

# Berwyn Heights Bulletin

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

**April 2013**



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## Nevada Street Spur Dedication

Saturday, April 13, 11:00 am

at Indian Creek end of Trail



✿ RIBBON CUTTING ✿ REFRESHMENTS ✿ REMARKS ✿

Join County Councilmember Eric Olson, Mayor Calvo and Park & Planning staff for a dedication of the new Nevada Street Spur of the Indian Creek Trail. The bicycle and stroller accessible woodland trail will connect the southern section of Berwyn Heights to the Anacostia Trail system. Families are welcome.

## MOCK STUDENT TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, April 22, 6:30 pm

Berwyn Heights Elementary School 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> graders will perform a mock Town Council meeting and discuss an issue of interest to Berwyn Heights students. The meeting will be held on the 2nd floor of the Town Center and televised over Comcast channel 71 and Verizon FiOS channel 12. Families and residents are welcome.

## 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 frequently 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.

## Spring Plant Exchange

Saturday, April 20—10:00 A.M.

BH Elementary School Main Entrance

Greetings Gardeners!

Please join us for another spring plant exchange. We will join up with the BHES garden team to help with spring cleanup, and celebrate improvements to the School's Peace Garden.

Bring perennials, shrubs, bulbs, or seedlings to swap. Or just come to discuss your garden and share tips.



**ELECTRONICS/  
STYROFOAM  
RECYCLING**

**April 27  
9am - 12pm**

Recycle your electronics and Styrofoam at the Greenbelt Public Works Yard, located at Buddy Attick parking lot:

**555 Crescent Road, Greenbelt  
Telephone 240-542-2153**

## 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.

## BULLETIN ADVERTISING

TERM	RESIDENT	NON-RESIDENT
<b>EIGHTH (1/8) PAGE</b>		
1 Month	\$30.00	\$36.00
6 Months	\$162.00	\$192.00
12 Months	\$230.00	\$336.00
<b>QUARTER (1/4) PAGE</b>		
1 Month	\$50.00	\$72.00
6 Months	\$270.00	\$384.00
12 Months	\$384.00	\$672.00
<b>HALF (1/2) PAGE</b>		
1 Month	\$100.00	\$144.00
6 Months	\$540.00	\$768.00
12 Months	\$768.00	\$1,344.00
<b>FULL PAGE</b>		
1 Month	\$200.00	\$288.00
6 Months	\$1,080.00	\$1,536.00
12 Months	\$1,536.00	\$2,688.00



# Worksession

February 4, 2013

The meeting was called to order at 7:08 p.m. Present were Mayor Calvo, Mayor Pro Tem (MPT) Wilkinson, Councilmembers (CMs) Almoguera, Dennison and Kulpa-Eddy. Also present was Chief of Police Antolik, Code Compliance Director Solomon and Clerk Harper. Town Administrator (TA) Murphy participated via Skype.

## 1. Mayor

**Agenda:** An executive session was added to discuss a personnel matter.

**Announcements:** There were none

**Calendar:** No changes were made to the council calendar.

**Minutes:** On a motion by CM Dennison, and second by CM Kulpa-Eddy, the January 22 worksession minutes were approved 5 to 0.

**Department reports:** CM Dennison announced an upcoming Presidents' Day reception and Boys & Girls Club registration.

MPT Wilkinson reported that he attended a Park & Planning presentation on extending the Little Paint Branch hiker-biker trail from Cherry Hill Road in College Park to the Beltsville Community Center. He learned that the trail is proposed to be built on the west side of Cherry Hill Road and the north side of Sellman Road because the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC) is opposed to building it on their property. The most difficult section will be the bridge over the Beltway, which is very narrow. In other news, Public Works twice prepared the roads for what turned out to be minor snow events. The ice melt did not work well during the first snow event, because it was too cold.

Mayor Calvo reported on a recent Four Cities Coalition meeting in College Park. It featured presentations on the cleanup of an old nuclear waste site at BARC, reductions of career fire fighters at the Branchville fire station, and FBI headquarters relocation. The Four Cities Coalition plans to take a position opposing the Branchville staffing cuts, but will hold off with a letter until a meeting with Prince George's County Fire Chief Bashoor has taken place. All four cities strongly favor the relocation of FBI headquarters to Greenbelt Metro Station, and plan to write a joint letter of support. Other topics of discussion included the impact of the recent property reassessments on city budgets and a Pepco tree trimming MOU.

CM Kulpa-Eddy added that County Councilmember Olson's Aide Danielle Glaros informed the Four Cities members of a proposed bill that would reduce the school impact fee for housing units in transit overlay zones (TOD). The goal is to promote transit-oriented development and construction of more apartment units for students and professionals. Further, the City of Greenbelt has purchased a new bucket truck, which can be rented for a fee. MPT Wilkinson noted that the new Four Cities street sweeper was in Berwyn Heights for the last 2 weeks and produced noticeably cleaner streets than with the old sweeper.

Mayor Calvo said that he attended a meeting of the Prince George's County Municipal Association (PGCMA) last week. A College Park based non-profit dedicated to stopping incinerators and promoting zero waste gave a presentation on how local governments can reduce their waste. He found their ideas interesting and may invite them to come to Berwyn Heights in the future. At the same meeting, representatives of the Governor's Office gave a presentation on the proposed budget. A list of Prince George's County projects proposed for funding included the Pop's Park renovation at \$91,000. Further, he was selected as chair of the PGCMA scholarship program after expressing the opinion that awarding a few \$1,000 scholarships is not the best use of this money to promote education in the County. He plans to restructure the program to put the money to better use.

MPT Wilkinson added that the College Park Academy, scheduled to open this fall, is now accepting applications. It will initially be housed in the old St. Marks Elementary School and then move to a renovated building that formerly housed the Friends Community School on old Calvert Road.

**Citizen comments:** Mayor Calvo received a comment expressing opposition to the construction of new sidewalks and a comment complaining that he has a bias against rental homes. MPT Wilkinson received a comment about recycling old denim for use as an insulator in home construction. Clerk Harper forwarded a comment from Ray Smith about the potential safety hazard posed by an old traffic light mount at the corner of Greenbelt Road and 63<sup>rd</sup> Avenue.

**Code Compliance budget request:** Mayor Calvo welcomed Director of Code Compliance Sonjia Solomon for a presentation of her budget request. Ms. Solomon began by outlining the functions, accomplishments and goals of her department. Among the accomplishments

of the last fiscal year is a new high in rental license receipts, totaling \$57,200 from 191 rental units. The number of rental units has gone up consistently over recent years from 112 in 2010, to 130 in 2011, to 177 in 2012. Last year, rental units peaked at 223, but have since gone down. Another accomplishment was the purchase of a new code car, a Ford Escape S for a slightly lower than budgeted price of \$20,000. The Code Department has also been able to increase its productivity while remaining within budget, mainly by streamlining procedures. Currently, the focus is on improving coordination with the Police and Public Works Department.

Ms. Solomon then presented options for cutting the Code Compliance budget and generate new revenue in the coming fiscal year, as instructed by the Council. The best way to generate new revenues is to raise the rental license fee from \$300 to \$400, which would raise an additional \$19,100. Mayor Calvo commented that an increase in the rental license fee must be tied to the cost of administering the rental program. He asked if this calculation has been made for this proposed increase. Ms. Solomon said such a calculation has not been made, but is based on how much staff time is devoted to the program. It is about 95% of the code officer's and code clerk's time, and perhaps 10% of her time. She will consult with TA Murphy to come up with a formal cost calculation. Another option to increase revenues is to piggy-back on County permits for new plumbing and electric installations, which could raise as much as \$6,200. Most of this money would come from businesses and only a small amount from residents.

Ms. Solomon said that she is not requesting any increases in her FY 2014 budget. Instead, the focus is on identifying budget cuts of 5% and 10%. Code has already met the 5% reduction in this fiscal year because her previous clerk and one of two part-time officers left. This generated savings of approximately \$5,000. While she was able to hire another code clerk, the position was vacant for a time, and the second part-time officer position has remained vacant. Mayor Calvo said that this qualifies as a salary lapse but not as budget cut, unless Ms. Solomon plans to cut part-time hours or positions accordingly. Ms. Solomon replied this is indeed what she proposes.

Mayor Calvo said that the budget request shows a \$10,500 cut obtained from a reduction in part-time hours, which is closer to 10% of the \$117,000 Code Department's total budget. He asked if Ms. Solomon has identified other line items

that can be cut. Ms. Solomon said that she could cut the *postage* appropriation by \$2,500 because the cost of mailing notifications has decreased substantially since dropping certified letters. *Vehicle maintenance* could be cut by \$700 because the new code car will have a lower maintenance and repair cost. *Dues & conferences* can be cut \$300, *communications* by \$300, and *abatements* (contracted out) by \$250.

Mayor Calvo said that the non-staff cuts just outlined amount to \$4,050, leaving only around \$2,000 to be cut from part-time hours for a 5% reduction. This equates to cutting 2 hours per week from the total of 20 per week currently budgeted for 2 part-time officers. To achieve a 10% budget cut, part-time officer hours could be reduced by an additional 6 hours. However, this would leave the Code Department short-staffed. Currently, the department operates with one part-time officer, who averages 10 hours per week, and a clerk who averages around half the 15 hours per week allotted for the position. This means the Department is stretched performing all the additional responsibilities it has been given over the years.

MPT Wilkinson sought clarification about \$6,200 in additional revenue that could be obtained from instituting a fee for electrical and mechanical permits. Ms. Solomon explained that the Town would piggyback onto the County permits for this type of work, charging the same amount. This would impact mostly commercial establishments, which are charged between \$230 - \$750 for such permits. Mayor Calvo suggested another source for additional revenue is an increase in fines for rental and other violations. He thinks this would be fairer than raising rental fees, which affects compliant and non-compliant home-owners alike.

At 8:30 p.m., the Council took a 5 minute break.

**Police budget presentation:** Chief Antolik gave a presentation of the Police Department budget request. He said that he would like to retain a fully-staffed police department with 8 full-time officers, 1 part-time officer, 1 clerk and 2 volunteer public safety aides. This would enable the Department to continue to provide 24/7 protection and keep crime low. As in past years, he is requesting funding for 1 new police car at a cost of \$23,600, plus outfitting and painting for an additional \$10,000. He also requests funding to purchase a new server at a cost of \$3,200 as the old server was damaged during a 2012 derecho, and 5 new ruggedized laptops at a cost of \$8,750.

Chief Antolik continued that his budget also includes a 5% and 10% budget cut option. He proposed to achieve a 5% cut by not filling an upcoming vacancy in the department for a savings of \$47,500, and instead add 30 hours per week to the part-time officer position. The part-time officer would continue to administer the speed camera program at 10 hours/week. Further, it is proposed to lease purchase a new server and replace only 2 laptops for a savings of \$6,240. Another \$14,250 would be shaved from various line items to come up with budget cuts totaling \$34,000. To achieve a 10% reduction, it is proposed to eliminate the soon-to-be vacant officer position, but using the part-time officer for only 10 hours per week to administer the speed camera program. An additional \$10,300 could be obtained by cutting other line items, for a total savings of \$64,000.

