decommissioned police cars. Another accomplishment is the revision of Ordinance 118 - Roads and Public Right-of-Ways to establish standards and a permit requirement for any work done on Town property. Residents need to make sure that any work done on their property does not result in muddy streets or sidewalks, and that shrubs and trees are trimmed so as not to interfere with traffic signs, fire hydrants or utility meters.

In the new year, CM Kulpa-Eddy is looking forward to restaffing the department and hiring a new code director. The Council may also want to revisit Ordinance 120 - Rental Housing and review the working relationship with the County. But with elections coming up in May, these will be decisions for the new Council.

**Parks and Recreation, Education and Civic Affairs:** Mayor Calvo said that the winners of the holiday decorating contest will be announced when CM Dennison returns.

**Public Health and Safety:** Chief Antolik gave the police activities report for December. There were 5 Part I offenses, better than the 5 year average of 8. The 2013 total was 63, as opposed to the 5 year average of 90. The police also issued 30 State and 55 Town citations, as well as a total of 381 speed camera citations. Chief Antolik further noted that there has been a steady and significant decline in serious crimes over the last 10 years. Total Part I offenses came to 1067, with a yearly average of 106, whereas this year's total is only 63. There also was a shift in the balance of crimes, with violent crimes down compared to property crimes. Chief Antolik attributed these outcomes to proactive policing and community partnerships, such as the cooperation with the Neighborhood Watch and private residents.

In response to Mayor Calvo's question about the level of engagement of new residents, Chief Antolik replied that the police, including himself, will often introduce themselves when they see new people move into Town. They will briefly explain how to avoid getting ticketed and let them know where the Town offices and police department are located and some of the services provided. Usually,

the reaction is one of surprise. There has been a significant increase in requests for house checks over previous years, especially over the holidays. The demand for BH vehicle stickers is also up, as the Police continue to advertise them.

**Public Works:** MPT Wilkinson reported that he attended a meeting of Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) at Parkdale High School last night. Officers of the Capital Programs Office were present and informed him that engineering specifications for the sidewalks through the Greenbelt bus depot have been completed and sent to bid. He is hopeful that the sidewalks will be built this year to provide a safe route to school for Greenbelt Middle School students.

In Public Works news, the crew plowed and salted the streets during recent snow events. The roads were still slippery in the morning because the salt the Town gets from SHA is environmentally-friendly and works better during mild frosts. In addition to snow removal, the crew collected trash and removed a downed tree on Quebec Place, getting help from the Police and Code in blocking off the street. Loose leaf collection concluded and all yard waste must now be bagged in brown paper bags or a designated yard waste container.

In the coming year, the focus will be on obtaining more training for Public Works employees to comply with the latest safety procedures. The Department also joined the State Recycling Network, which will give it access to discounted recycling equipment and to educational resources. Residents were reminded to break down big boxes if they put them out for recycling, and to take care not to drive over any trash can lids that may have been blown into the street on windy days.

CM Almoguera left early for family reasons.

**5. Committee Reports**

**Green Team:** Mayor Calvo said in December the Green Team was able to spread the mulch in the future community garden, despite being delayed by bad weather.

**Neighborhood Watch/Emergency Preparedness:** CM Kulpa-Eddy reported that the NW/EP held its first meeting of the new year in the recently remodeled meeting room. The room was nice but very cold. The committee worked on its FY 2015 budget and discussed holding a fund-raising event in April. The next meeting is on February 5.

**6. Unfinished Business**

There was none.

**7. New Business**

There was none.

**8. Citizens Discussion**

There was none.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:59 p.m.

Kerstin Harper, Town Clerk

**W**orksession  
January 13, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Present were Mayor Cheye Calvo, Mayor Pro Tem (MPT) James Wilkinson, and Councilmembers (CM) Rose Almoguera, Patricia Dennison and Jodie Kulpa-Eddy. Also present were town administrator (TA) Edward Murphy, Clerk Kerstin Harper, Berwyn Heights Volunteer Fire Department & Rescue Squad President James Hurley and Chief Danny McCoy, C.P. Johnson engineer Gary Dyson, as well as Representatives for the Greenbelt Station south core, Justin Frye and north core, Garth Beall.

**1. Mayor**

**Announcements:** There were none.

**Calendar:** The tentative date for the Student Mock Town Council meeting of April 7 needs to be confirmed with Berwyn Heights Elementary School.

**Minutes:** On a motion by CM Dennison and second by MPT Wilkinson, the December 16 worksession minutes were approved 5 to 0.

**Department Reports:** Mayor Calvo reported that he will serve on an advisory committee for Governing Magazine, which will hold a free leadership seminar for state and local officials on March 27 in College Park. Berwyn Heights councilmembers and employees are invited to attend. In Police Department news, the crime report was good. During the first week of January, there was a scheduled 4-hour break in BHPD service, which passed without incident.

MPT Wilkinson reported that he was asked to speak at the January 23 BHES PTA meeting about school safety issues. This is a follow-up to the policies and procedures implemented after the Sandyhook school shootings last year. The Public Works crew was ready to clear snow during 2 recent snow events.

CM Dennison announced the winners of the annual holiday decorating contest: Best House - Nylsa Ryan, 8900 58th

Avenue; Best Yard - Michael Chismar, Jr. of 8601 Cunningham Drive; Best Overall - Juan and Norman Pineda of 8711 58th Avenue.

**Citizen Comments:** MPT Wilkinson had an email exchange with a resident about trash removal during snow days. CM Almoguera received a thank you message for naming the new meeting room after former Town Librarian Geraldine Love and a suggestion to have a ribbon-cutting in spring. Mayor Calvo had a conversation with a home owner on Ruatan Street, whose home has been undergoing construction for over a year. He informed them that the neighbors are inconvenienced by the continued work. He also received a suggestion that a system be set up at the Town office to post pictures of runaway dogs so that they can be viewed and identified by other Town residents.

**Berwyn Heights Volunteer Fire Department:**

Mayor Calvo welcomed BHVFD President James Hurley and Fire Chief Danny McCoy, who assumed leadership of the fire station last year. Mr. Hurley thanked the Council for the invitation. He explained that, as President, he is chairing the board of directors, which handles most of the administrative work of the Fire Department. Chief McCoy, who previously served 9 years as assistant chief, oversees the operational side. Mr. Hurley said the BHVFD is widely regarded as one of the best-run fire stations in the County. It has been able to manage its operations without shortfalls and staff cutbacks and responded to 100% of calls it was dispatched to. However, securing funding and recruiting and retaining volunteers has become more difficult, and the BHVFD has reached a point where it must make some strategic decisions to ensure its continued existence.

Mr. Hurley said that revenues from the local fund drive have continued their gradual decline. More importantly, a review of the last budget showed the BHVFD's principle source of funding, ambulance billing, declining significantly after Prince George's County adopted a new billing system last year. To keep those revenues up, and to ensure continued coverage, the Department plans to replace its more than 10 years old ambulances at a price of \$160,000 - \$200,000 each. In addition, the fire house is showing wear and tear from the constant use of 13 volunteers, who staff it year round. In short, it is getting more difficult for the BHVFD to make ends meet.

Mr. Hurley continued that the BHVFD is looking for a stronger relationship with the Town to allow for better long term

planning and financial stability. Their preferred model is the City of Greenbelt, which appropriates the fixed sum of \$88,000 for its fire department every year. The money is set aside in different accounts until enough money has accumulated to purchase a needed piece of equipment or make a needed investment. Greenbelt's city council oversees the money and must give final approval for any expenditures. The importance of such an arrangement lies in adding a stable source of revenue for the BHVFD, not in the amount of money appropriated. The BHVFD hopes to learn if the Town is interested in such a relationship.

Mayor Calvo said he sees the landscape of fire fighting changing, with volunteer fire companies fading and the County's career fire departments taking on more responsibilities and receiving more funding. The strength of the BHVFD seems to be the exception to the rule. Further, the focus of fire departments appears to be shifting away from fighting fires to emergency rescue missions. He asked how the BHVFD is adjusting to the changes.

In the ensuing question and answer session, Mr. Hurley and McCoy said that the BHVFD, in many respects, is an exception to the general trends. It has been able to attract enough volunteers to respond to the high volume of calls it receives. However, this is tied to the apparatus the company maintains. For example, the BHVFD has added a technical rescue unit, which responds to many accidents that occur on the Beltway and the BWI Parkway. Without the apparatus it would not attract the volunteers it needs. The proportion between fire fighting and rescue missions is about 60% to 40%, whereas it is 20% to 80% nationally. BHVFD has been affected by staffing cuts of career fire fighters at neighboring volunteer fire stations. BHVFD now covers some of Branchville's and Riverdale's response areas, when no career fighters are on duty, and is preparing for an eventual cut of career fighters in Berwyn Heights. While Prince George's County has not pushed the volunteer companies to merge, it has used its resources to build new fire stations staffed by career fighters elsewhere.

Mr. Hurley gave an overview of the BHVFD budget, which fluctuates between \$280,000 - \$300,000.

Revenues are as follows:

- \$80,000 - \$100,000 fluctuating ambulance billing receipts
- \$52,000 - investment income

- \$40,000 - rental income from two properties, which houses mostly fire fighters
- \$30,000 - State Amos contributions administered by Prince George's County
- \$20,000 - Prince George's County Presidents' fund
- \$15,000 - Berwyn Heights fund drive, including Westchester Park (down from \$20,000)
- \$15,000 - City of College Park contribution
- \$5,000-\$10,000 - City of Greenbelt fluctuating contribution
- \$1,000 - Town of Berwyn Heights contribution
- \$15,000 - Christmas tree sales and other miscellaneous receipts

Expenditures:

- 160,000 - apparatus debt service
- \$120,000 - miscellaneous expenditures

Mayor Calvo commented that the volunteer companies are finding themselves in a difficult situation because the career fire fighters have more influence with the County government, which results in tax dollars being spent in areas other than those served by volunteer companies. There is no question in his mind that the BHVFD has great value to the Town, part of which is the pride that comes from having the best fire station in the County; the question is how to structure this relationship. He asked what the company most needs, apart from day to day operating requirements.

Mr. Hurley and McCoy replied that, long-term, they need a better facility that has more rooms for its members. They are exploring all options, from renovating the existing fire house to building a new station on a property they now own, to leveraging their property to buy a new property on which to build a larger station. The options also include negotiating with parties interested in hosting a fire department, such as the developers of Greenbelt Station. They recently met with the Greenbelt Station developer to explore locating a new station in the south core, which were productive but limited. Any deal would have to be mutually beneficial and have to help the developer sell properties. If the FBI headquarters relocates to Greenbelt Station's north core, BHVFD

would have first call, with everything else remaining as is.

Mayor Calvo thanked Mr. Hurley and McCoy for coming in to discuss the BHVFD situation. He considers this to be a starting conversation on how to best help the company stay in business and in the Town.

At 8:25 p.m., the Council took a 10 minute break.

**63rd Avenue sidewalks revised design:** Mayor Calvo welcomed Gary Dyson of C.P. Johnson Engineers, who prepared the preliminary design for the sidewalk in the 8900 block of 63rd Avenue. TA Murphy explained that the 5' wide sidewalk and 3' green space will be entirely in the public right-of-way. Sidewalks can be constructed either with a retaining wall, where the property has a steep slope, or by grading the slope back 10' into the property, which will require an easement from the Church. If the grading option is chosen, the total disturbed area from sidewalk construction will exceed 50,000 square feet, and will put the project over the limit for being exempted from the County's stormwater offset requirement. The grading option would be cheaper than the retaining wall, if the stormwater mitigation is taken out of the equation. Further, the Berwyn Presbyterian Church requested replacement of the existing stairs and walkway to the church front door with an ADA accessible ramp.

Mayor Calvo said that the project only adds approximately 1,100 square feet of paved surface. The disturbed area from grading the slope would remain unpaved and able to absorb stormwater. He thinks this may be an issue that can be negotiated with the County, since the Town has already agreed to build a stormwater mitigation project at the Public Works yard that appears to meet with County approval. He plans to contact the Director of the Department of Environmental Resources (DER) to come to an agreement but needs precise information on the amount of paved as opposed to disturbed area created by the project.

MPT Wilkinson asked TA Murphy to ascertain if the *Safe Routes to School* grant would pay for a stormwater mitigation project. He also noted that the proposed ADA ramp will not line up with the entrance to McDonald's and people may cut through the grassy area. Further he asked that McDonald's should be reminded to make its property more pedestrian friendly if plans to upgrade the restaurant are implemented. He then moved for the Council to approve the proposed design with the ADA ramp and graded slope, subject to obtaining an

ease from the Church, and a waiver for stormwater mitigation from the County. CM Almoguera seconded. The motion passed 5 to 0.

**Priority I sidewalks update:** TA Murphy explained that the Town needs to get approval from the County for the stormwater mitigation project at the Public Works yard to move forward with the priority I sidewalks project. One step in the approval process is sending a letter of notification about the stormwater mitigation project to residents, who live on the streets where the sidewalks will be built. The Council instructed TA Murphy to send the notices.

**Greenbelt Station development - SHA access permit:** Mayor Calvo welcomed Justin Frye of the Woodlawn Development Group, who serves as project director for the south core development, and Garth Beall representing the north core developers. He stated for the record that the Council received a briefing on proposed revisions to the Greenbelt Station conceptual site plan at the last worksession. One of the concerns raised, was that SHA was holding up the permit for the connector road to access Greenbelt Road, which has delayed the start of construction.

Mr. Fry said that the developers have paid the fees and posted the bonds required for the access permit and expect to receive it any day. The County has already issued the building permits, and the County Planning Board will hold a hearing on the revised CSP at the end of January. Mr. Beall added that the north core developers are submitting proposed revisions to their site plan as part of the same package. It is proposed to realign the connector road in the north core so as to be able to offer the FBI a larger parcel that better meets security requirements. It also realigns a hiker-biker trail to avoid traversing an environmentally sensitive area and the FBI security buffer.

In response to CM Almoguera, Mr. Fry clarified that the revisions in the south core CSP reducing commercial space were requested because the south core is likely to be a viable retail site only if the north core is developed. Mr. Beall added that the north core, if developed, programs about 2.1 million square feet of commercial space and 2 million of mixed use, of which 100,000 square feet would be retail. He also noted that the General Services Administration (GSA) may select the future site of the FBI in March. MPT Wilkinson said he heard from Congressman Steny Hoyer's office that the top 2 sites will be selected in March, with a final selection not due until later this

year.

Mayor Calvo asked the Council to take a position on the proposed CSP revisions. Personally, he supports all changes, with the exception of the reduction in retail in the south core from 80,000 to 5,000 square feet. MPT Wilkinson said he regrets the elimination of the pedestrian Metro overpass from the south core to north College Park, which was requested by the City of College Park. Mayor Calvo noted that this will make it more difficult for children from the south core to reach a future school on the other side the tracks. It may mean that the children will end up at Berwyn Heights Elementary School since they would have to be bused at any rate. CM Kulpa-Eddy clarified that the Greenbelt Station sector plan does not propose a reduction in retail; it merely allows it if retail cannot be attracted by 2018. The sector plan also specifies that the remaining commercial space cannot be a gas station.

MPT Wilkinson moved and CM Almoguera seconded to send a letter of support for the proposed CSP revisions, with the exception of the steep reduction in retail space. The motion passed 5 to 0.

**FY 2015 budget goals and priorities:** Mayor Calvo said that he would like the Council to continue the conversation about budget priorities begun at the last worksession. MPT Wilkinson said most residents would support funding to reinstate the 8th officer. He also thought that adding playground equipment for older children at Pop's Park is desirable. CM Almoguera said there is very little room to add new equipment, and it would be expensive. However, it may be possible to move equipment to create space.

Mayor Calvo said he generally favors increasing support for the BHVFD but he does not have any specific ideas about how to best do that. CM Almoguera agreed. She thinks having a fire station in Town is of great value to the Town because it shortens response time for emergencies, and indirectly increases property values. Mayor Calvo is interested to learn if support for the BHVFD can be tied to the County tax differential, so that the Town would be reimbursed, at least in part, for the additional expenses. TA Murphy was asked to look into it.

**Four Cities agenda:** The next Four Cities meeting will take place in College Park and feature UMD President Wallace Loh. Items proposed for the agenda included volunteer fire department issues, and follow up on the UMD faculty survey announced at the last meeting with President Loh.

## 2. Code Compliance

**Code supervisor job description:** CM Kulpa-Eddy said she asked for the item to be added because she would like to keep the hiring of a new code supervisor on the table and move toward publishing a job announcement. She asked if TA Murphy has further information on combining the town administrator (TA) and code supervisor searches. TA Murphy replied that he negotiated the reduced price of \$12,000 for the code supervisor job search with the same search firm that would perform the town administrator search, and he is working on producing a town administrator hiring blue print. Since Mayor Calvo proposed to hire a code supervisor who is also an assistant TA, the Council needs to make a decision which route to take.

Mayor Calvo said he believes that the Council should take this opportunity to restructure Town government by 1) giving the TA more control over day-to-day operations; and 2) re-integrating the Code Department with the Administration Department by creating a position for an assistant TA who would supervise the Code Department part-time. The who oversees the Code Department would continue to give policy direction. He has thought about this deeply and increasingly believes that it is in the Town's best long-term interest. It would better use the Town's limited staff resources; because it adds what the Council needs most: more administrative support to implement its policy agenda.

CM Kulpa-Eddy disagreed. She believes creating a TA/ code supervisor position would combine two very disparate jobs. This could fragment the work of the Code Department, and lead to more frequent breakdowns in communication. Conversely, a full time code supervisor would be able to patrol the Town and commercial district Monday - Friday and also perform daytime rental inspections. The part-time officer hours could then be cut back to cover weekend rental inspections and patrols only.

CM Almoguera supported the creation of an assistant TA with code responsibilities. Communication breakdowns would likely be avoided if an assistant is on the job full time, even if dealing with code matters only part time. As she sees it, much of the work of the code supervisor is administrative in nature and similar to a TA's responsibilities. CM Kulpa-Eddy replied she thinks there will be problem with divided loyalties. A code director is also likely to have a different relationship with residents than a TA.

Mayor Calvo said when there is a difficult

code issue; the TA gets involved as it is. His proposal tries to solve what he perceives to be biggest problem that is to increase the TA's bandwidth so all the Council's priorities can be carried out. In his ten years as Mayor, he has come to the conclusion that the Town should move away from running departments as independent fiefdoms, but instead should try to leverage synergies between departments. While Police and Public Works are large specialty departments that should have their own hierarchy, the Code and Administration Departments have a lot of commonalities that would make it feasible and more efficient to combine certain functions.

CM Kulpa-Eddy said that she does not object to having a code supervisor report to the TA, but thinks a combined position would not produce the efficiencies envisioned. Apart from that, it would be difficult to find a person who can adequately serve both departments for the salary the Town is able to pay.

Mayor Calvo said that the Council needs to get to a point where they agree on a common vision for restructuring the Town government. Then a plan can be adopted to execute the vision. Meanwhile, he would like TA Murphy to obtain a proposal for hiring a TA and an assistant TA/ code supervisor from the search firm he is working with.

Nothing was discussed under **3. Parks and Recreation** and **4. Public Safety**

#### 5. Public Works

**ATHA grant:** MPT Wilkinson said that the deadline for a letter of intent to apply for an Anacostia Trails Heritage Association (ATHA) grant is coming up on January 29. He would like to explore obtaining a grant to install signage for the Indian Creek hiker/ biker trail in Berwyn Heights. Mayor Calvo said he supports better signage for bike trails. He also would like to follow up on ATHA's promise to fund the Lake Artemesia concert. He noted that the Berwyn Heights Historical Committee (BHHC) acts as Town's liaison to ATHA and should be able to advise on the grants. MPT Wilkinson said he will contact the BHHC officers and revisit the item at the next worksession.

#### 6. Administration

**FY 2015 Budget:** TA Murphy distributed the FY 2013 Budget - Final Summary, including actuals going back to FY 2008.

**Personnel Manual:** CM Almoguera explained that she reviewed a number of personnel manuals from other Maryland municipalities as preparation for revising the Berwyn Heights manual. The Town

of Smithsburg's manual would be a good model. The purpose of the rewrite is to ensure the manual is up-to-date and to make it more user friendly. The parts most in need of updating are the table of contents, which should be more detailed, and the overall organization, to make the manual flow better. She has started to work on a draft manual, using an MML checklist of topics that should be covered in a personnel manual. She plans to populate the topics from Berwyn Heights' manual or from other manuals, if the topic is better explained elsewhere.

Mayor Calvo said he would choose a good template and import the good parts from the Berwyn Heights manual, rather than retaining the Berwyn Heights template and replace the sections that are inadequate. CM Almoguera replied this is pretty much her approach. Mayor Calvo said that he is comfortable with that. He would also ask that she highlight any issues that require policy input from the Council. He suggested that CM Almoguera continue to work on the manual and present a comprehensive draft for discussion at the next worksession.

MPT Wilkinson added the manual should also include policies on whistle-blower protection and records retention required under the Sarbanes/Oxley Tax Act. He also would like more information on what College Park's manual includes under the topic of "city property and equipment."