Mayor Calvo asked whether the requested budget of \$673,100 reflects Chief Antolik's best judgment on what the FY 2014 budget should look like. Chief Antolik said, apart from the already noted adjustments in *salary* and *capital outlays* < 500, he might make minor changes in the *training* and *uniforms* line items. Ideally, he would also like to send officers out for more training. Currently, all necessary training is done in-house. Other cuts proposed in the FY 2014 budget include:

- ◆ postage -\$50 using email instead of letters to notify residents;
- ◆ supplies -\$1,000 using previous year's average expenditures;
- ◆ dues & conferences -\$500 forgoing out-of-state conferences;
- ◆ training -\$500 in-house, on-site training;
- ◆ travel -\$300;
- ◆ miscellaneous -\$1,000 using previous year's average expenditures;
- ◆ books & periodicals -\$300 purchasing only updates to required law books, using online resources;
- ◆ gas & oil -\$2,100 TA Murphy provides cost estimates using previous years expenditures; Police attempts to curtail usage of vehicles by commuting in personal cars, car pooling to conferences and training, walking more during patrols, and avoiding idling.

- ◆ communications -\$1,000 using Secret Service funds to help finance new cell phones and tablets;
- ◆ telephones -\$500 using previous years expenditures;
- ◆ capital outlay <500 -\$500 using previous years expenditures;
- ◆ capital outlay >500 -\$6,240 purchasing only 2 new laptops of less expensive brand;
- ◆ uniforms -\$2,500 using previous year's expenditures.

Mayor Calvo commented the only difference in the 5% cut and 10% cut options in the requested budget are in salaries and FICA, which is dependent on how many hours the current part-time speed camera officer is scheduled to work. However, other line items should be affected by whether this officer works 10 or 40 hours per week. A full-time officer would receive health insurance and other benefits and is eligible for a take-home vehicle. Chief Antolik may want to review his budget with this in mind.

Mayor Calvo further observed that an 8<sup>th</sup> officer gives the Police Department the flexibility to double up patrols during Friday and Saturday nights, or to cover other shifts if an officer is out sick or on vacation. He would like Chief Antolik to think about what trade-offs to make if the Town had to get by with 7 officers, i.e. to continue 24 hour coverage or keep double coverage on weekends Chief Antolik said his preference is to have 24 hour coverage. Currently, he is using the part-time officer for 30 hours per week to cover gaps in service.

MPT Wilkinson asked if this employee is eligible for benefits since he works more than 28 hours/week. TA Murphy said that an employee is eligible for benefits if he is scheduled to work 28 hours/week on a regular basis. This officer is not regularly scheduled and therefore not eligible. CM Kulpa-Eddy asked if the Town should support proposed state legislation that would allow civilian personnel to issue speed camera tickets, as recommended by some municipalities. Mayor Calvo and Chief Antolik said they prefer to have an officer issue tickets since that is what they told residents when they initiated the program. CM Kulpa-Eddy asked if the appropriation of \$850 for National Night Out is realistic. Last year much more than that was spent. Chief Antolik said that the budgeted amount does not cover expenses, but that the Police Department counts on fundraising to make up the difference.

Mayor Calvo thanked Chief Antolik for the presentation and commended the department for a good year. He thinks the staffing of the Police Department will be the single most difficult decision the Council has to make in next year's budget.

**Greenbelt Metro Area Sector Plan update:** CM Kulpa-Eddy said that the Council had a concern that the Town's recommendation to reduce lanes and/or add a green strip in the middle of Greenbelt Road between 62<sup>nd</sup> Avenue and Kenilworth Avenue was not adopted in the sector plan. The Prince George's County Planning Department has since explained what provisions of the sector plan would address pedestrian safety improvements along Greenbelt Road. However, she is not sure if this satisfies all Councilmembers.

MPT Wilkinson said the sector plan includes other specific recommendations, such as the diverging diamond for the Greenbelt Road/Kenilworth Avenue intersection. He sees no reason why a 30-year master plan cannot address specifically the problem of pedestrian safety at the intersection of Greenbelt Road and 63<sup>rd</sup> Avenue. There should be a safe landing in the middle for Greenbelt Middle School students and other pedestrians when they are crossing 9 lanes of traffic. He would like the Council to take a position supporting a pedestrian landing and ask CM Olson's office to help lobby for it.

CM Kulpa-Eddy suggested asking only for including a pedestrian landing at this intersection, and not for reducing lanes. The Council agreed. Mayor Calvo will send a letter communicating this position to Park & Planning before their next worksession.

**Pepco tree-trimming MOU:** Mayor Calvo said that the Town has obtained the copy of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) the City of Greenbelt signed with Pepco in 2002 that puts in place a procedure for consulting with the city before trees are trimmed. The procedure requires Pepco to provide dates and places when tree trimming is to occur, as well as contact information for personnel or contractors who would perform the work. It also requires Pepco to employ a licensed tree care expert to inspect trees before and after tree work is scheduled and to be on-site during the trimming to ensure that the work is done in accordance with state and federal regulations.

Mayor Calvo said he would like the Town to have a similar agreement so that it can hold Pepco more accountable. However, Greenbelt's city manager believes

that all municipalities already have this type of agreement. He would like to check the Town's files to see if there is a record of such an MOU. The Council agreed that the Town should pursue a similar agreement, if none has been signed.

Nothing was discussed under 2. **Public Safety**, and 3. **Public Works**.

#### 4. Administration

**Bulletin cover:** The following items were approved for the March Bulletin cover: spring theme, headlines on Mayor & Town Council budget message, and CERT workshop.

#### 5. Code Compliance

**WSSC sewer repair update:** CM Kulpa-Eddy reported that she attended a WSSC meeting on January 24, which provided an overview of projects that will be undertaken in the next 4 years. WSSC is under a court order to repair or reline its sewer lines by 2017. Berwyn Heights has 2 manholes in the Indian Creek stream valley that are affected: one near Greenbelt Road and one half-way between the hockey rink and Lake Artemesia park. To reach the manhole along the trail, they would have to construct an access path for heavy machinery, which may require removal of trees. Relining of sewers is planned for 62<sup>nd</sup> Avenue between Ruatan and Seminole Streets, and for 58<sup>th</sup> Avenue between Berwyn Road and Pontiac Street. This does not require digging trenches, as the sewer lines will be accessed from manholes.

Lastly, WSSC will be evaluating its water mains in 2014-15. In particular, they will look at Ruatan and Seminole Streets, 57<sup>th</sup> and 58<sup>th</sup> Avenue where the Town has just renovated the road surface. Unfortunately, streets will have to be dug up to repair these lines. Construction may begin in 2015. Mayor Calvo expressed frustration because WSSC had promised the Town it would not have to do anything to these sections of road for 20 years.

Nothing was discussed under 6. **Parks and Recreation**.

#### 7. Executive Session ( 9:48 p.m. – 9:55 p.m.)

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

The meeting was adjourned at 9:56 p.m.

Kerstin Harper, Town Clerk

## Town Meeting

February, 13, 2013

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 p.m. Present were Mayor Calvo, Mayor Pro Tem (MPT) Wilkinson, CMs Almoguera, Dennison, and Kulpa-Eddy. Also present were Chief of Police Antolik, President of the Berwyn Heights Volunteer Fire Department James Hurley, Clerk Harper, as well as representatives of the Prince George's County Public Safety Communications Center Associate Director Charlynn Flaherty, Operations Manager Bill McGown, Assistant Operations Manager Penny van Dyke, and Quality Assurance Supervisor Nicole Winters, and citizens. Town Administrator Murphy and Treasurer Lape had an excused absence.

Mayor Calvo led the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### 1. Prince George's County Public Safety Communications (PSC) Presentation

Mayor Calvo welcomed the representatives from the Prince George's Call Center. Assistant Director Flaherty introduced her colleagues and said they are pleased to be here to explain how the Call Center works because it is important for the Call Center to have good relations with citizens, municipalities and agencies of Prince George's County that they serve. The call center operates under the auspices of the County's Homeland Security Office, where it was moved after the 9/11 attacks in 2001.

A short video was played giving an overview of the Center's operations with a focus on 911 calls. When a 911 call comes in a call taker tries to obtain as much information as possible by asking a series of questions. While remaining on the phone with the caller, they enter the information into a computer. The information entered into computers is used to dispatch the appropriate help (Computer Aided Dispatch, or CAD). The dispatchers use the information in the computer to give responders a picture of what to expect at the scene while they are on their way. In addition to taking information, the call takers often remain on the line to provide life-saving instructions until help arrives. The call center also answers calls to the non-emergency number: 301-352-1200. This number is intended to serve residents who require police or emergency service of a less urgent nature.

Ms. Flaherty said she understands that the Town has concerns about getting a recording when trying to get police help on the non-emergency line. She ex-

different name, such as the Baltimore-Washington Parkway also known as 295.

Mr. Anderson continued that he sometimes gets a faster response when he contacts the area police department directly. When the traffic light was out at the busy intersection of Greenbelt Road and 60<sup>th</sup> Avenue he could not get help by calling 911. Again, he called the Greenbelt Police Department, which sent out an officer in short order. Mr. McGown said that any 911 call will come into the Call Center first. If the caller phones from a municipality with its own dispatch, such as Greenbelt, the call will be forwarded to them.

Ray Smith, Seminole Place, asked if the Call Center would be willing to talk to the Seniors Club about their operations. Ms. Flaherty said they would, adding that they can also give a tour of the Call Center.

Mayor Calvo thanked the Call Center representatives for the informative dialogue.

## 2. Minutes

Clerk Harper read a summary of the January 9 Town meeting minutes. On a motion by CM Dennison and second by MPT Wilkinson, the minutes were approved 5 to 0.

## 3. Treasurer's Report

CM Almoguera gave the Treasurer's report for the month of January as Treasurer Lape was absent.

## 4. Mayor's Report

Mayor Calvo reported that the Council has started to focus on the FY 2014 budget with the directors of the Police and Code Department having presented their budget requests at the last worksession. This year, the directors have been asked to present their budgets with options for a 5% and 10% reduction. The Public Works and Parks & Recreation Departments, as well as the Neighborhood Watch/Emergency Preparedness Committee will present their budgets at the next worksession and the Town Administrator will present the proposed budget on March 4.

In other news, the Town Council voted to send a letter to its elected representatives supporting the relocation of the FBI Headquarters to Greenbelt Station. Greenbelt Station offers many advantages but there is competition from other jurisdictions. Residents are encouraged to contact State and U.S. representatives to urge them to support the relocation. The Town also gave input on the Greenbelt sector plan. Thanks to CM Kulpa-Eddy closely monitoring the process,

Berwyn Heights' input has for the most part been incorporated. However, the Council is continuing to press for a median strip on Greenbelt Road at 63<sup>rd</sup> Avenue to be included, which would provide a safe landing for Greenbelt Middle School students and other pedestrians, who cross there. Councilmember Olson's office has also helped in advocating for the pedestrian landing at the County level. Further, the Council has signed on to a Four Cities letter, which opposes the proposed cuts of career fire fighters at the Branchville Fire Department. Berwyn Heights will be negatively affected by a closure of the Branchville station because the Berwyn Heights Fire Department would have to respond to more calls from areas currently served by Branchville and would no longer have access to a pumper truck.