**Bulletin cover:** The following items were selected for the February Bulletin cover: Presidents' Day theme; headlines for Town Council election and BHHC Presidents' Day reception; jumps for budget requests, holiday trash collection and Boys & Girls Club registrations.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:43 p.m.

Kerstin Harper, Town Clerk

## Worksession

### January 27, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m. Present were Mayor Cheye Calvo, Mayor Pro Tem (MPT) James Wilkinson, and Councilmembers (CM) Rose Almoguera, Patricia Dennison and Jodie Kulpa-Eddy. Also present were Town Administrator (TA) Edward Murphy, Clerk Kerstin Harper, Green Team representatives Trinity Tomsic and Tim Lewis, and citizens.

#### 1. Mayor

**Announcements:** Prince George's County will hold budget hearings on

January 28, February 4 and February 12.

**Calendar:** The date for the Student Mock Town Council meeting is confirmed for April 7. The Recreation Council will host a new game night event on March 8, 6 p.m.

**Minutes:** On a motion by CM Kulpa-Eddy and second by CM Dennison, the January 13 worksession minutes were approved 5 to 0.

**Department Reports:** Mayor Calvo reported that he has not yet spoken with Adam Ortiz, Director of the Department of Environmental Resources (DER), about the priority 1 sidewalks storm water mitigation project at the Public Works yard because the matter falls under the jurisdiction of the Department of Permitting, Inspection and Enforcement (DPIE). However, he will raise it with County Executive Baker, whom he will meet within the next couple of weeks. A storm water mitigation project for the Safe Routes to School sidewalk project on 63rd Avenue will probably not be needed as the disturbed surface will remain under the 5,000 square feet threshold.

Mayor Calvo said that he had a follow-up conversation with James Hurley, President of the Berwyn Heights Volunteer Fire Department (BHVFD), and now has a better understanding of the Department's immediate needs. He encouraged the BHVFD board of directors to give the Council more details on their long term plans by March, so its request for financial support can be taken up during the budget discussions. At the last Prince George's County Municipal Association (PGCMA) meeting County fire chief Bashoor gave a presentation. He conceded that the last vendor the County used for ambulance billing did not correctly divide those revenues, and that the volunteer fire departments will be reimbursed for shortfalls. Chief Bashoor also gave an update on the new staffing system for career fire fighters and provided a map of where they are stationed. It underscored the importance of volunteer fire fighters in northern Prince George's County. MPT Wilkinson added that the Washington Post on January 25 published an article on the tensions between volunteer and professional fire fighters in Prince George's County. The County hired 250 career fire fighters in the last 3 years, which pulls resources from the volunteer companies. Mayor Calvo also noted that the Governor's budget has a small increase in Highway User Revenues to municipalities. Berwyn Heights is slotted to receive \$59,000 in FY 2015.

CM Kulpa-Eddy reported that she attended the District 22 legislative Reception in Annapolis last week, which at-

tracted a large number of delegates and candidates who will be running in the upcoming election. On the agenda for the 2014 legislative session are increases in the minimum wage, expansion of pre-K education to 4 year olds, decriminalization of marijuana, facilitating restraining orders in domestic violence cases, and the FBI headquarters relocation. MPT Wilkinson said he had a long conversation with Aaron Marcavitch, Director of the Anacostia Trails Heritage Association (ATHA), about Maryland Heritage Area Authority (MHAA) grants for bicycle tourism, on which he will elaborate later. In Town news, the Public Works crew completed a round of pot hole repairs. CM Almoguera said that the Administration Department is busy with budget preparations. CM Dennison announced upcoming events.

**Citizen Comments:** Mayor Calvo received several compliments on Public Works clearing the snow off the streets during the last snow storm, as well as comments on the inadequate snow removal at the X-Tra gas station and posting of a revised trash collection schedule following the snow storm. MPT Wilkinson also received comments on the snow clearing operations, and a suggestion to include all school approaches in the snow clearing plans. CM Almoguera received several questions on the purpose of the surveying taking place on 58th Avenue. Mayor Calvo said he also had a comment about that and suspects the surveyors are doing work for WSSC.

Mike Attick, 62nd Avenue, commented that the steps at the back of the school need better snow removal. This morning he has seen several children slip and fall on a big sheet of ice that has formed there. MPT Wilkinson said he will email Acting Director Lockley tonight so that this can be addressed tomorrow morning. Mr. Attick further asked what the status of the emergency generator project is. TA Murphy replied that he is waiting to receive the final cost estimates for the gas connection and Pepco electric tie-in before he can send the package to Prince George's County to get a permit.

Mr. Attick commented that the code supervisor job description discussed by the Council is probably too detailed, and makes it appear as if the candidate needs an MBA. He also thought that the BHVFD may not be equipped to haul water to the community garden cistern, and that the 8' tall fence proposed for the community garden is does not follow the same standards residents have to follow for erecting fences. He also wondered why the fence cost estimate for

the community garden has increased. Mayor Calvo said that the community garden organizers have been told by the BHVFD that they can supply the water. The fence rules for private residences are County rules and allow for 4' fences in the front and for 6' fences in the rear with a permit. Fences surrounding gardens can be 8' tall. Mayor Calvo asked Mr. Attick to hold his questions about fence costs until after the Green Team has made their presentation.

**Community garden fence:** Mayor Calvo welcomed Green Team members Trinity Tomsic and Tim Lewis to discuss community garden fence proposals. He noted that the Green Team presented the Council with cost estimates for the entire project last fall, in which a fence was priced at \$4,250 contingent on installation by the Public Works Department. However, it has since been determined that Public Works cannot install the fence. The Green Team has therefore obtained new estimates from 3 different vendors that include installation.

Ms. Tomsic gave a brief update of the community garden project. She said that community garden planning committee has met on Sunday mornings to prepare for a spring opening of the gardens. Rules and regulations as well as a plot rental application have been drafted, and an outreach campaign to publicize the garden has been launched using Facebook, the Bulletin and community list server. In December, volunteers put down newspaper and mulch, which will be plowed under for spring planting. The Green Team also sponsored two well attended composting classes for residents.

Tim Lewis presented 3 proposals for installing an 8' fence of approximately 500 linear feet, with a walk-through 4' gate on the west end, and a 12' drive-through gate on the east end of the property. The vendors were each asked to provide options for either a) galvanized or b) vinyl covered chain link fencing, mounted on either a) steel posts or b) treated lumber posts. The garden planning team prefers treated lumber posts because they look nicer and are less expensive. However, they were advised by TA Murphy that steel posts are stronger and will last longer. Vendors were also asked to revise their estimates to include concrete footers and sturdier steel posts. Only one vendor, Long Fence, provided estimates for all options.



	Galvanized on Steel Posts	Vinyl on Steel Posts	Vinyl on Treated
Hercules Fence	—	\$10,463./12,763.	—
Long Fence	\$8,995.	\$9,395.	\$7,995.
Metropolitan Fence	—	\$7,775./\$8,175.	\$8,175.

Mr. Lewis requested the Council to review the options and make a decision as soon as possible so that the fence can be installed by March, and the garden can open for spring.

In response to questions, Mr. Lewis said that the fence will be set back from the street about 30' on the east and west ends, and about 6' from neighboring properties to leave room for people and deer to continue to cut through from 58th to 59th Avenue. Long Fence provided the less expensive bid for a vinyl on treated lumber fence, and Metropolitan Fence the less expensive bid for a vinyl on steel posts fence. However, Metropolitan's steel posts had a 2.5" diameter, as opposed to Long Fence's 3" diameter. TA Murphy added that he received a revised bid from Metropolitan Fence with 3" diameter posts for the same price, plus 4" diameter posts for the gates.

MPT Wilkinson expressed concern that there remains a viable connection for pedestrians between 58th and 59th Avenue that is not too steep or difficult to maneuver. Mr. Lewis and Ms. Tomsic replied that the garden team will work to maintain a good footpath for pedestrians between the garden and neighboring properties along the south side. They can be mulched together with the paths inside the garden to even out bumps and prevent mud. The northern side of the garden is not suitable for a pedestrian walkway because it is quite steep, but it can be used by deer when they travel to Indian Creek. In response to other questions, Mr. Lewis said that the fence posts will be anchored in 3' deep concrete footers. The ground generally does not freeze to this depth.

In response to Mr. Attick, Mayor Calvo said the bottom line for the preferred chain link on steel post option is \$8,175. This is \$4,000 more than initially budgeted because it includes installation.

Other start-up costs bring the total project budget to \$13,000. Mr. Lewis noted that the garden team has applied for several grants to help fund the garden, and will start to take in money from renting the garden plots when it opens. The cistern can probably be filled with a hose connected to a nearby fire hydrant and Public Works has a truck that could be used for delivering water, too. Volunteers will work to maintain the garden and to involve the community by outreach and setting aside a bed for educational purposes.

CM Almoguera moved and CM Dennison seconded to approve \$8,175 to fund a vinyl chain link fence on steel posts. CM Kulpa-Eddy said she had hoped that other options besides chain link fencing would have been explored. There are plastic mesh fences that are often used on deer pens. She also thinks there will be future maintenance expenses to the Town, but regards it as a worthwhile investment. In response to CM Dennison, Ms. Tomsic said receipts from renting plots would probably go into the Recreation Council budget. The motion passed 5 to 0.

At 8:17 p.m., the Council took a 10 minutes break.

**ATHA grants:** MPT Wilkinson explained that he spoke with Aaron Marcavitch, Executive Director of the Anacostia Trails Heritage Area (ATHA) about heritage area grant applications. He is interested in applying for a grant of up to \$50,000 to fund signage and demarcation of bicycle trails in the Town. Other items that can be funded with the grant include bicycle repair stations and bicycle racks. The grant requires a 50% match from the Town and must be geared to promote bicycle tourism. A letter of intent to apply for the grant is due on January 29 and should contain an approximate estimate of the amount of money needed.

MPT Wilkinson further noted that the Council also received a material and maps on the East Coast Greenway, a recreational trail that extends from Maine to Florida along the Eastern Seaboard. This trail comes through Berwyn Heights on Indian Creek trail and has funding for signage related to the trail. The map is a little confusing regarding the trail's approach to Greenbelt Road and continuation on Cherrywood Lane. TA Murphy said the East Coast Greenway map shows alternate routes to lead trail users to the intersection of Greenbelt Road and 60th Avenue, which has a traffic light, unlike the intersection at 57th Avenue, where the trail hits Greenbelt Road.