## 5. Department Reports

**Administration:** CM Almoguera had no report.

**Code Compliance:** CM Kulpa-Eddy reported the Code Department now has a new code car, a white Ford Explorer. It still has the old Saturn as a backup, as well as the old, surplussed Crown Victoria it received from the Police Department. This brings up this month's tip about how to avoid receiving a citation for keeping junked, wrecked or abandoned vehicles. A fine may be issued for parking a vehicle on the street without moving for more than 72 hours. It is also a violation to keep a car, which is inoperable or has no valid Maryland tags, on one's property. The Code Department prefers to work with residents to resolve this type of problem and asks residents to contact the Department if they need an extension to repair a vehicle or get it registered.

**Parks and Recreation, Education and Civic Affairs:** CM Dennison announced that the Historical Committee will hold its Presidents Day reception on February 16, at which the great grandson of President Taft and his wife will make a presentation. Berwyn Heights Day will be held on May 4.

**Public Health and Safety:** Chief Antolik reported he was recently notified by the Maryland Park Police that they have identified the man who 20 years ago murdered a university student jogging along the Indian Creek trail. Fifty seven year old Thomas Lee Posey pled guilty to first-degree murder and two counts of first-degree rape dating to 1990 and was sentenced to life in prison.

Chief Antolik gave the police activities report for January. There were 3 Part I offenses, which is below the 5 year aver-

age of 7.2. Speed camera citations totaled 148. Forty three tickets were issued on Pontiac Street, where only one camera is currently in operation and 105 on Greenbelt Road.

Mayor Calvo invited James Hurley, President of the Berwyn Heights Volunteer Fire Department (BHVFD) to give an update. Mr. Hurley reported that the Fire Department on January 8 elected a new fire chief, president and vice president. Daniel McCoy replaces retiring Chief Fusco. The new leadership plans to be more involved and give a regular presentation at Town meetings. Mr. Hurley thanked the Council for writing a letter to oppose the staffing cuts at the Branchville Fire Department. If the station closes, it will negatively affect the operations of BHVFD, which will have to cover a larger area and wait longer for a pumper truck to put out fires.

In response to MPT Wilkinson, Mr. Hurley explained that the Fire Chief is in charge of the operational side of the Department, while the President is responsible for the administration of the Department. This includes responsibility for the budget, insurance, procurement, etc. With the change in leadership, the Department is again planning to have an open house, most likely in October, which is fire prevention month.

CM Kulpa-Eddy said that she would like to coordinate the newsletters submitted for publication in the Bulletin by the Neighborhood Watch and the BHVFD to avoid duplication of information. Mr. Hurley said he is happy to do that.

**Public Works:** MPT Wilkinson reported that he attended a productive meeting on the extension of the Little Paint Branch hiker-biker trail, which the Council voted to support. The proposed new section will connect the trail that currently ends at Cherry Hill Road across from the Home Depot to the Beltsville Community Center, where the trail picks up again. The principal concern voiced was that the bridge over the Beltway will not be wide enough to separate the trail from traffic with a barrier.

MPT Wilkinson further noted that he met with the PGCPs project manager for Greenbelt Middle School to discuss construction of a sidewalk through the school bus depot. The manager agreed that the current situation is unsafe. He will recommend building a sidewalk and crosswalk to access the school. Next week, MPT Wilkinson will meet with SHA representatives, who will visit Berwyn Heights to evaluate the proposed locations for sidewalks in connection with the *safe routes to school* grant submitted in January. Public Works twice prepared



the roads for another snow event that turned out to be minor. The new street sweeper was in Berwyn Heights the first time in January and did a thorough job cleaning streets. In spring, Public Works plans to do extensive crack-sealing and April 6 is the next date for residents to recycle old electronic equipment at the Greenbelt Public Works yard.

## 6. Committee Reports

**Education Advisory Committee:** No report.

**Historical Committee:** No report.

**Neighborhood Watch/Emergency Preparedness Committee:** CM Kulpa-Eddy reported that the NW/EP held elections at its last meeting. Ron Shane and Joan Hayden were elected as co-chairs, Merrill Weinrich as Secretary and Shirley Attick as Treasurer. Terms are now 2 years. The Committee is finalizing its FY 2014 budget request, which will be presented at the next worksession. There will be no Committee meeting on March 6 as a number of members will take a CPR training course that night. A CERT training workshop will take place March 9 – 10 at the Town Center. So far 20 people are signed up but there is still space for a few more. Interested residents can contact the chairs.

**Recreation Council:** No report.

## 7. Unfinished Business

There was none.

## 8. New Business

There was none.

## 9. Citizens Discussion

Ray Smith, Seminole Place, had several comments and questions. He asked if there are any plans to move Branchville's pumper truck to Berwyn Heights on occasion. Mr. Hurley said that the Branchville Fire Department would make that decision because they own the equipment. Alternately, the County Fire Chief could move the equipment. Mr. Smith asked why the street sweeper spends a couple of weeks sweeping the Town and then does not come for back for an extended period. Mayor Calvo replied that the sweeping schedule is negotiated between the Four Cities Coalition members and tries to accommodate each Town's needs and preferences. Essentially, Berwyn Heights gets it 13 weeks out of the year.

Mr. Smith asked what can be done about having SHA construction signs removed that seem to be no longer needed. Mayor Calvo said that SHA strictly follows rules regarding the posting of signs. Sometimes signs will remain in place when a project is delayed and will be

resumed at a later time. Mr. Smith asked on which side of the street sidewalks are proposed in connection with the safe routes to school grant. MPT Wilkinson replied sidewalks are proposed for the west side of 8700 block of 62<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, and the east side of the 8900 block of 63<sup>rd</sup> Avenue. Mr. Smith asked if MPT Wilkinson had a chance to look into a potential pedestrian hazard posed by a cement footer of an old traffic light in front of the McDonalds restaurant at 63<sup>rd</sup> Avenue. MPT Wilkinson said he has not, but will do so.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:16 p.m.

Kerstin Harper, Town Clerk

# W orksession

## February 19, 2013

The meeting was called to order at 7:13 p.m. Present were Mayor Calvo, Mayor Pro Tem (MPT) Wilkinson, Councilmembers (CMs) Almoguera, Dennison and Kulpa-Eddy. Also present was Acting Director of Public Works Adrian Lockley and Clerk Harper, as well as Neighborhood Watch/Emergency Preparedness Chair Ron Shane and citizens. Town Administrator (TA) Murphy participated via Skype.

### 1. Mayor

**Agenda:** An executive session was added.

**Announcements:** Mayor Calvo will attend the Greenbelt Middle School talent show tomorrow night.

**Calendar:** No changes were made to the council calendar. CM Almoguera will be absent at the March Town meeting.

**Minutes:** On a motion by CM Kulpa-Eddy and second by MPT Wilkinson, the February 4 worksession minutes were approved 5 to 0.

**Department reports:** MPT Wilkinson said that he met with SHA officials for a site visit. They evaluated the places where sidewalks are proposed to be built in connection with the safe routes to school grant (SRTS). Representatives from the Berwyn Presbyterian Church participated. They agreed that a sidewalk on the east side of 63<sup>rd</sup> Avenue approaching Greenbelt Road is needed, and promised to work with the Town on an easement. The 8700 block of 62<sup>nd</sup> Avenue approaching the back of Berwyn Heights Elementary School may not qualify for SRTS funding because a sidewalk must be ADA compliant. Handi-

capped students, however, cannot enter the school grounds from this end because it is only accessible by a staircase.

CM Dennison noted that the Historical Committee's Presidents' Day event went well. Mayor Calvo said that Kyle Snyder has started working as a budget assistant to the Town Administrator.

**Citizen comments:** Mayor Calvo received a comment from a resident whose vehicle had been flagged because of an unpaid parking ticket. He also received comments on the budget and sidewalks.

Jeff Gourley, Berwyn Road, thanked a young woman named Nancy, who helped his frail mother get back into her house after she had fallen on her porch. As he does not know her, he wished to thank her publicly on camera in the hope that she is watching.

Mike Attick, 62<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, asked how much money has so far been spent on sidewalks from the public safety reserve. Mayor Calvo said that, apart from the salary for a part-time officer to administer the speed camera program, approximately \$50,000 has been spent for surveying. Mr. Attick asked if the Town has sent a letter regarding the Branchville Fire Department staffing cuts. Mayor Calvo replied that the Council will sign a Four Cities Coalition letter opposing the cuts after the County's fire chief has met with College Park and Greenbelt. Mike Attick said he wants to make it known that he is not against building sidewalks, only against using the public safety reserve to build them. He thinks that money should be spent on other public safety projects, such as emergency generators, or the police and fire departments. Priority 1 sidewalks could have been funded with the safe routes to school grant instead.

Mr. Attick further suggested that the Council consider raising the fines for building permit violations. The contractors renovating a house on Ruatan Street should have received higher than \$25 fines for continuing to ignore the Town's permit requirements. Other revenue could be generated by raising the speed camera fines to \$75 and the personal property tax rate. Some budget cuts might be avoided if the public safety reserve were used for public safety agencies. Mayor Calvo noted that the speed camera fines are set by statute at \$40 per violation.

**Public Works budget request:** Acting Director of Public Works, Adrian Lockley presented his budget request. He first gave an overview of the department's

plained that the Call Center switched to a new system for non-emergency calls because too many calls were received that did not require a police or EMS response. This resulted in a less effective 911 service. A phone tree was established to direct calls, which do not require public safety personnel to respond, to the appropriate agency or service with a designated "311" number. This allows call takers to focus on the top priority of handling 911 calls, which involve an immediate threat to life and property. Less urgent calls are sometimes held in queue until an officer or fire fighter becomes available.

Ms. Winters described the quality assurance program, which has been put in place to remain accredited at a national and international level. Quality assurance requires that a supervisor is present around the clock monitoring incoming calls to make sure that call takers follow the correct protocol, and to assist when additional help is needed, as for example when a situation requiring CPR occurs. Quality assurance also means listening in on a certain number of randomly selected calls over a month to ensure that call takers ask the right questions to correctly prioritize calls. This procedure is a rating as well as training tool. Call taker trainees undergo 240 hours of classroom training and 540 hours of practical training under certified instructors before they take their first live 911 call.

Mr. McGown explained that the Call Center's procedures and protocol of questions keep evolving as technology becomes more complex. For example, call takers now ask first whether a person is calling from Prince George's County. Often a caller's location cannot be sufficiently identified from their telephone number when they use Voice over Internet Phone (VOIP). While the Call Center tries to stay on top of new developments, sending the right help is a science.

Mayor Calvo asked a number of questions to determine how the non-emergency response system could be improved. He said that the 911 number seems to work pretty well, but he has received many complaints from residents about the non-emergency number. He has the impression that the non-emergency number gets short-changed because the focus is on the 911 operation. Ms. Flaherty explained that the non-emergency calls are answered by the same people as the 911 calls, and call takers must prioritize the calls according to urgency. First priority goes to 911 calls. Alarm calls, which are considered an "in progress" threat to life and prop-

erty, are second. Non-emergency calls are ranked third in priority because the threat is not immediate.

In response to further questions, it was explained that the majority of calls, or approximately 60% are 911 calls, and even a portion of the 40% of calls made to the non-emergency number qualify as 911 calls. It would be difficult to determine the proportion of 911 calls to non-emergency calls by municipality. A call is identified by the telephone number, which in the case of cell phones is no longer tied to a particular location or jurisdiction. The Call Center has the equipment but not the staff to analyze the calls and break them down by location.