Mayor Calvo said he is pleased that this trail comes through Berwyn Heights. However, the routing is awkward when it comes to crossing Greenbelt Road. But this is likely to change when the Greenbelt Station development opens, which includes trails along the connector road and a continuation of the Indian Creek trail. Mayor Calvo said he would also like to see a bike trail connection to Greenbelt Park. There appears to be heritage area grant money available for planning purposes, which might be used to plan bike routes through the Town, including routes to Greenbelt Park, historic markers and other worthwhile destinations. ATHA may be able to help with such planning.

MPT Wilkinson said he will speak with TA Murphy tomorrow to submit a letter of intent for a grant.

**MEA EmPower LMI communities grant:** Mayor Calvo explained that the Town has been informed by the Green Team that energy assistance is available for 15 low and moderate income families in a community that participates in the Municipal Collaboration of Prince George's County cities and towns applying for a Maryland Energy Administration (MEA) Clean Energy Communities Grant or a Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) Community Legacy Grant. Berwyn Heights has been a signatory to the Municipal Collaboration in years past and helped obtain grants that helped fund solar roofs on municipal buildings among other projects. To qualify for low income energy assistance, the Town will have to adopt a resolution supporting the grant application. The Council agreed to place a resolution on the agenda for adoption at the February Town meeting.

**MML hotel (discussed out of order):** The Council agreed to reserve 5 rooms at the Princess Bayside hotel for the Maryland Municipal League (MML) conference in June.

**FY 2015 budget goals and priorities:** Mayor Calvo said, if there are no new budget priorities proposed apart from those already discussed, he would like to continue the conversation on adopting a more unified organizational structure. CM Kulpa-Eddy said she still has many questions about the structure Mayor Calvo proposed, and would like some examples of cities and towns where such a structure is in place. It seems to her, if the town administrator (TA) is put in charge of the other departments, the councilmember in charge of the Administration Department would be very important, while the other councilmembers/department heads would be sidelined.

She hopes that Mayor Calvo can more clearly define his vision of what the new structure would look like.

Mayor Calvo said he envisions a hybrid between a commissioner style and a council-manager style of government. The Council would continue to be the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Town's government, with full policy making and personnel hiring/ firing authority over directors. The town administrator (TA), however, would become a Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), who is in charge of day-to-day operations of the Town government. Currently, the Council is supposed to be the CEO and individually oversee the operations of their department. But councilmembers are part-time and paid a modest stipend. Their ability to manage the departments on a daily basis is limited, and varies widely in terms of involvement. Therefore, he advocates that the TA assume managerial oversight over the entire Town government.

Mayor Calvo said, as an example, he generally does not get involved in such operational matters as whether a ticket should be issued. But he does give direction when a budgetary or personnel matter needs to be decided, such as whether to purchase tasers or promote an officer. CM Kulpa-Eddy said she thinks the demarcation line is between a policy and an operational matter is not always clear. Mayor Calvo replied that an operational matter mostly relates to an individual case whereas a policy applies more broadly.

CM Kulpa-Eddy said she can see conflicts arising from different interpretations of whether something is a policy or an operational matter. For example, the purchase of new equipment, according to Mayor Calvo's definition, could be a budget matter and would require a policy decision by a councilmember. However, the TA may see it as an operational decision, because money was not specifically appropriated for the item. Mayor Calvo clarified that purchases of large capital items, e.g. equipment costing more than \$3,000, usually require Council approval, whereas equipment below that threshold are at the department's discretion.

CM Kulpa-Eddy said that a department director, who disagrees with the TA about a purchase or another matter, under the new organizational structure, could have to bypass the TA to get Council approval. Therefore it is paramount that the personnel manual clearly describes the process by which a TA's decision can be appealed, and protects the employee from suffering negative

consequences, for example, in a performance evaluation. Mayor Calvo said that important personnel decisions would continue to be made by the Council. However, he would like the TA to be in charge of the evaluations process, including writing evaluations for the directors, to ensure consistency across departments. The Council would review all evaluations and evaluate the TA's performance. In general, a more unified command structure would result in more consistency in how departments are run and prevent tasks from falling through the cracks.

CM Kulpa-Eddy said that she has experienced many reorganizations. They often result from some unforeseen consequences of the previous reorganization. There are advantages to both the unified and the decentralized structure. For example, turn-around time is usually shorter in a decentralized structure. The key, she believes, is having the right people in the right positions. Further, with a new TA coming on board, this may not be the best time to make such a big change. Mayor Calvo thought that, on the contrary, the hiring of new directors provides a great opportunity to make the change. He regards implementing a

more unified organizational structure as the most important thing the Council could do in his tenure as Mayor. Someone needs to be in charge during the day, when councilmembers are not able to be here and supervise their departments. Otherwise, tasks do not get done because of communication breakdowns, and treatment of employees may be capricious. However, councilmembers would still be assigned departments and remain policy leaders. They would also bring issues, on which the TA and the department leaders disagree, to the Council and, as members of the Council; they would continue to resolve conflicts.

Mr. Attick commented he thinks that the TA is already very busy and may be more so in the new structure. Further, communication breakdowns are likely to occur even in a unified structure, and neither councilmembers nor the TA will know everything that goes on in the departments. Mr. Attick also thought that department directors may not switch easily to reporting to a TA, who is new to the job and the Town.

In a straw poll about whether to support a more unified organizational structure, Mayor Calvo and CM Almoguera were in favor, whereas MPT Wilkinson, CM Den-

nison and CM Kulpa-Eddy were undecided, and would like more information.

The Council agreed next to review the Council Rules, which define the current organizational structure, flesh out the new responsibilities of the TA, directors and department heads, and try to more clearly distinguish policy from operational matters. Mayor Calvo was asked to provide an organization chart of the proposed structure to aid in the discussion.

Nothing was discussed under **2. Parks and Recreation**, **3. Public Safety**, **4. Public Works** and **6. Code Compliance**.

**5. Administration**

**MML hotel (discussed under Mayor's agenda).**

**7. Executive Session (9:40 p.m. - 11:06 p.m.)**

On a motion by MPT Wilkinson and second by CM Dennison, the Council went into executive session to discuss a personnel matter. With matter discussed, MPT Wilkinson moved and CM Dennison seconded to end the executive session.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:07 p.m.

Kerstin Harper, Town Clerk

**BERWYN**



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Showcase your talent at the Berwyn Heights Recreation Council  
**Annual Hollywood Talent Showcase**



**Friday, March 21, 2014**

**Show Starts at 6:30 pm**

**Berwyn Heights Elementary School – Multipurpose Room**

*BHES Music Department will be selling drinks/snacks to raise money for upcoming events.*

**\*A dress rehearsal will be held on Thursday, March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at 6:30 pm\***

Interested in performing? Fill out the form below and return it to the Berwyn Heights Community Center, Town Center, or Elementary School or contact Kristen Buker ([KristenBuker@aol.com](mailto:KristenBuker@aol.com), 443-623-0013) for more information. **Permission slips are due by Thursday, March 13, 2014. If your performance will be accompanied by music, a copy of that music is due with your permission slip.**

---

Performer's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Talent: \_\_\_\_\_

Group Name, if applicable: \_\_\_\_\_ Will you be performing to music? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any special requirements for your performance (for example, a table or chair)? \_\_\_\_\_

---

I give my child \_\_\_\_\_ permission to participate in the

Berwyn Heights Talent Show.

Performer's Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

---



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If you are interested in signing up, or for further information, please call the College Park Airport Museum at 301-864-6029, or check <https://www.facebook.com/fieldoffirsts>

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# RECREATION COUNCIL

## NEWS AND UPDATES

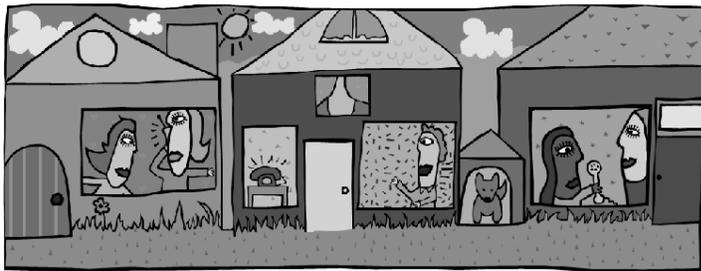
### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### **GAME NIGHT - MARCH 8, 2014,**

**from 6-8PM upstairs at the Town Center.**

Dealing with cabin fever? We have the cure! Be a participant in our first game night! Bring your favorite game and a friend, or play one of ours and meet new friends! There'll be something for everyone, with kid and

adult-friendly games and activities! Also refreshments will be served! If you'd like to be a part, but playing games isn't your thing, come volunteer to help our night be a success!



### **ANNUAL HOLLYWOOD TALENT SHOWCASE!**

#### **MARCH 21, 2014 AT 6:30 PM**

Calling all singers, dancers, and performers of all kinds! Join us in entertaining our friends, families, and neighbors at the berwyn heights elementary school (see registration form on Page 11 for further details).

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, March 6, 2014, at 7:00 PM at the Town Center

#### **RECREATION COUNCIL**

#### **CONTACTS**

Trinity Tomsic- 301-474-6350,  
trinity.tomsic@gmail.com  
Tim Tormoen-  
totormoen@yahoo.com  
Jaime Sampson-  
Sampson.jaime@gmail.com

### **SAVE THE DATE: BERWYN HEIGHTS DAY!**

**SATURDAY  
MAY 3, 2014**

Come celebrate Berwyn Heights Day! The events will include:

- Fun Run
- Pancake Breakfast
- The Parade & Performances by Cha-Cha the Clown!
- Games, Live Bands & a DJ
- Seniors' Bake Sale
- Food & Drinks
- Craft Vendors

Come volunteer! It's a great way to meet your neighbors, give back to your community, and **students can earn**

#### **Community Service Hours!**

We'll need volunteers to help with the Pancake Breakfast, ticket sales, games and the Fun Run.

To register for a Vendor or Information Booth, please complete the form on Page 26 and return it by April 18.

# Save the Date!

**Friday April 25th: 5:30 to 9:00 P.M.**

**2nd Floor Community Center**

5700 Berwyn Road

First Annual

## Maryland Wine Tasting

For the benefit of the

**Berwyn Heights Community Emergency Response Team**

**C.E.R.T.s**

### Sample premier Maryland wines.

Winery Representatives will be on hand to introduce and describe their current offerings.

**Only \$5.00 donation per person at the door.**

(Non-alcoholic refreshments available)

Sit, Relax, Unwind, Enjoy



As St. Patrick's Day approaches, please remember to drive safely and do not get behind the wheel if you've been drinking. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration reports more than 700 people were killed nationwide in crashes involving a drunk driver during the St. Patrick's Day holiday from 2006 to 2010.