Mayor Calvo said that Berwyn Heights probably generates a higher proportion of non-emergency calls to 911 calls than most other places in the county. The Town trains its residents to call the non-emergency number when there is a public safety concern, and to ask for an on-duty Berwyn Heights officer to respond. From Berwyn Heights' perspective, there is no point for a County officer to respond, for example, when teens troll around at night, students have noisy parties or barking dogs keep the neighbors up. He asked if asking for a Berwyn Heights officer conforms to the protocol.

Ms. van Dyke, Assistant Operations Manager and veteran dispatcher, replied that requesting a Berwyn Heights officer may not mean anything to the call taker. They enter an address into the computer, which then generates a municipal code and classifies the level of emergency. Dispatchers identify the municipality and dispatch available officers to respond. Call taking and dispatching are handled by a different set of people with a different set of responsibilities and information. However, experienced call takers or dispatchers like her know that Berwyn Heights is a municipality with its own police force and will hold a call for a Berwyn Heights officer.

Mayor Calvo said that some residents have reached a point where they have written off the non-emergency number because they are put on hold for long periods of time and are not able to get a Berwyn Heights officer to come out. He would like to find a way for Berwyn Heights to fit into the Call Center system and get a better service on the non-emergency number. Perhaps the role of municipal police could be incorporated into call takers' training or the computer program might be tweaked to provide a field to request local police officers.

Mr. McGown replied that Berwyn Heights' problem is not unique. There are many neighborhood watch associations and

other organizations that cannot always get the service they want. The Call Center is attempting to address that. County police are in the process of setting up a website where neighborhood organizations can get non-emergency police assistance without having to go through the Call Center. Citizens can help by providing detailed feedback on the particular problem they encountered. If there is a problem with getting a response, the Call Center can usually retrieve a call because every call and key stroke on the computer is recorded.

Mr. McGown asked how long is considered too long a wait by callers seeking non-emergency assistance. Mayor Calvo said he thinks most callers may wait up to 5 minutes, although he has sometimes stayed on the line for 20 minutes to see how long it takes to be served. MPT Wilkinson said when he needs help as a Boys & Girls Club coach he waits between 2-3 minutes. Mr. McGown said on-hold times vary depending on the time of day. During the evening rush hours and weekend nights it can take longer to get through.

CM Kulpa-Eddy asked if the Call Center can give clearer guidelines as to when to call 911 as opposed to the non-emergency number. Ms. van Dyke replied that beyond the obvious emergencies, a situation in progress that could become an emergency qualifies for a 911 call. For example, a suspicious person walking around at night looking at homes deserves a call. Similarly, when one is scared or feels threatened by someone one should call 911. However, to report a crime, such as a break-in that has already happened, one should call the non-emergency number. CM Kulpa-Eddy asked whether one should call 911 to report a traffic accident that is likely to have already been reported by other callers with a cell phone. Ms. van Dyke said one should call if one believes to have unique information about the incident that is helpful to first responders.

Mark Anderson, Paxton Court, asked how well call takers know the County. Last summer he called 911 to report a fire in Greenbelt Park driving past Parkdale High School on Good Luck Road. The call taker did not seem to have any idea of where that was. He ended up driving to the Greenbelt Fire Station and reporting the fire in person. Mr. McGown said that call takers get training in the geography of the County and will be familiar with "common places." This includes schools and other landmarks. However, sometimes call takers do not know a particular address or know it by a



mission and goals. He has instituted a facilities rating system to enhance the Town's physical appeal. The condition of buildings and facilities will be continuously evaluated so that they can be maintained at a minimum "C" service level. Graffiti will be removed within 48 hours, and a monthly service schedule will be followed to keep up public parks and rights-of-way. Other goals include implementing more energy efficient and environmentally friendly technologies where possible, maintaining a safe and reliable fleet of vehicles at reduced cost with in-house maintenance, and starting a proactive road preservation program through crack-sealing. This spring, the department plans to spend \$1,500 to rent a crack sealing machine for a month and rehabilitate the Town's road surfaces.

Mr. Lockley continued with a summary of last year's accomplishments. They include transitioning the Town to energy efficient lighting using grants and Pepco incentive rebates; completing leaf collection without temporary staff; implementing an employee of the month appreciation program; concluding an agreement to obtain road salt from SHA; and completing the paving of the Public Works yard.

Proceeding to the FY 2014 budget request, Mr. Lockley said that he composed a regular budget as well as alternatives with a 5% cut and a 10% cut. In the regular budget, the following changes are proposed:

- ◆ +\$1,000 in dues & conferences. Mr. Lockley plans to attend the National Public Works Association conference for leadership training. Mayor Calvo said that the travel appropriation would need to go up as well to reflect travel expenditures associated with the conference.
- ◆ +\$7,000 in equipment rental. DPW plans to rent state of the art crack sealing equipment to perform preventative maintenance on roads.
- ◆ +\$2,500 in street repair materials. Purchase of "super-stretch" crack sealant.
- ◆ +\$1,000 in street signs. Purchase of preformed thermoplastic to mark crosswalks.
- ◆ +\$15,400 in temporary help. This money has been shifted from the salary appropriation where one position will be cut, saving \$40,000.

The changes made to the budget to ob-

tain a 5% reduction are as follows:

- ◆ -\$1,000 in network & software support. Purchased needed IT equipment last year; this year mostly maintenance costs. Plan to reduce use of IT support.
- ◆ -\$700 in electricity for DPW building. Reflects trend of recent years. Use of more energy-efficient lighting.
- ◆ -\$700 in gas for DPW building. Use of new high efficiency heating system.
- ◆ -\$40,000 in salary. Eliminating one vacant position
- ◆ -\$3,000 in FICA associated with one full time position
- ◆ -\$6,000 in vehicle maintenance & repair. Preventative maintenance done in-house.
- ◆ -\$500 in training. Forgoing DPW director training.
- ◆ -\$1,400 in capital outlay <500. Zeroing out miscellaneous equipment purchases.
- ◆ -\$5,400 in capital outlay >500. Zeroing out Town beautification projects. (This line item contains fund balance from the FY 2013 budget)
- ◆ -\$1,000 in leaf collection. Reflecting in-house savings.
- ◆ -\$250 in recycling postage. Zeroed out postage as fliers can be posted on website or e-mailed.
- ◆ -\$2,000 in recycling miscellaneous. Zeroed out printing cost for fliers.

To achieve a 10% reduction in expenditures, the following additional changes are proposed:

- ◆ -\$500 in building supplies.
- ◆ -\$1,000 in building maintenance & repairs.
- ◆ -\$500 in capital outlay >500 pertaining to building maintenance.
- ◆ -\$1,000 in building equipment. Most office equipment is relatively new.
- ◆ -\$1,000 in streets & sanitation supplies. Includes miscellaneous non-vehicle supplies.
- ◆ -\$10,000 in vehicle maintenance & repairs. Implementing in-house preventative maintenance

program for commercial vehicles.

- ◆ -\$13,000 in solid waste disposal fees. Reducing trash collection and/or increasing recycling.
- ◆ -\$3,000 in street projects & repairs. Leaving sufficient funds to fix road surface at Berwyn Road and Osage Street, estimated at \$4,000.
- ◆ -\$500 for pedestrian bridge. Have new energy-efficient LED lighting with 5 year warranty.
- ◆ -\$3,000 in tree service. Performing tree pruning in-house and reducing poison ivy eradication.

Mayor Calvo commended Mr. Lockley on the format of his budget request, which clearly lays out the different options. However, he does not think that the 10% reduction is realistic because it relies on a \$13,000 cut to *solid waste disposal fees* to be achieved by reducing trash collection. Although a worthy goal, it should not be used for budget purposes. As an alternative, Mr. Lockley proposed to zero out the \$15,000 in the *temporary help* line item. In addition, \$2,500 can be cut from *recycling supplies*, which covers recycling containers.

At 8:20 p.m., the Council took a 10 minute break.

Mayor Calvo asked how Mr. Lockley weighs making cuts in man-hours as opposed to making cuts in supplies, equipment or activities. Mr. Lockley said he prefers keeping funding for equipment and supplies because there is more flexibility in allocating man hours. He can usually postpone jobs to a time when the department is less busy. Apart from that, there is enough money in the part-time staff appropriation to keep part-time staff on for additional hours when needed. The budgeted margin is for an additional 2 hours per week per part-time employee. The budgeted \$15,000 for temporary staff, in turn, would pay for one person to work 40 hours per week for 2 months.

Mayor Calvo asked how Mr. Lockley would balance using part-timers versus temporary staff. Mr. Lockley replied that the department has become accustomed to not using temporary staff. It has been his policy to give additional hours to the permanent part-timers when needed. However, he anticipates using temporary labor to perform trash collection when skilled labor is busy

working on jobs such as crack-sealing.

Mayor Calvo said that Mr. Lockley may be better off renting the crack-sealing equipment on a weekly basis rather than monthly. While the rental is cheaper by the month, it is unlikely that the department can work on the streets for one month straight because of changes in weather. Mr. Lockley said that it costs \$5,700 to rent the equipment for a month and it takes a minimum of 3 people to run the machine. He concurred that it would probably be more efficient to rent for a shorter term. MPT Wilkinson thought October may be the best month for the job because it has the driest weather.

Mayor Calvo suggested splitting the \$50,000 *vehicle maintenance & repair* line item. It would separate the more predictable maintenance expenses from the highly variable repair expenses. In this budget, the department already saved \$10,000 by doing preventive maintenance in-house, which could then be used to hire temporary labor, for example. He likes the idea of paying staff to do the skilled labor and use temps for unskilled labor. Mr. Lockley said that in this budget, savings from this line item were used to buy other useful supplies, such as flashing emergency lights for trucks.

Mayor Calvo said, last year, the Council asked that the *recycling* budget be integrated with the *streets & sanitation* budget, but this has not been done. TA Murphy explained that the separate recycling budget was eliminated, but that he has kept a few recycling accounts to be able to track various expenses related to recycling. Mayor Calvo noted that Mr. Lockley just proposed zeroing out two of those recycling accounts, *postage* and *miscellaneous*, because they are not needed. Mr. Lockley added he would keep the *recycling supplies* line item, which pays for recycling containers, and *recycling maintenance & repairs*, which shows when the recycling truck starts costing too much money. Mayor Calvo said that vehicle expenditures should be tracked independently on a separate spreadsheet. Police already does it for its fleet. He would like to reduce budget line items to those things on which the Council makes policy decisions.

1. MPT Wilkinson said that the *recycling supplies* line item should be retained, as should the *recycling postage* line item for sending out reminders to residents on what can be recycled. Further, he has concerns about zeroing out the *temporary labor* appropriation, which may be needed when Public Works per-

forms leaf collection or crack-sealing. He agrees that crack-sealing equipment should not be rented for an entire month because there is no guarantee it can be used an entire month due to weather changes. He also would like to make sure that poison ivy eradication remains funded when the landscaping budget is cut.

CM Almoguera noted that her main concern is that 11 line items in the FY 2013 budget exceeded what was budgeted. However, the requested FY 2014 budget does not raise the funds in those accounts to reflect these expenditures. Mr. Lockley said most of the overages resulted from new ideas he implemented that turned out to be more expensive than anticipated. For the most part, these were one-time expenses and will not recur. CM Kulpa-Eddy said she would like to see the Public Works staffing analysis TA Murphy provided the FY 2012 budget discussions. The document may be useful for this year's discussions.