To prevent these tragedies from occurring, consider the following precautions to help everyone enjoy a safe St. Patrick's Day:

- Plan a safe way home *before* the festivities begin.
- Designate a sober driver and leave your car keys at home.
- If you're buzzed (impaired)--walk, summon a taxi, call a sober friend or family member, or use public transportation to get home safely.
- If you see a drunk driver on the road, call 9-1-1 to report it.
- If you are hosting a party, serve plenty of food and non-alcoholic beverages.
- And remember, if you know people who are about to drive while impaired, take their keys and help them make other arrangements to get to where they are going safely.

Currently, the Washington Regional Alcohol Program (WRAP) is offering its SoberRide program during the December/January holiday season, St. Patrick's Day, Independence Day and Halloween. To receive a free cab ride home (up to a \$30 fare; callers are financially responsible for anything over \$30), please call **800-200-8294 (TAXI)**. You must be 21 or older to use the SoberRide service.

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HEIGHTS



# BERWYN HEIGHTS SENIORS CLUB

## “Celebrating 30 Years in Berwyn Heights”

The Senior Center is open from 10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M., Monday through Friday. Drop in and meet your neighbors. Also check the boards for special activities. Drop in to the Center, or attend the meeting, and find out what’s going on. There is always something to do even if it is just getting together.

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO

March 4	Bruce Hockman
March 6	Thomas Louie
March 12	Libby Hand
March 13	Theodore Erickson
March 15	Frances Day
March 19	Mia Rojas
March 20	Victoria Padua
March 21	Norma Wines
March 22	Pat Agee
	Nae-Shiang Chiou
March 25	Peggy Gannon
March 26	Gail Anzulovic
March 27	Roland Heath
March 30	Joan Shotland

### MARCH ACTIVITIES

March 4	Bingo	12:30 P.M.
March 5	Wii Bowling	10:30 A.M.
March 6	Pool Night	7:00 P.M.
March 8	Potluck Dinner & Movie	5:00 P.M.
March 11	Meeting	11:00 A.M.
	Bingo	1:00 P.M.
March 12	Wii Bowling	10:30 A.M.
March 13	Board Games	5:00 P.M.
	Pool Night	7:00 P.M.
March 18	Bingo	12:30 P.M.
March 19	Wii Bowling	10:30 A.M.
March 20	Pool Night	7:00 P.M.
March 25	Meeting & Potluck	11:00 A.M.
	Bingo	1:00 P.M.
March 26	Wii Bowling	10:30 A.M.
March 27	Board Games	5:00 P.M.
	Pool Night	7:00 P.M.

**OPEN HOUSE**



Upcoming Event:

**April 6, 2014**

**From 2:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.**

Welcome! Come visit the Senior Center’s OPEN HOUSE and talk to some of our members to find out what we have to offer seniors aged 50 and up.



# Berwyn Heights Community Garden 2014 Application

The Berwyn Heights Community Garden is opening Spring 2014! It is located between 58<sup>th</sup> and 59<sup>th</sup> on the Tecumseh thru-way. Anyone who is a resident of Berwyn Heights can submit an application. Gardening classes will be provided to teach you about gardening, and a sample garden will be available for hands on learning. Water, tools, and other resources will be provided. Submit your application today! Don't miss out on this great opportunity to grow fresh fruits and vegetables and get to know your neighbors!

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

The lease period is April 15, 2014 - February 15, 2015. **Plot fee \$30.**

Check the town website, BHCG Facebook page, or the Town Center for garden rules and regulations.

Plots will be assigned **on a first come, first served basis**. All other applicants will be placed on a waiting list. Only one plot per applicant/household. Garden plots are 4x8 - raised beds. Cash or check accepted. Please make checks payable to: **Berwyn Heights Recreation Council**.

I/we agree to abide by the 2014 rules and regulations governing the use of the Berwyn Heights Community Garden. I/we hereby release the Town of Berwyn Heights, its agents, contractors, and employees from any and all actions, claims and damages for losses, personal injuries, and disabilities that I/we may sustain as a result of my/our participation in the Community Garden program.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature(s)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature(s)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

<p><b>Please return this application/fee in person or by mail to:</b>  <b>Office of Town Administrator</b>  <b>5700 Berwyn Road</b>  <b>Berwyn Heights MD, 20740</b>          Applications can be left in the drop box if office is closed.</p>	<p><b>APPLICATION 2014</b>          For Office Use Only          Date Received _____          Plot # _____          Payment # _____</p>
---	---

For questions, please contact Trinity Tomsic at 301-474-6350 or [trinity.tomsic@gmail.com](mailto:trinity.tomsic@gmail.com).



# Berwyn Heights GreenBee



The **GreenBee** is your monthly guide to tips and resources from the Green Team! If you'd like to share your ideas, please email us at [bgreen.berwynheights@gmail.com](mailto:bgreen.berwynheights@gmail.com), or contact Therese Forbes, outreach coordinator, at 301-982-7115. Our next meeting will be March 20 at 7 p.m. at the Town Office.

## **Free Rain Barrel Workshop! Saturday, March 15, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.**

The Chesapeake Education, Arts and Research Society is holding a free workshop, "Stormwater Solutions: Rain Barrels and More!" on March 15 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Greenbelt Public Works Department (555 Crescent Road). Through interactive activities, you'll learn about Rain Check Rebate incentives and how rain barrels can help you save money and resources!

You can attend some or all portions of this free event—the event's tentative schedule is below:

- **10 a.m.-12 p.m.: Stormwater Solutions Presentations**—Stormwater is the fastest growing type of pollutant to our streams, and this workshop offers options to address water runoff.
- **12-1 p.m.: Eco Tour**—Learn about stormwater management best practices through a tour of Greenbelt's public works facility.
- **1-3 p.m.: Rain Barrel Stencil Art**—Purchase & decorate your own rain barrel! *or* **Rain Barrel Installations**—Learn how to install a rain barrel by attending demonstrations in Greenbelt or College Park.

To see the most updated information about the event, register for all or some of the activities (space is limited for some of the activities) and/or to contact the event's organizers, visit

<http://storwatersolutions.eventbrite.com>

## **Berwyn Heights Community Garden: Accepting Applications, Need Volunteers & Tools!**

- **Applications:** Applications for garden plots are now being accepted! Plots are limited in number so submit your application soon. See the application form on the facing page (16).
- **Volunteers:** The garden needs volunteers! We will be working at the garden almost every weekend in March to get it ready for spring planting, and we'd appreciate your help! Please contact Tim Lewis ([timl20740@live.com](mailto:timl20740@live.com)) or Trinity Tomsic ([trinity.tomsic@gmail.com](mailto:trinity.tomsic@gmail.com), [301-474-6350](tel:301-474-6350)) to volunteer.
- **Tools:** Cleaning out your shed? If you have any extra garden tools or a wheelbarrow, please consider donating them to the garden!

## **Reminder: Energy Efficiency Assistance Program**

In collaboration with other Prince George's County municipalities, the Town of Berwyn Heights may be able to offer funding to 15 low- to moderate income residents who are in need of home improvements that reduce utility bills such as insulation or heating systems repairs. If you are interested in this program, please send your name, address, phone number, and e-mail to the Berwyn Heights Green Team ([bgreen.berwynheights@gmail.com](mailto:bgreen.berwynheights@gmail.com) or [kristinlarson274@gmail.com](mailto:kristinlarson274@gmail.com)) or call Kristin Larson from the Green Team at [202-630-3178](tel:202-630-3178) for more information.

## **Save the Date! Town Clean Up Day, Saturday, April 12, 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m.**

Come beautify our town, get some exercise, and help the environment! Volunteers needed (and it's a great way for students to earn community service hours). Look for more details in April's Bulletin.



## Berwyn Heights Playgroup

Come join us to get to know other parents in the community while our children play!

**Winter Weekday Playdate – Town Center**  
**Mondays 10:30am-12:00pm**

**Join our Facebook Group – PG County Consignment - for impromptu playdates and more!**

Parents of infants and toddlers, the Berwyn Heights Playgroup is actively meeting and is always open to any interested members of the community! This playgroup is designed to offer neighborhood children and parents a safe, fun opportunity to socialize and get to know each other while also exploring available resources for children in the metro area.

Please contact Rose Almoguera ([rose.almoguera@yahoo.com](mailto:rose.almoguera@yahoo.com)) for more information and to be added to the group's listserv.

# TWINS PHARMACY

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**(301) 313-0082 (FAX)**

**TWINS PHARMACY**  
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- MAR & PMOF for Assisted Living
- Medication Reminder Program
- Medical Equipment



# Berwyn Heights Historical Committee

PRESIDENTS' DAY  
WEEKEND 2014  
**WINE & CHEESE  
RECEPTION**

## The War of 1812 in Berwyn Heights —I Didn't Know That!—

**D**oug McElrath, a special collections curator at the University of Maryland Libraries shared some fascinating discoveries uncovered by the Bladensburg History Project—a community history collaboration launched as part of the Bicentennial of the War of 1812. Over 60 guests enjoyed a terrific account of what life was like in our area during the War of 1812 when Berwyn Heights was considered part of greater Bladensburg, and people who lived and worked here saw a great deal more than a disastrous defeat of the American forces in August, 1814.



(from left) BHC Chair, Sharmila Bhatia, greets the “standing room only” crowd that gathered to hear guest speaker, Douglas McElrath, deliver a presentation on what life was like for residents in our area 200 years ago.

The BHC welcomes volunteers who are interested in assisting with events and projects. The BHC meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the Town Office. **The next scheduled BHC meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 25, 2014.**



Saturday, March 22

### TRIBUTE TO AMERICA A Patriotic Concert

7:00 p.m.—9:00 p.m.

Publick Playhouse  
5445 Landover Rd Cheverly, MD 20784

Dedicated to our Veterans—Featuring narratives about the War of 1812, and the return of Elvis tribute artist Jed Duvall. Tickets at the door, or call Publick Playhouse Box Office at 301-277-1710 \$12 per person (\$10 seniors / students)



BHC BLOG: <http://berwynheightshistory.wordpress.com>

ATHA: (Anacostia Trails Heritage Area / Maryland Milestones) [www.anacostiatrials.org](http://www.anacostiatrials.org)



# BERWYN HEIGHTS POLICE BEAT



"Police Beat" includes crimes and accidents that occurred during the month of January 2014. It is not a complete listing of every crime and/or accident that occurred in the Town. Incidents are

listed from beginning of the month to the end of the month starting with the first report taken during the period within a specified category.

01/01/2014 at 5:14 am, Investigator from the Prince George's County Fire Department responded to the 5700 of Quebec Street and charged Ms. Simona Guzman - Rodriguez 19 y/o, Latino female for setting a pile of clothes on fire.