**NW/EP budget request:** Mayor Calvo welcomed Ron Shane, Co-chair of the Neighborhood Watch/Emergency Preparedness, for a presentation of the Committee's budget request. Mr. Shane said that this year's request is very simple. NW/EP is requesting a total of \$2,500, which is a little more than a 10% cut of the full \$3,000 NW/EP funding level. Planned expenditures focus on replacing equipment and on repairs. Purchase of bottled water is being phased out. Instead, the Committee plans to buy more collapsible water containers, which can be used to truck water into town from elsewhere in an emergency. Six hundred dollars are budgeted for trailer repairs, \$400 for event expenses, and \$360 for fire extinguishers, \$300 for training and education, and \$120 for batteries.

Mayor Calvo said that the Council approved a trailer reserve, which currently contains around 3,000. Any leftover money not used for operations can be set aside there to fund the upkeep and eventual replacement of the emergency trailer. He encouraged NW/EP to continue to do that. Mr. Shane said that NW/EP is looking into getting a small trailer that can be used to transport emergency generators and power tools to help other municipalities when they need help. Hauling the big trailer around for that purpose is cumbersome and expensive.

Mayor Calvo noted that the Council has gained sponsorship from the Town's legislative delegation for a bond bill appropriation of 50% of the estimated cost

to install emergency generators at the Town Center. He thinks the prospects for passage are good. Mr. Shane said that NW/EP certainly agrees that this would make the Town Center and municipal more viable as an emergency station. Mr. Attick asked why the Town chose generators powered by natural gas rather than diesel. TA Murphy said because they are cheaper and do not require refueling. Mr. Attick said that this could be a problem when gas lines get severed. Mayor Calvo said that there will be opportunity to discuss the technical details. First, the Town wants to ensure the bond bill goes through.

**Parks & Recreation budget request:**

CM Dennison presented the budget request for the Parks & Recreation Budget. A 10% cut option would be achieved by reducing the equipment line item from \$7,500 in FY 2013 to \$2,500 in FY 2014. This appropriation pays for new playground equipment. Other changes include an increase in Pop's Park supplies for mulch by \$1,000; an increase of \$50 in Pop's Park maintenance & repairs; and an increase of \$700 in the Sports Park concession stand to pay for a plumber to winterize and de-winterize the building and pay for repairs. Last year, repairs had to be made to the gutters and the electric hand dryers were purchased to replace paper towels.

Mayor Calvo asked if the cut in the equipment appropriation has been proposed because the Town hopes to receive a state grant for a new playground. CMs Dennison and Almoguera confirmed this. MPT Wilkinson asked what the Pontiac Street field appropriation covers. There is a need for an overhaul of the batting cages. TA Murphy said that he will have to check on that. CM Kulpa-Eddy asked if the upgrade of the parking area next to T-Ball field is paid from Parks & Recreation budget. Mayor Calvo said this would be funded from a beautification account that was put into the Public Works Department. Mike Attick asked how much is budgeted for Berwyn Heights Day. Mayor Calvo said \$9,000 has been budgeted. However, some money is recovered from Berwyn Heights ticket sales.

**FBI Headquarters relocation:** Mayor Calvo said that the Council already voted to support the relocation of the FBI headquarters to Greenbelt Metro Station. The Four Cities Coalition has written a joint letter, while TA Murphy has drafted a separate letter for the Town of Berwyn Heights. He has yet to make some changes to it before it can be sent.

**Sidewalks Design & Engineering:** TA Murphy explained that he has obtained a second proposal from CP Johnson & Associates to design and engineer priority 1 sidewalks. He found this proposal helpful in thinking about all the factors to be considered in going forward, including compliance with storm water management, soil conservation and forest conservation regulations. The costs of these environmental reviews are not included in either CP Johnson's or AB Consultants' plans. CP Johnson is of the opinion that exposure to environmental reviews can be minimized by breaking construction down into sections of 1,000 square feet with less than 5,000 square feet of surface disturbance.

CP Johnson informs that County requirements for a storm water management plan must be completed regardless of the project size. Their plans provide for an under drain to be installed along the full length of the sidewalks that is tied into the storm drains. For pervious pavement they recommend brick pavers, while AB Consultants recommends pervious concrete. Both engineering plans provide the Town with complete sets of bid specifications and construction plans, and delineate Town right-of-way in relation to the curb. TA Murphy thinks that CP Johnson is worthy of an interview with the Town Council.

Mayor Calvo said that 1,000 square feet of sidewalk would reach approximately from Greenbelt Road to Ruatan Street and is too short a distance to consider building sidewalks in increments. He thinks that the Town needs to find a way to get some of the environmental regulations waived. The regulations are designed to guide development of large sub-divisions, but make little sense for small infill projects. From Berwyn Heights' perspective, there is no point in installing pervious sidewalks if storm water runoff is guided into storm drains anyway. It would be more useful to mitigate storm water runoff elsewhere in Town.

Mayor Calvo summed up that he would like CP Johnson & Associates to come in for a presentation and give a second opinion on how to best construct the sidewalks in priority 1 locations.

**Pepco Tree Trimming MOU:** Mayor Calvo said that the Council already agreed to pursue a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Pepco regarding the trimming and felling of trees. Greenbelt's MOU would serve as a model. TA Murphy was asked to draft an agreement for the Council to review. CM Kulpa-Eddy said that Greenbelt's MOU

provides for staff to monitor Pepco's tree trimming activities. She wondered who might be assigned the task for Berwyn Heights. MPT Wilkinson thought that Public Works Department would likely do that.

Nothing was discussed under **2. Public Works, 3. Administration, 4 Code Compliance, 5. Parks & Recreation, and 6. Public Safety.**

#### **7. Executive Session ( 9:45 p.m. – 10:20 p.m.)**

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

The meeting was adjourned at 10:20 p.m.

Kerstin Harper, Town Clerk



### **IMPORTANT PEPCO TELEPHONE NUMBERS**

#### **English Speaking Customers**

**CALL (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**

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Mike Smith Hauling & Trash Removal	14

**Look for the Street Sweeper logo in the Sunday column of the Town Calendar on Page 31.** It identifies the week(s) in which our streets will be swept during the month.

Please try not to park in the street whenever possible when the street sweeper comes to Berwyn Heights.

### **Thomas A. Gentile Attorney**

301-908-9427 (cell)  
tgentile301@yahoo.com  
[www.thomasgentile.com](http://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



# Recreation Council News & Events

## Be Part of Berwyn Heights Day!

Pancake  
Breakfast

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 . . .

Fun Run  
Games

Students can earn Community Service hours!

Saturday, May 4

Live Bands  
Parade & DJ  
& Performances

Cha Cha the Clown!

Seniors'  
Bake Sale

Food & Drinks

Craft Vendors

### Upcoming Events

**Annual Hollywood Talent Showcase** – Calling all Singers, Dancers, and Performers!

**April 19 – Berwyn Heights Elementary School** (see registration form in the *Bulletin*)

**NEXT MEETING:** Thursday, April 4 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Center

### RECREATION COUNCIL CONTACTS

Trinity Tomsic – 301-474-6350, [trinity.tomsic@gmail.com](mailto:trinity.tomsic@gmail.com) • Kristen Buker – 443-623-0013, [KristenBuker@aol.com](mailto:KristenBuker@aol.com)

### **Craft Vendor/Information Booth Application**

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_  
Business: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number & Cell Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
Items for Sale/ Distribution: \_\_\_\_\_

The Recreation Council must approve ALL items for sale. Please do not sell or provide food/drinks, silly string, or colored hair spray. Vendors will be located at Sports Park (corner of 57<sup>th</sup> Ave & Berwyn Rd). Set-Up Time: 9:30–10:30 am; Event time: 11 am – 4:00 pm.

Amount (circle one): \$10 Residents/Information Booths • \$15 Non-Residents

Canopy (canopies available for \$15; supply limited): Yes / No

Drop-off registration form at Town Center with cash/check (made out to Berwyn Heights Recreation Council) by **April 19, 2013**.

For additional information, contact Kristen Buker at 443-623-0013, [KristenBuker@aol.com](mailto:KristenBuker@aol.com)

## BERWYN HEIGHTS DAY

**SATURDAY MAY 4, 2013**

..... **PARADE ROUTE**

(starts at BH Elementary)

- - - **TRAIN ROUTE** (rides are FREE)

### ROAD BLOCKS

11:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

12:–1:30 p.m. (during parade only)



**BHVF FIRST AID STATION  
& FIRE PREVENTION INFO**

## PARADE, Performances, Awards & Presentations

- ♦ LIVE DJ at Grandstand
- ♦ **12:00 noon – PARADE begins**
- ♦ "Citizen of the Year" Awards
- ♦ BHHHC Historic Street Marker Dedication
- ♦ ZUMBA Dance Demo — 1:30 p.m. at GRANDSTAND

## ATTRACTIONS

- 1 CRAFT VENDORS 11 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
- 2 BHNW EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS Trailer
- 3 BHHHC *The Berwyn Heights Historical Committee*
- 4 VOLUNTEER & INFORMATION Booths — 2 locations
- 5 FREE Blood Pressure Check-Ups Express Healthcare  
— 10:00 am to 12:00 noon at TOWN CENTER
- 6 CHA CHA the CLOWN—Balloon Twisting Sculpting