01/11/2014 at 10:37 AM, Pfc. Ignowski responded to the Xtra Fuel gas station at 5919 Greenbelt Road for a theft report. Employee of the gas station claims that someone removed a 10' gas hose, a fire extinguisher and an advertisement sign.

01/11/2014 at 9:30 PM, Pfc. Roberson responded to the 5800 block of Quebec Street for a report of a damaged 2001 Toyota. The driver's left front fender and side mirror received scratches from an unknown source.

01/12/2014 at 7:16 PM, Pfc. Roberson responded to the 8400 block of 57th Avenue for a report of a carjacking. Investigation revealed that while a 38 y/o, Latino female was outside with her 2009 Toyota truck running, she was approached by a Latino male, 5'10", long hair wearing a black mask and a black jacket. The suspect pushes her down and drove away in her vehicle. A very short time later, the stolen vehicle was recovered in the 5600 block of Ruatan Street. It was later discovered by the victim that a large amount of cash was taken from the vehicle.

01/13/2013 at 11:45 AM, Pfc. Ignowski responded to the 6200 block of Ruatan Street for a report of telephone harassment.

01/16/2013 at 11:30 AM, Pfc. Krouse responded to the Blue-Bird driving school for a report of theft. Victim, a student claims that his cellphone was stolen from his jacket.

01/17/2014 at 3:00 pm, Pfc. Roberson responded to the 8800 block of Edmonston Road and recovered Virginia tags that was displaying on a vehicle not intended for the said tags.

01/18/2014 at 12:14 pm, Pfc. Ignowski responded to the 7600 block of Charleston Avenue for a report of a hit and run.

01/19/2014 at 9:20 am, Pfc. Ignowski identified a vehicle that was wanted in a hit and run driven by a 15 y/o male juvenile resident of Hyattsville, MD. The vehicle was reported stolen and found in the 8500 block of Paxton Court. The juvenile was arrested.

01/20/2014 at 2:50 am, Sgt. Moroney responded to the 7-11 on Greenbelt Road for a report of theft of cigarettes.

01/26/2014 at 6:35 pm, Pfc. Roberson responded to the 8300 block of Cunningham Drive for a report of an unresponsive 71 y/o, w/m. The 71 y/o male was pronounced and investigation revealed that he was complaining about not feeling well to his son a couple of days prior.

01/26/2014 at 9:10 pm, Sgt. Moroney responded to the 6200 block of Ruatan Street for a tampering with auto complaint. Investigation later revealed that the victim's Home Depot card was used in Ft. Meade, MD on 01/28/2014. Investigation continues.

01/26/2014 at 9:15 am, Pfc. Ignowski responded to the 8800 block of Edmonston Road for a report of a theft from a 2008 Hyundai. Victim stated that he left his car unlocked and someone removed coins from the ashtray.

01/30/2014 at 8:15 am, Det. Unger impounded a 1996 Honda from the location of the 6100 block of Seminole Street. The vehicle was left abandoned without proper tags.

01/31/2014 at 1:05 pm, Pfc. Ignowski responded to the Staples office supply store located at 8904 62nd Avenue for an assault complaint. Victim, a 31 y/o, w/f claims that her mother, a 47 y/o, w/f, threw a cup of coffee at her after a verbal altercation.

01/31/2014 at 2:55 pm, Pfc. Thompson and Pfc. Ignowski responded to the 8400 block of 58<sup>th</sup> Avenue for an unresponsive 80 y/o, w/m.

01/31/2014 at 4:15 pm, Pfc. Thompson responded to the 6300 block of Pontiac Street for a report of theft from vehicles that occurred a week prior.

01/31/2014 at 5:00 pm, Pfc. Thompson responded to the Greenbelt Road Shell for a report of theft of cigarettes. A white

male with red hair came inside the store and removed 7 packs of cigarettes without paying for them. The case was forwarded to Det. Unger, who later identified the suspect. Arrest warrant is pending.

## NON-EMERGENCY POLICE DISPATCH PHONE NUMBER (301-352-1200)

1. Call 301-352-1200 (P.G. County Police).
2. Give dispatcher your name, address where you are, a phone number where you can be reached, and explain why you need a police officer.
3. Critically Important: Tell the dispatcher you want the on-duty Berwyn Heights police officer to respond.
4. In an emergency, Call 911.

## IMPORTANT PEPCO TELEPHONE NUMBERS



### English Speaking Customers

(202) 872-3432 TO REPORT

Downed Wires, Burning Wires, Struck Poles or Life Threatening Electrical System Situations

CALL (877) 737-2662 TO REPORT Power Outages

CALL (877) 737-2662 TO REPORT Report Street Light Out

(Need Pepco Pole Number and house number of nearest house)

### Hard of Hearing Customers

TTY (202) 872-2369

### Spanish Speaking Customers

CALL (202) 872-4641 por

Servicio en Espanol

Languages other than English or Spanish

CALL (202) 833-7500

Customers with Emergency Medical or Life Support Equipment or Special Needs

CALL (202) 833-7500 FOR

Registration to be on Priority List



# Berwyn Heights Volunteer Fire Department & Rescue Squad, Co. 14



Berwyn Heights Volunteer Fire Department & Rescue Squad, Inc. • 8811 60<sup>th</sup> Avenue • Berwyn Heights, MD 20740  
In Case of Emergency Call 911!

## Recent Working Incidents:

- Jan 21<sup>st</sup>**- Squad 14, Truck 14 & Chief 14 (McCoy) responded to the intersection of Greenbelt Rd/62<sup>nd</sup> ave in BH for an accident in the snow. Greenbelt PD arrived first to find a car had rear ended a box truck with multiple patients trapped. The crews from BHVFD worked quickly to extricate the patients. Chief 14 had the incident command.
- Jan 22<sup>nd</sup>**- Squad 14 & Technical Rescue Support 14 responded to the 9100 Blk of Edmonston Rd in Greenbelt for the car into a building.
- Jan 24<sup>th</sup>**- Squad 14 responded to NB BW Pkwy near 197 for the head-on collision. Units arrived to find multiple patients trapped in the two cars. The crew from Squad 14 split up and quickly extricated all patients from both cars simultaneously.
- Jan 25<sup>th</sup>**- Squad 14B, Chief 14 & Chief 14A responded to the 12100 Blk of Sweet Clover Dr. in Montgomery Cty. for a 2 Alarm Townhouse Fire.
- Jan 27<sup>th</sup>**- Squad 14B, Ambulance 14 & Chief 14 were alerted to SB BW Pkwy/Riverdale Rd for a PIA. Company 14 arrived on first to discover a car off the road with the driver trapped, who was quickly extricated and treated by BHVFD. Chief 14 was in command of the incident.
- Jan 28<sup>th</sup>**- Truck 14 & Chief 14A responded to the 6900Blk of Oakridge Rd in Riverdale for a vacant house on fire.
- Jan 29<sup>th</sup>**- Squad 14 & Chief 14A responded to the OL I495 for the car off the road with the driver trapped, who the Squad crew quickly extricated.
- Feb 1<sup>st</sup>**- Squad 14 & Chief 14B responded to NB BW Pkwy near Powder Mill Rd for the PIA. While enroute, units were advised US Park Police was on scene at the dispatched location with 1 vehicle down a ditch into trees with the driver trapped. The crew was able to quickly extricate the driver.
- Feb 2<sup>nd</sup>**- Squad 14 responded to NB BW Pkwy at I495 for the accident with 1 overturned SUV into the woods with 1 patient ejected and 1 trapped. After a complex extrication the Squad crew of 8 highly trained volunteers were able to free all patients by lifting the car 1ft off the ground via high pressure air bags to free the legs of the patient pinned under the SUV's engine.
- Feb 9<sup>th</sup>**- Truck 14, Chief 14A (Fabrizio) & Chief 14B (Kiernan) responded to the 2800Blk of Curry Dr in Adelphi for the House Fire.
- Feb 13<sup>th</sup>**- Squad 14 & Chief 14A were alerted during the snow storm to SB BW Pkwy in the area of 197 for a van off the road with the driver trapped. The Squad crew arrived onscene and quickly extricated the patient, Chief 14A had rescue group command.

## Members Attend Ice Rescue Class

On Sunday February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 8 Volunteers from BHVFD attended an 8hr Ice Rescue certification class hosted by the Laurel Volunteer Rescue Squad on Super Bowl Sunday. Members spent the first half of the day covering classroom material and spent the second half on Laurel Lake practicing rescue techniques. This is one example of the hundreds of hours of training that our members undergo on their own free time in order to provide the best quality service to the residents of Berwyn Heights and surrounding communities. BHVFD hosted this class two years ago at Lake Artemesia.

**We would like to remind citizens and residents that any body of water covered by ice should be considered hazardous and should not be approached!**

**Snow Storm:** During the Feb 12/13<sup>th</sup> snow storm BHVFD was fully staffed with multiple crews staffing the Truck, Rescue Squads, and Ambulances, all of which were kept busy running calls. *Special thanks to the BH Public Works Dept* for helping us dig out and working overnight keeping the Town streets clear! Tractor 14 (donated by DPW last year) was constantly used for snow removal around the station during the storms.

Station 14 Call Volume: Jan 2014	
Rescue Squads:	135
Ladder Truck:	83
Technical Rescue Unit:	5
Ambulances:	134
<b>Total Station Runs for Jan:</b>	<b>357</b>

## Truck 14 Honors Fallen Firefighter

On Wednesday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> Truck 14 and a crew of volunteers traveled down to Clinton to pay tribute to fellow PG Volunteer Firefighter James "Doc" Brooks. FF Brooks was a 20-year volunteer member of the Prince George's Volunteer Marine Fire Rescue Team (Station 56 & 57), who suffered a fatal medical emergency while on duty.



Truck 14 along with Truck 25 (former

Truck 14) of the Clinton VFD set up a ladder arch in front of the funeral home. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family and Stations 56&57

## Have a Fire Escape Plan?

In the event of a fire, remember that *every second counts*, so you and your family must always be prepared. Escape plans help you get out of your home quickly. In less than 30 seconds, a small flame can get completely out of control and turn into a major fire. It only takes minutes for a house to fill with thick black smoke and become engulfed in flames.



**Home Fire Escape Plan**

**Prepare and practice your fire escape plan twice a year with everyone in your household, including children and people with disabilities.** It's also a good idea to practice your plan with overnight guests. Some tips to consider when preparing your escape plan include:

- Draw a map of each level of your home and show all doors and windows. Find two ways to get out of each room. Make sure all doors and windows that lead outside open easily.
- Only purchase collapsible escape ladders evaluated by a recognized testing laboratory. Use the ladder only in a real emergency.
- Teach children how to escape on their own in case you cannot help them.
- Have a plan for everyone in your home who has a disability.
- Practice your fire escape plan at night and during the daytime.

## BULLETIN BOARD

**Rooms for Rent:** \$450.00 - \$500.00. Please call (301) 237-2829.

**House Cleaning:** Berwyn Heights resident since 2000 - with 25 years professional house cleaning experience and takes pride in the work done looking for new clients. References in Town and out of town are available. Please give me a call and let me help tackle the house cleaning for you. Free estimates. Please call (301) 474-3024.

**Want adventure and achievement?** Join Boy Scout Troop 740. We meet at Holy Redeemer's Fealy Hall every Tuesday evening. For details, call scoutmaster Loren Lavoy at 301-651-4928.

**Need Computer help?** Call RJ 240-602-0815. Microsoft A+ Certified.

**Licensed Family Daycare:** Opening for infant to 12 years old. Before and after care for BH Elementary School available. Vouchers are accepted. Meals are provided. Openings are Monday-Friday from 6 AM to 6 PM. Please contact Karuna at 301-345-2939.

**2 Men's Full Size Leather Golf Bags:** \$50 each. Canning jars pint & quart size: \$5 mix & match a dozen. Call Jeff after 4 PM at 301-474-5803. Cash only.

**Discounted tickets to Capitals' games:** Dream seats are in Sec.107, Row U. Caps shoot twice. This is the handicapped row next to the Monumental box. Easy access with no seats in front or behind you. All tickets are discounted — with no add ons. Contact Jody at [jwg21248@yahoo.com](mailto:jwg21248@yahoo.com).

**College dorm room items for sale:** 3 like-new appliances. Black 4-cup Mr. Coffee Model DRX5 with brew and set delay; small Emerson 2009 Microwave oven Model MW7305B; small Sanyo 2009 refrigerator Model SR-A2480M [301-646-6938](tel:301-646-6938).

**BH Republican Club** meets once a month, usually on the last Monday, at the Senior Center and welcomes all residents to participate. For more information, check out the Berwyn Heights Republicans Webpage: [www.npgcrc.com/pages/BHR.html](http://www.npgcrc.com/pages/BHR.html)

**STRESSED!!!** Are you a Senior, a relative or friend of a Senior? Are you, or they, worried about staying home long-term? If you'd like some direction or assistance, without alienating your loved one, I CAN HELP YOU. Sealani Weiner, Geriatric Care Manager. Licensed Independent Clinical Social Worker in MD & DC, Certified Care Manager AND Ber-

wyn Heights resident. 240-965-7274.

**House Cleaning:** Help with shopping, cooking, etc. 40-year resident of Berwyn Heights. Very reliable and reasonable rates. Please call DJ at (301) 345-1746

**Computer Repair:** Having computer problems? Want files moved from an old computer to a new one? Flat rates cheaper than any store around. Call Jason 301-919-9980.

**Pet Services:** Experienced dog walker and pet sitter available. Will happily help you with your pets. Call Katelyn, 301-233-2588.

**Lawn mowing and trimming,** yard raking and cleanup, basement cleanout, painting, plumbing, general handyman. Reasonable rates and flexible schedule. Call Phil at 202-718-8530. Berwyn Heights references available.

**Dog Walking:** 30 minutes, \$15.00 per walk. Special offers for multiple pets. Local trustworthy neighbor. Pet first aid and CPR certified. Call 240-605-2745.

**Meals-on-Wheels** needs your HELP! This 35-year old program needs volunteers to help with their daily operations out of College Park location. Please call 301-474-1002 M-F, 8:30-12:00 if available.

**Need Yard Help?** Shawn (17) and Jeremy (16) can help with mowing, raking, mulching, and more. Call 301-474-2002.

**Attention Seniors:** Kind, compassionate Berwyn Heights resident available to go grocery shopping, run errands, etc. Please call Mary Ann at (301) 982-9295.

**Childcare:** Miss Debbie, the Mary Poppins childcare provider of 29 years in B.H. is ISO another family. Will play, read, color, do puzzles but no heavy housework as your child is more important. Will also watch children on weekends and evenings. Call (301)345-7622.

**Berwyn Heights Cleaning:** Cleaning your home like my own. Residential & commercial. References available in Berwyn Heights. Over 10 years professional experience. Providing my own materials and rational price. 240-645-5140 or [angelalazo1@hotmail.com](mailto:angelalazo1@hotmail.com)

**4 Bedroom 2 Bath for rent.** Contact Jim Faruki at 703-402-8080 or [jmfaruki@yahoo.com](mailto:jmfaruki@yahoo.com).

**Tutor:** Learning Specialist with vast experience helping children with learning challenges. For a free consultation call or email Kathy Brosh, 301-474-2002, [kathybrosh@gmail.com](mailto:kathybrosh@gmail.com). References available.

**Do you need an affordable daycare?** Hi, my name is Carol and I would like to help you. I'm CPR certified and I have three children on my own. Give me a call if I'm the one you need. (301) 474-0963.

**Jimmy Taylor** will cut grass. To schedule, please call 301-982-1137.



## COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

### Boys & Girls Club

President: Shinita Hemby 202-531-6066

Soccer Commissioner: Jason Papanikolas

Baseball Commissioner: Ronnie Compton 301-345-2661

Tee Ball Commissioner: Jim Hudson 301-982-2052

Basketball Commissioner: Kristen Buker 240-965-7055

Cheerleading Commissioner: Kristen Buker 240-965-7055

Ball Hockey Commissioner: Kevin Conover 301-441-1569

Track Commissioner: Jeff Osmond 301-474-2737

### Neighborhood Watch/Emergency Preparedness/CERT

Co-Chair Ron Shane 240-965-7022

Co-Chair Joan Hayden 301-474-5037

### Historical Committee

Sharmila Bhatia 301-446-6920

### Men's League

Jim McGinnis 301-345-1223

### Playgroup

Rose Almoguera 301-974-1777

### Quilter's Club

Lois Williams 301-345-6214

### Recreation Council

Trinity Tomsic 301-474-6350

Jaime Sampson [sampson.jaime@gmail.com](mailto:sampson.jaime@gmail.com)

### Seniors Club

Jean McConnell 301-345-6373

### Green Team

Therese Forbes 301-982-7115

### BH Elementary School PTA

Kristen Buker

[President@BHESPTA.org](mailto:President@BHESPTA.org)



# Berwyn Heights Elementary PTA Newsletter

March 2014

Berwyn Heights, MD

## ANNUAL PTA SKATE NIGHT COME ICE SKATING WITH US!

**WHEN: Friday, March 14, 2013**

**WHERE: Wells Ice Rink, 5211 Paint Branch Parkway, College Park, MD 20740**

**TIMES: 6:30-8:30**

### Mark Your Calendars

- Mar 4 – PTA Meeting 6pm - Library
- Mar 5 – Market Day Pick Up
- Mar 14 - Skate Party - Wells Ice Rink
- Mar 27 – End of Third Quarter
- Mar 28 - No School - Teacher Planning
- Mar 29 – Easter Holiday

### Special Events

**Mar 6 – PTA Meeting** – many of the key board members will be ‘aging out’ (children moving off to other schools) at the end of this school year. Volunteers are needed to keep the PTA running. Please attend the meetings if you’d like to help the PTA continue.

**Mar 14 – Skate Night** – 6:30-8:30 pm Wells Skating Rink. No drop-offs. More information will come home on a flyer.

### Box Tops = Free Money!

Clip Box Tops from participating products and shop online at your favorite store and you can earn up to 15% cash back for our school! Find out more at [www.btfe.com](http://www.btfe.com). The next collection date is December 12th.

If you order holiday presents online, please check out the market place on [www.btfe.com](http://www.btfe.com). The store donates a percentage of your purchase to our school!

### Gardening News!

Ms Patag, Ms Anwar and Ms. Richman got their hands dirty with their kids and learned how to grow a tasty mix of salad greens in terrariums for the kids to keep last month.



The PTA also purchased grow lights to start teaching how to grow your own plants from seeds and experiment with the growth difference from growing seeds on a windowsill. Ms. Halpern, Ms. Harrell and Ms. Levine’s class are the first to experiment with the lights and are growing broccoli, cauliflower and some flowers. Then those plants, along with others, will be planted in their vegetable garden come spring. They will be working their garden from start to finish! Grow kids, grow!!

If you are interested in helping the Garden Team at the school, please contact Therese Forbes at [Therese@CelticClans.com](mailto:Therese@CelticClans.com) for more information.



**Call for Volunteers!**

Bring your community spirit to Berwyn Heights Elementary School

**March 8th starting at 9:00 a.m.**  
*(rain date is March 22)*

We need your help! The classes have so many garden activities planned!

*Come when you can if that is too early and bring your favorite tool!*

Children are welcome accompanied by an adult.

*Email [Therese@CelticClans.com](mailto:Therese@CelticClans.com) with ?s*

*Thank you to Home Depot, in College Park, for the \$25.00 donation.*



**THOMAS A. GENTILE. ATTORNEY**

301-908-9427 (cell)  
tgentile301@yahoo.com  
www.thomasgentile.com



Berwyn Heights Resident  
Admitted to Practice, MD, DC, VA  
Over 33 years experience  
Wills, Powers of Attorney, Probate, Trusts,  
General Practice  
Home Visits to Berwyn Heights Residents



**GMC**



**DAVID HARDING**  
Assistant Service Manager



**CAPITOL CADILLAC**  
6500 Capitol Drive  
Greenbelt, MD 20770

(301) 441-9600  
Direct (240) 737-0365  
Fax (301) 441-2092  
dharding@ecapitol.com

**"Town Resident Since 1982"  
and Now Your Local GM Service Guy**



**HOLY REDEEMER**  
Catholic Church

**Weekend Masses:**

*Saturday Vigil 5:00 p.m.*

*Sunday 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 12:00 n.*  
*Sacrament of Reconciliation - Saturday 3:30 p.m.*

4902 Berwyn Road • College Park MD 20740  
Tel: 301-474-3920 • Web Site: [holy-redeemer.org](http://holy-redeemer.org)  
Email: [parish@holy-redeemer.org](mailto:parish@holy-redeemer.org)

# Time to kick back and enjoy your view.



**301-646-0696**

**office@landntree.com**  
**www.landntree.com**

## FREE ESTIMATES | IN-TOWN REFERENCES

- Spring Clean-Ups
- Routine Lawn Mowing and Edging
- Fertilizing
- Aerating and Seeding

## LICENSED AND INSURED

Maryland Tree Expert License No. 1891

- Tree Care and Removal--Emergency Work
- Stump Removal

**Supporting stress-free weekends in our community.**



# The Bugle - March 2014



**MISSED REGISTRATION? YOU STILL HAVE TIME!!!  
WE WOULD LOVE YOU TO JOIN US!!!**

- SPRING SOCCER
- TEE BALL
- SOFTBALL
- BASEBALL
- TRACK

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT [WWW.BHBGC.LEAG1.COM](http://WWW.BHBGC.LEAG1.COM)

**CLUB SPONSORED EVENTS: DON'T MISS OUT ON  
THESE EVENTS FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY!!**

- BERWYN HEIGHTS DAY
- 2014 ANNUAL CAMP OUT
- FIELD TRIP TO MARYLAND UNIVERSITY (SOCCER)
- ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET
- ANNUAL MEET AND GREET

**\*\*\*\*\*VOLUNTEERS NEEDED\*\*\*\*\***

THE BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB WOULD LIKE TO OFFER A COUPLE OF NEW PROGRAMS FOR OUR CHILDREN THAT ARE NOT YET INVOLVED IN SPORTS BUT WOULD LIKE TO BE A PART OF THE CLUB! PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO VOLUNTEER!