## CONCERTS 2 LIVE BANDS (starts at 1:30 p.m.)

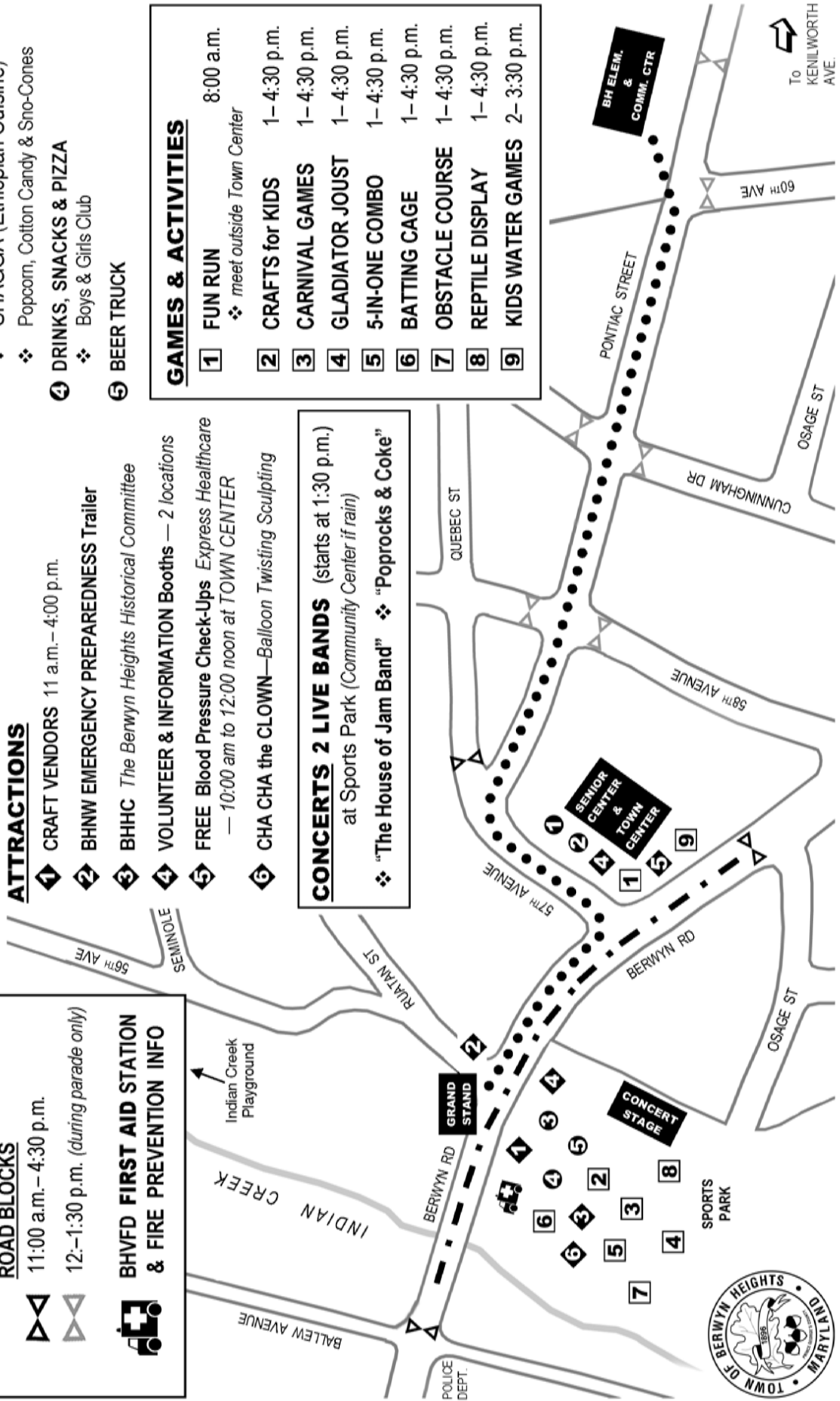
at Sports Park (Community Center if rain)  
♦ "The House of Jam Band" ♦ "Poprocks & Coke"

## FOOD & DRINKS

- 1 Senior's BAKE SALE 8:30 a.m.  
♦ Senior Center
- 2 PANCAKE BREAKFAST 9–11:00 a.m.  
♦ Town Center - Upper Level
- 3 FOOD VENDORS 12:00 noon  
♦ GRILLING by the Karate Club  
♦ SHAGGA (Ethiopian Cuisine)  
♦ Popcorn, Cotton Candy & Sno-Cones
- 4 DRINKS, SNACKS & PIZZA  
♦ Boys & Girls Club
- 5 BEER TRUCK

## GAMES & ACTIVITIES

- 1 FUN RUN 8:00 a.m.  
♦ meet outside Town Center
- 2 CRAFTS for KIDS 1–4:30 p.m.
- 3 CARNIVAL GAMES 1–4:30 p.m.
- 4 GLADIATOR JOUST 1–4:30 p.m.
- 5 5-IN-ONE COMBO 1–4:30 p.m.
- 6 BATTING CAGE 1–4:30 p.m.
- 7 OBSTACLE COURSE 1–4:30 p.m.
- 8 REPTILE DISPLAY 1–4:30 p.m.
- 9 KIDS WATER GAMES 2–3:30 p.m.





## Berwyn Heights Playgroup



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

### New Infants Playgroup Meeting Weekends!

**Sundays at 3:00 P.M. at the Town Center**  
Meet parents and Berwyn Heights' newest residents!

**Weekday Playdate (preschoolers and younger)**  
**Thursdays 10:30 A.M.— 12:00 P.M.**

Rotation of Playgrounds: 1st & 3rd Thursdays of the month at Indian Creek Playground, and 2nd & 4th Thursdays at Pop's Park, unless it is raining or too cold in which case we meet indoors at the Town Center.

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.



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**YOUR TOWN RESIDENT REALTOR**

## Your Town Update...

<b>Sold</b>	6203 Seminole Street - 4 Bdrm, 2.5 Bath \$155,000
<b>Sold</b>	6203 Pontiac Street - 5 Bdrm, 3 Bath \$260,000
<b>Sold</b>	6201 Seminole Place - 4 Bdrm, 2 Bath \$166,800
<b>Sold</b>	5610 Osage Street - 3 Bdrm, 1 Bath \$150,000
<b>Active</b>	5907 Pontiac Street - 3 Bdrm, 2.5 Bath \$289,900
<b>Contract</b>	6216 Quebec Place - 5 Bdrm, 2 Bath \$224,000
<b>Contract</b>	8509 63rd Avenue - 5 Bdrm, 3.5 Bath \$349,900

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Each Office is Independently Owned & Operated.*



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**301-346-0840**



# **Show off your talent**

## **at the Berwyn Heights Recreation Council**

### **Annual Hollywood Talent Showcase**



Friday, April 19, 2013

Show Starts at 7:00 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, April 18 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, April 11. 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 permission for my child \_\_\_\_\_

to participate in the Berwyn Heights Talent Show.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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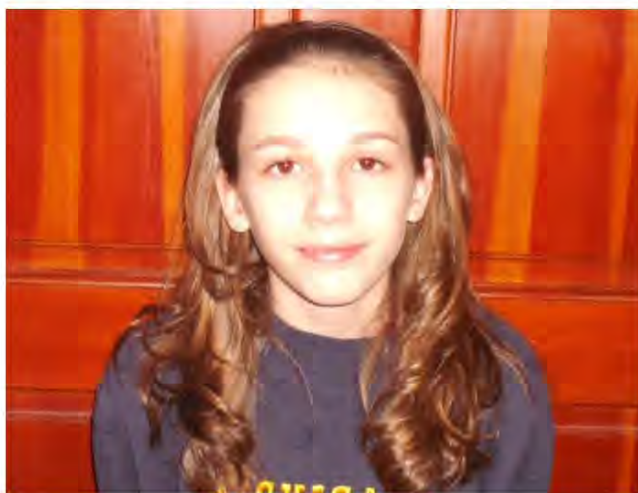
## The Bugle – April 2013

### The Berwyn Heights Boys and Girls Club

It is still not too late to sign up for spring sports. Contact Leslie Wolfinger at [leswolfinger@gmail.com](mailto:leswolfinger@gmail.com)

Spring sports include Tee Ball, Machine Pitch Baseball, Baseball, Softball, Soccer, and Track.

*Motivation is what gets you started; Determination is what keeps you going!*



**Girl of the Year:** Megan Conover -- Megan is a ninth grade honor roll student at Eleanor Roosevelt in the Science and Tech program. She plays on the volleyball team and is a member of Students Against Destructive Decisions, as well as being involved in Drama Productions at school. Megan has participated in the Boys and Girls Club for ten years, playing softball, track, soccer, basketball, and cheerleading. She also helps the Berwyn Heights Boys and Girls Club by volunteering in the concession stand during community events. She plans to major in Biology at Eleanor Roosevelt High School and go to college to major in Graphic Design.



**Boy of the Year:** Tyler Compton -- Tyler "Ty" has been a member of the Boys & Girls Club for the past 7 ½ years where he started playing t-ball at the age of 3. He is currently most active in baseball and soccer, however has participated in track, basketball, and ball hockey. Ty is a 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Honor Roll student at Greenbelt Middle School in the TAG program. He is part of the GMS Festival Band and is section leader for Trumpets. He is also Captain of his ice hockey team from Wells Ice Rink, the Wells Warriors. He has volunteered his time with the club by helping with the girl's softball teams and working in the concession stand. Ty likes to hang out with family and friends in his spare time.

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**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING  
PROPOSED TOWN BUDGET  
FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING  
JUNE 30, 2014**

The Town Council of the Town of Berwyn Heights will introduce and hold a public hearing on the proposed Town budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014, at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 10, 2013, at the Town Administration Building, 5700 Berwyn Road, Berwyn Heights.

The Public Hearing is open to the public, and public testimony or comments are encouraged. Persons with questions regarding this hearing may call (301) 474-5000 for further information.

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING  
PROPOSED SPECIAL PUBLIC  
SAFETY TAXING DISTRICT BUDGET  
FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING  
JUNE 30, 2014**

The Town Council of the Town of Berwyn Heights will introduce and hold a public hearing on the proposed Special Public Safety Taxing District budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014, at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 10, 2013, at the Town Administration Building, 5700 Berwyn Road, Berwyn Heights.

The Public Hearing is open to the public, and public testimony or comments are encouraged. Persons with questions regarding this hearing may call (301) 474-5000 for further information.

## Code News

### **Business Owners,**

Please help us keep the Berwyn Heights commercial district looking attractive and inviting to customers and clients. Buildings and grounds should be in good repair and free of trash and weeds. Well maintained landscaping can also enhance the appeal of your property. So please keep trees and shrubs pruned and grass cut below 6

inches. You can review our maintenance standards for commercial properties on the Town of Berwyn Heights website at

<http://www.berwyn-heights.com/ordinances/123.html>. The Town's Code Compliance Department appreciates your cooperation and is happy to answer any questions. Please call (301) 513-9331.



### **Code Activity for February 2013:**

**Top code violations:** High Grass/ Overgrown Vegetation = 0; Trash/ Litter = 31; Vehicle Violations = 24; Yard Waste = 5; Miscellaneous Violations = 25; Abatements = 2.

**Other activities:** New Rental Properties = 2; Rental Inspections and Re-inspections = 15; Rental Investigations = 2; Building Permits = 1; POD Permits = 2; Roll-off Permits = 3.

**Receipts:** All Permits = \$380; Fines and Late Fees = \$900; Liens = \$100; Code Fines, Cleanouts, Abatement Receipts, including liens mailed to the County = \$665.

## - BUDGET MESSAGE -

Dear Mayor and Town Council Members:

The proposed Town budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014, is scheduled to be introduced at the Town Meeting on Wednesday, April 10 and adopted at the May 8 Town Meeting, as required by the Town Charter.

The triennial property reassessment completed in January saw residential property values drop 18% and commercial property values increase 2% for an overall decrease of 15% in property assessments and a \$231,000 reduction in the Town's largest source of revenue—real property taxes.

The proposed FY 2014 budget is proposing to maintain the current real property tax rate of 48.6 cents and the personal property tax rate at \$1.215, both per \$100 of assessed value, and to continue the real property tax rate and the personal property tax rate for the dedicated road repair fund at 3 cents and 7.5 cents. Revenues from nearly all other sources are flat. However, there are a few revenue bright spots. The state is going to increase Highway User Revenue aid \$33,312 or 126% and police grant aid \$19,754 or 62%. The other bright spot in revenues is income tax receipts. The Town is expecting a 21% increase in income tax receipts. The increase in income tax receipts together with small increases in cable TV fees and licenses and permits will reduce our revenue shortfall from \$231,000 to \$126,000.

In order to maintain the current real property tax rate of 48.6 cents and the business personal property tax rate of \$1.215, and still balance the budget, the budget proposes no employee cost-of-living increase, freezes non-salaried expenditures at essentially the 2012 budget levels, leaves vacant a police officer and a public works position, and undertakes no major capital projects. Overall, the proposed operating budget is \$126,501 or 5% lower than the 2013 budget.