- CHESS CLUB
- TUTORING - MATH
- VOLUNTEER REQUIREMENTS FOR HIGH SCHOOL
- COLLEGE PREP
- ART AND DESIGN
- OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS WELCOME!

**\*\*\*\*\* VOLUNTEERS NEEDED\*\*\*\*\***

THE BHBGC REALLY NEEDS VOLUNTEERS TO HELP WITH THE FOLLOWING:

- BECOME A MEMBER OF OUR BOARD
- COACHES FOR ALL SPORTS
- ASSISTANT COACHES
- TEAM PARENTS
- MENTORS/TUTORS
- CONCESSION STAND HELP
- MAINTENANCE ASSISTANCE
- EQUIPMENT MANAGER
- FIELD PREPARATION MANAGER



*Behind every Great Kid is a Great Adult, Setting a Great Example!*



## Sharon A. McCraney, Realtor®

*Certified Sr. Housing Specialist • Top Producer 2006-2011 • Md Representative L&F Gold Team*

Cell: 301.346.1462 • Office: 301-441-9511 x113

sharonsells@lnf.com • www.sharonmccraney.com



It's been a long winter.....now we can celebrate Spring! ( Thurs March 20) and Daylight Saving Time( Sun March 9). More to celebrate... as foreclosures/short sales decline...Prices rising and buyers specifically looking for BH! Call me today if you plan to list in 2014....

### MARCH HAPPENINGS:

- Mar 4 & 9- last home games Terps basketball.
- Mar 8- Polar bear plunge/ Chesapeake Bay.
- Mar 11-Yoga starts in BH at town hall.
- Mar 17- St Patricks Day.
- Mar 20- Cherry Blossom Festival begins
- Mar 31- Opening Day- Nationals
- Mar 1 to 31-Exciting Berwyn Heights listings coming soon.....

- FREE MARKET ANALYSIS
- NATIONWIDE WEBSITE/ADVERTISING
- HELP WITH STAGING
- YEARS OF TOWN REAL ESTATE EXPERIENCE

#### LISTED/SOLD this month by Sharon:

**SOLD-6100 Westchester Park Dr 2BR, 2BA hi rise condo \$145,000.**

**REDUCED-6100 Westchester Park Dr Large efficiency \$75,000.**

**REDUCED- 55L Ridge Rd Greenbelt 2BR, 1 BA GHI townhouse \$94,900.**

**NEW LISTING-4410 Oglethorpe St 2BR, 2BA condo \$125,000**





## Berwyn Heights Day, Saturday May 3, 2014 Vendor/Information Booth Application



- ❖ Calling all volunteers!!! If you'd like to be part of Berwyn Heights Day, the Recreation Council is looking for volunteers to help with the Pancake Breakfast, games, ticket sales, and the Fun Run. It's a great way to meet your neighbors and give back to your community . . . and **students can earn Community Service hours!**
- ❖ If you'd like to be a vendor or set up an informational booth at Berwyn Heights Day, please fill out and submit this page.

Contact Person:
Name of Business:
Address:
Phone Number and Cell Number:
E-mail:
Items for Sale/Distribution:

**The Recreation Council must approve ALL items for distribution.** Please be descriptive of any food items you plan on selling. We are unable to approve any foods that would compete with our on-site food vendors.

- Please **do not** plan on selling or providing:
  - Ready to eat food/drinks (example: canned/jarred items, loaves of bread, etc. are acceptable – individual cupcakes, beverages, etc. are not.)
  - Also silly string and colored hair spray are not permitted to be sold or distributed.

All vendors will be located at Sports Park (corner of 57<sup>th</sup> Ave and Berwyn Road).

**Set-Up Time: 10:00am – 11:00am. Please drop off items no later than 10:15am to begin your set up.**

**Event time: 11:00am – 4:00pm**

Circle **ONE**:                    BOOTH                    COUPON

Check **ONE**:

- \_\_\_\_\_ \$10 Residents/Non-Profits
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$10 Brochure or Coupon for Information Board (Must provide 250 copies – no larger than 5x7")
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$20 Non-Residents/For-Profits (\$15 if payment received by 3/15/2014)

Table/Chairs: Will you need a table and two chairs? (Supply is limited):                    YES                    NO

Canopy: Will you need a canopy? (Canopies available for \$15; supply limited):                    YES                    NO

Mail or drop-off registration form at Town Center with cash/check (made out to Berwyn Heights Recreation Council) by **April 18, 2014**. Address is 5700 Berwyn Road, Berwyn Heights, MD 20740

For additional information, contact Tim Tormoen at 612/239-4686 or at [emprisetraveler@yahoo.com](mailto:emprisetraveler@yahoo.com)



**OFFICE USE ONLY:**    Select **ONE**:    Cash \_\_\_\_\_ Check \_\_\_\_\_ (put check # in space)  
AMOUNT PAID \_\_\_\_\_



# March 2014

## Town of Berwyn Heights Monthly Calendar of Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Recycling Collection  Yard Waste North South	Refuse Collection North South  Bulk Pick-up North South	Street Sweeping Week  Yard Waste North South	Bulk Pick-up North South	Recycling Collection  Yard Waste North South	Bulk Pick-up North South	<b>1</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> Worksession 7:00 P.M. (Budget Presentation TA) Town Office Televised on Ch 71, FiOS 12	<b>4</b> Deadline for Filing as Candidate for Town Council	<b>5</b> NW-EP Meeting 7:30 P.M. Town Office	<b>6</b> Recreation Council Meeting 7:00 P.M. Town Office	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> BHES GARDENING 9:00 A.M. <hr/> GAME NIGHT 6:00 P.M. Town Ctr.
<b>9</b> Time to Spring Ahead	<b>10</b> Budget Worksession 7:00 P.M. Town Office Televised on Ch 71, FiOS 12	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> Town Meeting 8:00 P.M. Town Office Televised on Ch 71, FiOS 12	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Rain Barrel Workshop 10:00 A.M. Greenbelt DPW 555 Cres- cent Road
<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Worksession 7:00 P.M. Town Office Televised on Ch 71, FiOS 12 Candidate Profiles Due	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Deadline for Candidate Withdrawal	<b>20</b> Green Team Meeting 7:00 P.M. Town Office	<b>21</b> TALENT SHOWCASE 6:30 P.M. BHES	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Budget Worksession 7:00 P.M. Town Office Televised on Ch 71, FiOS 12	<b>25</b> BHHC Meeting 7:30 P.M. Town Office	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>					

# BERWYN HEIGHTS BULLETIN

**TOWN OF BERWYN HEIGHTS**  
 5700 Berwyn Road  
 Berwyn Heights, Maryland 20740-2799

**CARRIER-ROUTE SORTED  
 PRESORT STANDARD**  
 U. S. Postage Paid  
 College Park, Maryland

## POSTAL CUSTOMER BERWYN HEIGHTS, MARYLAND

**Dated Material — Do Not Delay!**

### TOWN INFORMATION

#### Town of Berwyn Heights Phone Nos.

Emergency - Fire Rescue ..... 9-1-1  
 Police (Non-Emergency) ..... (301) 352-1200  
 Police Administrative Office ..... (301) 474-6554  
 Code Compliance Department ..... (301) 513-9331  
 Email: code@town.berwyn-heights.md.us  
 Public Works Department ..... (301) 474-6897  
 Email: publicworks@town.berwyn-heights.md.us  
 Fire Department ..... (301) 474-7866  
 Senior Center ..... (301) 474-0018  
 Community Center (Gym) ..... (301) 345-2808  
 Town Office ..... (301) 474-5000  
 Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
 Call-A-Bus Reservations ..... (301) 474-5000

#### Mayor and Council

Cheye Calvo (301) 474-6350 ccalvo@town.berwyn-heights.md.us  
 Mayor — Public Safety and Health  
 James Wilkinson (301) 982-5152 jwilkinson@town.berwyn-heights.md.us  
 Mayor Pro Tem — Department of Public Works (please call before 8:30 p.m.)  
 Rose Almoguera (301) 974-1777 ralmoguera@town.berwyn-heights.md.us  
 Councilmember — Administration  
 Patti Dennison (301) 404-2759 pdennison@town.berwyn-heights.md.us  
 Councilmember — Parks and Recreation, Education and Civic Affairs  
 Jodie Kulpa-Eddy (301) 345-1516 jkulpaeddy@town.berwyn-heights.md.us  
 Councilmember — Code Compliance, Construction and Transportation

#### Regular Trash Collection Schedule

North of Pontiac..... Mondays & Thursdays  
 South of Pontiac..... Tuesdays & Fridays

#### Heavy Trash Day:

Weekly on Thursday for North of Pontiac  
 Weekly on Friday for South of Pontiac

#### Recycling Schedule:

Wednesdays for the entire Town.

#### Town Helpline

Do you have a suggestion or problem or a question on an ordinance, or have a historical question? Want to receive meeting agendas or minutes by email?  
 Email Town at  
 contact@town.berwyn-heights.md.us  
 Be assured that your communication will be answered promptly

#### Watch Council Meetings



**On Comcast channel 71  
 FIOS channel 12**

Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays  
 at 11:30 a.m.  
 or call the Town Office

**Town of Berwyn Heights Website: <http://www.berwyn-heights.com>**  
**Questions or advertising rates — call Administration Department at (301) 474-5000.**  
**Or email: [emurphy@town.berwyn-heights.md.us](mailto:emurphy@town.berwyn-heights.md.us)**  
**Submission deadline is the 15th of the month by 12:00 noon!**  
**Helen Van Doren, Design & Layout**