The proposed FY 2014 operating budget is down \$126,501 from the current fiscal year budget ending June 30, 2013. Although the budget proposes no cost-of-living increase for employees, it does provide for merit increases for employees with good performance. The FY 2014 operating expenditures budget does not use any funds from surplus to fund the operating budget. The FY 2014 proposed budget again funds the outright purchase of a new police cruiser rather than relying on lease purchasing, appropriates the transfer of \$49,689 of Highway User Revenues to the Infrastructure Improvement Fund, appropriates the \$91,769 generated by the 3-cent real property-7.5 personal property road tax to the Infrastructure Improvement Fund, and proposes to appropriate \$66,900 to the Vehicle Replacement Fund.

The following are departmental expenditure highlights:

**Administration** – Budget funds the Office of Town Administration and the maintenance, repair, and operation of the municipal building, Town Center and Senior Center.

**Code Compliance & Transportation** – Budget funds Town Council's continued commitment to fund a Director, 2 part time code officers, and a part time code clerk to assist residents' compliance with community standards and to provide low cost transportation service for the elderly and disabled, upon request.

**Police Department** – Budget funds Town Council's continued commitment to provide 24/7 police protection. Department will consist of the Chief, four patrol officers, a detective and a police clerk. The budget includes the purchase of one new police cruiser. The Town Council also utilizes the Public Safety Taxing District to fund 1 additional patrol officer.

**Public Health and Safety** – Budget proposes making a \$1,000 contribution to support the Berwyn Heights Volunteer Fire Department and \$2,500 for Emergency Preparedness/Neighborhood Watch.

**Public Works Department** - Budget proposes to continue to provide refuse, trash, bulk refuse, metals, and yard waste collection service and once-a-week pick-up of recyclables.

**Parks Recreation** – Budget proposes continuing to fund special events such as Berwyn Heights Day plus resources to maintain Pontiac Street Field and Pop's Park. Town is awaiting word on the awarding of a state grant to totally refurbish Pop's Park..

**Insurance and Employee Benefits** – Budget anticipates a 3.91% increase in health insurance premiums by increasing deductibles, no increase in workers compensation premiums, no increase for general liability, and no increase in the unemployment insurance rate. The budget also includes an appropriation for the Town's match for the Maryland pension system, which increased from 8.99% to 10% of payroll. (Employees contribute 5% of their base pay).

**Debt Service** – With the paying of the 2006 police car lease payment in 2012, the Town is now totally debt-free

Residents should contact the Town Council with questions, suggestions, comments, or concerns regarding the proposed budget and to participate in the budget adoption process at the public hearings on April 10 and May 8 at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully,  
Edward J. Murphy  
Town Administrator



**ONE PAGE SUMMARY  
PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2014 BUDGET**

	FY 09 ACTUAL	FY 10 ACTUAL	FY 11 ACTUAL	FY 12 ACTUAL	FY 13 BUDGET	FY 14 PROPOSED	% VARIATION
REAL ESTATE PROPERTY TAX	\$ 1,376,393	\$ 1,570,262	\$ 1,436,719	\$ 1,437,888	\$ 1,461,482	\$ 1,230,120	-16%
PENALTIES ON TAXES	\$ 7,100	\$ 5,334	\$ 5,442	\$ (2,855)	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	0%
PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX	\$ 290,521	\$ 267,051	\$ 260,566	\$ 299,384	\$ 266,000	\$ 266,000	0%
ROAD FUND TAX	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 109,195	\$ 104,586	\$ 91,969	
INCOME TAX	\$ 245,076	\$ 257,718	\$ 318,688	\$ 367,454	\$ 285,000	\$ 345,000	21%
RECYCLING TAX	\$ 54,691	\$ 61,260	\$ 71,470	\$ 71,470	\$ 72,870	\$ 72,170	-1%
HIGHWAY USER REVENUE	\$ 154,773	\$ 18,247	\$ 11,111	\$ 42,336	\$ 26,377	\$ 59,689	126%
POLICE AID	\$ 36,180	\$ 49,377	\$ 38,505	\$ 38,505	\$ 31,955	\$ 51,709	62%
LICENSES AND PERMITS	\$ 90,849	\$ 102,777	\$ 117,130	\$ 130,491	\$ 122,836	\$ 128,136	4%
SERVICE CHARGES	\$ 1,783	\$ 2,034	\$ 2,770	\$ 4,068	\$ 2,700	\$ 2,700	0%
INTERGOVERNMENTAL	\$ 14,832	\$ 42,396	\$ 8,232	\$ 25,232	\$ 8,232	\$ 8,232	0%
FINES AND FORFEITURES	\$ 58,222	\$ 70,365	\$ 60,336	\$ 56,800	\$ 55,200	\$ 57,200	4%
MISCELLANEOUS	\$ 56,205	\$ 44,103	\$ 70,363	\$ 80,678	\$ 62,980	\$ 60,792	-3%
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>\$ 2,386,625</b>	<b>\$ 2,490,925</b>	<b>\$ 2,401,332</b>	<b>\$ 2,660,646</b>	<b>\$ 2,501,218</b>	<b>\$ 2,374,717</b>	<b>-5%</b>
TRANSFERS FROM SURPLUS FOR OPERATING BUDGET	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-
FOR CAPITAL PROJECTS	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 466,044	\$ 134,970	\$ -	-
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>\$ 2,386,625</b>	<b>\$ 2,490,925</b>	<b>\$ 2,401,332</b>	<b>\$ 3,126,690</b>	<b>\$ 2,636,188</b>	<b>\$ 2,374,717</b>	<b>-10%</b>
MAYOR AND COUNCIL	\$ 15,002	\$ 14,898	\$ 15,974	\$ 17,176	\$ 23,000	\$ 23,000	0%
TOWN ADMINISTRATION	\$ 270,327	\$ 271,876	\$ 261,817	\$ 300,944	\$ 310,025	\$ 309,497	0%
MUNICIPAL BUILDING	\$ 26,436	\$ 29,781	\$ 23,684	\$ 23,606	\$ 30,913	\$ 30,141	-2%
TOWN CENTER	\$ 26,671	\$ 25,260	\$ 28,144	\$ 52,419	\$ 32,913	\$ 33,141	1%
POLICE DEPARTMENT	\$ 569,573	\$ 551,415	\$ 595,190	\$ 600,471	\$ 633,621	\$ 575,347	-9%
MISC. PUBLIC SAFETY	\$ 4,199	\$ 2,168	\$ 3,266	\$ 3,022	\$ 4,000	\$ 3,500	-13%
CODE COMPLIANCE & VAN	\$ 96,144	\$ 103,927	\$ 103,928	\$ 101,013	\$ 115,466	\$ 106,174	-8%
PUBLIC WORKS	\$ 609,565	\$ 724,333	\$ 704,446	\$ 681,964	\$ 699,574	\$ 635,121	-9%
PARKS & RECREATION	\$ 16,621	\$ 22,177	\$ 15,214	\$ 25,129	\$ 28,150	\$ 25,000	-11%
CABLE	\$ 16,706	\$ 6,442	\$ 3,147	\$ 6,496	\$ 15,476	\$ 15,476	0%
INSURANCE	\$ 125,419	\$ 108,551	\$ 92,724	\$ 86,309	\$ 112,886	\$ 111,266	-1%
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	\$ 319,793	\$ 196,368	\$ 199,873	\$ 206,466	\$ 245,961	\$ 245,828	0%
4-CITIES STREET SWEEPER	\$ 24,695	\$ 7,857	\$ 16,940	\$ 18,348	\$ 20,000	\$ 19,000	-5%
TRAFFIC ENGINEER	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-
DEBT SERVICE	\$ 100,978	\$ 92,827	\$ 90,806	\$ 4,621	\$ -	\$ -	-
CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 25,776	\$ 36,387	\$ 22,232	\$ 29,277	\$ 31,870	\$ 33,869	6%
TRANSFERS TO RESERVES	\$ 99,800	\$ 124,245	\$ 81,300	\$ 282,500	\$ 197,363	\$ 208,357	6%
<b>TOTAL OPERATING BUDGET</b>	<b>\$ 2,347,705</b>	<b>\$ 2,318,513</b>	<b>\$ 2,258,685</b>	<b>\$ 2,439,761</b>	<b>\$ 2,501,218</b>	<b>\$ 2,374,717</b>	<b>-5%</b>
CAPITAL PROJECTS	\$ -	\$ 66,804	\$ 118,020	\$ 686,929	\$ 134,970	\$ -	-
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$ 2,347,705</b>	<b>\$ 2,385,317</b>	<b>\$ 2,376,705</b>	<b>\$ 3,126,690</b>	<b>\$ 2,636,188</b>	<b>\$ 2,374,717</b>	<b>-10%</b>
<b>Difference - Receipts &amp; Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 38,920</b>	<b>\$ 105,608</b>	<b>\$ 24,627</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	
<b>BEGINNING FUND BALANCE</b>	<b>\$ 1,323,800</b>	<b>\$ 1,462,520</b>	<b>\$ 1,692,371</b>	<b>\$ 1,798,376</b>	<b>\$ 1,798,376</b>	<b>\$ 1,614,752</b>	
Less Leave Balances	\$ 61,739	\$ 64,450	\$ 64,450	\$ 66,352	\$ 60,212	\$ 66,352	
<b>ADJ. BEGINNING FUND BALANCE</b>	<b>\$ 1,262,061</b>	<b>\$ 1,398,070</b>	<b>\$ 1,627,921</b>	<b>\$ 1,732,024</b>	<b>\$ 1,738,164</b>	<b>\$ 1,548,400</b>	
<b>RESERVES</b>							
Operating Reserve	\$ 442,000	\$ 442,000	\$ 442,000	\$ 442,000	\$ 442,000	\$ 442,000	
Cable TV - Capital Outlay Reserve	31,481	40,515	52,843	55,609	52,843	55,609	
Infrastructure Improvement Reserve	284,472	347,019	347,019	69,989	25,416	69,989	
Supplemental to Trash Truck Reserve*	-	-	-	-	-	-	
NW/EP Trailer Reserve	-	1,832	2,565	3,543	2,565	3,543	
Vehicle Replacement Reserve	106,200	157,032	238,332	162,956	227,132	162,956	
<b>TOTAL of RESERVES *</b>	<b>\$ 864,153</b>	<b>\$ 988,398</b>	<b>\$ 1,082,759</b>	<b>\$ 734,097</b>	<b>\$ 749,956</b>	<b>\$ 734,097</b>	
Fund Balance less Reserves	397,908	409,672	545,162	997,927	988,208	814,303	
Transfers to Reserves	99,800	124,245	104,524	282,499	197,363	208,357	
Reserves Used	-	-	-	(432,976)	-	-	
Surplus Added or (Used)	38,920	105,606	1,098	(41,130)	-	-	
Less: Capital Surplus Purchases	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Non-spendable Reserve	-	-	4,621	7,983	-	-	
<b>Surplus Available</b>	<b>536,628</b>	<b>639,523</b>	<b>655,405</b>	<b>814,303</b>	<b>1,185,571</b>	<b>1,022,660</b>	
<b>FUND BALANCE</b>	<b>\$ 1,400,781</b>	<b>\$ 1,627,921</b>	<b>\$ 1,738,164</b>	<b>\$ 1,548,400</b>	<b>\$ 1,935,527</b>	<b>\$ 1,756,757</b>	

# - 2014 BUDGET MESSAGE -

## SPECIAL PUBLIC SAFETY TAXING DISTRICT

Dear Town Resident:

In 2005, Berwyn Heights became the first municipality in the State of Maryland to exercise the new authority granted to towns and cities by Governor Ehrlich and the General Assembly to create a special taxing district to enhance public safety. The Town passed the ordinance creating the Public Safety Taxing District encompassing the commercial and industrial properties on Ballew Avenue, Berwyn Road, Branchville Road, Greenbelt Road and 55th Avenue. The special taxing district provides the Town additional resources to finance the capital and operating costs for an eighth police officer to enhance police protection in the commercial district and the Town at-large. The eighth officer enhances the current public safety efforts by providing the Berwyn Heights Police Department increased flexibility and coverage and allows for a second on-duty officer during the evening and midnight shifts.

To mitigate the effect of the new Public Safety Taxing District on Town businesses, the Town Council elected to phase in the financing and equipping of the eighth police officer over three years. In fiscal year 2006, the first year, the Town established a real property tax rate of 10 cents per \$100 of business and industrial property assessed value to purchase a fully equipped police patrol car at a cost of \$24,000. In fiscal year 2007, the Town added a personal property tax rate of 5 cents per \$100 of assessed value permitting the Town to hire the eighth officer in January 2007.

In fiscal year 2008, another 5 cents was added to the personal property tax rate for a total of 10 cents per \$100 of personal property assessed value to fully fund the 8<sup>th</sup> police officer. In fiscal year 2009, the personal property tax rate was increased from 10 cents to 15 cents per \$100 of assessed value to further reduce dependence on the General Fund for the eighth officer's pay, benefits and other costs.

In fiscal year 2012, the Town Council increased the tax rate on real property 3 cents and 7.5 cents on business personal property per \$100 of assessed value, all to be placed in a dedicated road repair improvement fund.

Over the past six years, the Town was able to set aside enough funds to purchase a new police patrol car used by the eighth police officer to replace the patrol car purchased in 2006.

The 2014 budget, like the 2013 budget, proposes no increase in either the Public Safety Taxing District tax rate or the tax rate for the dedicated road repair improvement fund.

Berwyn Heights benefits from one of the lowest crime rates in Prince George's County and last year crime went down again. The Town Council envisions continuing to use the Special Public Safety Taxing District funds to make the Town safer for our residents and businesses.

Respectfully, Edward J. Murphy, Town Administrator

### PUBLIC SAFETY TAXING DISTRICT PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2014 BUDGET SUMMARY

REVENUES	FY 10 ACTUAL	FY 11 ACTUAL	FY 12 ACTUAL	FY 13 BUDGET	FY 14 PROPOSED	% VARIATION
REAL ESTATE TAX-CURRENT YEAR	\$ 37,149	\$ 38,791	\$ 31,871	\$ 38,899	\$ 34,986	-10%
REAL ESTATE TAX-PRIOR YEARS	\$ 820	\$ 244	\$ 614	\$ 244.00	\$ 244	0%
PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX	\$ 31,549	\$ 31,615	\$ 34,703	\$ 32,165	\$ 31,949	-1%
PENALTIES & INTEREST ON TAXES	\$ 33	\$ 692	\$ 1,324	\$ 692.00	\$ 1,007	
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>\$ 69,551</b>	<b>\$ 71,342</b>	<b>\$ 68,512</b>	<b>\$ 72,000</b>	<b>\$ 68,186</b>	<b>-5%</b>
TRANSFER FROM SURPLUS	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 23,739	\$ 3,425	-86%
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>\$ 69,551</b>	<b>\$ 71,342</b>	<b>\$ 68,512</b>	<b>\$ 95,739</b>	<b>\$ 71,611</b>	<b>-25%</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>						
POLICE SERVICES	\$ 46,434	\$ 58,166	\$ 59,668	\$ 64,662	\$ 66,691	3%
INSURANCE	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	\$ -	\$ 4,601	\$ 1,558	\$ 4,962	\$ 4,920	-1%
OPERATING BUDGET	\$ 46,434	\$ 62,767	\$ 61,226	\$ 69,624	\$ 71,611	3%
CAPITAL BUDGET-POLICE CRUISER	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 23,739	\$ -	-100%
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$ 46,434</b>	<b>\$ 62,767</b>	<b>\$ 61,226</b>	<b>\$ 93,363</b>	<b>\$ 71,611</b>	<b>-23%</b>
<b>BALANCE</b>	<b>\$ 23,117</b>	<b>\$ 8,575</b>	<b>\$ 7,286</b>	<b>\$ 2,376</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>-</b>





## IMPORTANT SAFETY RECOMMENDATIONS FROM NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH/ COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

Spring is here! Time to get up and start getting around outside. Time to start thinking of repairing or remodeling your home after being cooped up all winter. What do these have in common? Beware of scammers! The object of any con game is to entice an unsuspecting person to part with their money or other items of value. Most scams are initiated by people who approach potential victims on the street or call them on the phone.

### Door-to-Door Solicitors

- **ALWAYS** lock your doors when doing yard work, getting the mail, or anytime you go outside - both the front and back doors.
- **NEVER** allow strangers inside your home.
- **ASK** "officials" to produce identification, and confirm their alleged employment.
- **CONTACT** the utility company by telephone if any purported city employee wants to enter your home, or requests you to go outside with him/her.
- **DISPLAY** "No Solicitation" and "Beware of Dog" signs near your residence door.
- **SUSPECT** all "Door to Door" sales solicitations. Ask to see their Town permit and photo identification.
- **BE WARY** of any unexpected contact with strangers (in person or on the telephone).

### Home Repairs

- **BEWARE** of unsolicited home repairmen. If you need the services of a home repairman, ask to see the contractor's Maryland Home Improvement Commission (MHIC) license and then check with MHIC to make sure the license is still current. You may check online or call 1-888-218-5925 (toll free). Be suspicious of anyone knocking at your door asking to make repairs to your home and/or asking to pave or seal your driveway.
- **ASK** for references and call them.
- **GET** several repair estimates and compare prices.
- **BE SUSPICIOUS** of high pressure sales tactics.
- **PAY BY CHECK** so you can stop payment if dissatisfied; NEVER PAY CASH.
- **PRINT "Deposit Only"** on the back of personal checks to create a "paper trail".
- **BE SURE** the work is completed to your satisfaction before you make final payment.
- **REQUIRE** a guarantee on the work.
- **NEVER** sign any contract or agreement without carefully checking it.
- **BE SURE** you understand and agree to all provisions in a contract or agreement.

### Telemarketing Fraud

- **REALIZE** scam artists are professionals - everyone is a potential victim.
- **SUSPECT** all "Get Rich Fast" schemes. Do not give out credit card or bank account information, social security numbers or birthdates.
- **TALK** with a trusted friend or relative before making major money decisions.
- **YOU CAN** just say "no thank you" and hang up the telephone.

Please contact the Berwyn Heights Police Department (301-474-6554) if any of these have happened to you.

Call the non-emergency number (301-352-1200) if you see suspicious people going door-to-door.

Call 911 if you feel an immediate threat from a suspicious person!

### CERT TRAINING WORKSHOP

**April 6 & 7, 9 am**

PGC Central Communications Facility  
7911 Anchor Street, Landover, MD

DelMarVa Search & Rescue Group  
hosts next Citizens Emergency  
Response Team (CERT) training  
workshop, which features a disaster  
simulation drill.

For info contact Calvin Hawkins at

[cshawkins@co.pg.md.us](mailto:cshawkins@co.pg.md.us) or

[certsignup@gmail.com](mailto:certsignup@gmail.com)

**Richard K. Gehring**  
**Home Improvements**  
 Remodeling & Repairs  
 Carpentry — Drywall  
 Painting  
 Serving Berwyn Heights  
 For over 25 Years  
 MHIC #84145  
 Telephone  
 301-441-1246

#### 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

##### Seniors Club

Jean McConnell 301-345-6373

##### Green Team

Therese Forbes 301-982-7115

## 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.

**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.

**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.

**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 Berwyn Heights resident. 240-965-7274.

**Child Care:** Loving, licensed child care in BH, Monday thru Friday, 6:30 A.M. to 5:30 P.M. Call 301 (313) 9131.

**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.

**Most food & drugs we consume** cause the diseases that "require" more drugs. Are you one who is being kept sorta-sick forever? Stop being a perpetual patient and get the six lists to save you. SCOTT 301-325-8223.

**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.

**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.

**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.

**Tutor:** High School math, science, history and writing. Please call 301-982-9636.

**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.npgcra.com/pages/BHR.html](http://www.npgcra.com/pages/BHR.html)  
 Or email: [gotv12@yahoo.com](mailto:gotv12@yahoo.com)

**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 Help with Spring Cleanup?** Shawn (17) and Jeremy (15) can help with cleanup, raking, mulching, and more. Call 301-474-2002.

**Looking** for short, medium, and long term dog lovers to care for our pet. Call Joe 301-467-6183.

**Walnut Console Piano** in good condition. \$200 or best offer. Call Cheryl 443-909-8551.





## Berwyn Heights GreenBee



The GreenBee is your monthly guide to tips and resources from the Green Team! If you'd like 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 Green Team meeting is April 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. (Town Office).

**Community Survey Results:** Thanks to everyone who provided input through the community survey sent out in February—close to 70 people participated. Below are some survey highlights (email us if you'd like the full results):

- Approximately 62% of respondents indicated they thought that there is a lack of a place to buy locally grown food
- Nearly 84% of respondents rated litter as somewhat of a problem or a significant problem and close to 71% of respondents thought that pests and invasive plant species are somewhat of a problem or a significant problem
- Survey respondents indicated that priority areas of focus should include municipal energy audits, developing plans to protect local watersheds and prevent flooding during storms and creating a community garden.

**Local Farmers Markets:** Since almost 94% of survey respondents indicated interest in shopping at a farmers market, below is information about nearby farmers markets:

	Address	Dates	Day	Hours	Contact	FMNP Checks (WIC & Senior) & FVC accepted
College Park Farmers Market	5211 Paint Branch Pkwy, M-NCPPC, Wells Linson Complex (parking lot)	May 5- Nov 17	Sat	7 a.m.-12 noon	<a href="mailto:snmiller64@aol.com">snmiller64@aol.com</a>	Yes
College Park City Hall Farmers Market	4500 Knox Road	Mid-Apr- Nov 18	Sun	9 a.m.-2 p.m.	<a href="mailto:snmiller64@aol.com">snmiller64@aol.com</a>	
The Farmers Market at University of Maryland	Cole Fieldhouse-Campus Drive entrance	May 2- Nov 14	Wed	12 noon-4 p.m.	<a href="mailto:TerpMarketManager@umd.edu">TerpMarketManager@umd.edu</a>	
Greenbelt/Silver Diner/Greenbelt Farmers Market	6040 Greenbelt Road	June 23- Aug 25	Sat	10a.m.-2 p.m.	240-304-8535	
Greenbelt/Franklin Park at Greenbelt Station Farmers Market	6220 Springhill Drive	June 9- Oct.27	Sun	12 noon-4 p.m.	301-248-8079	
Greenbelt Farmers Market	101 Centerway (Greenbelt Aquatic & Fitness Center parking lot)	May 13- Nov18	Sun	10 a.m.-2 p.m.	<a href="mailto:info@greenbeltfarmersmarket.org">info@greenbeltfarmersmarket.org</a>	Yes
Beltsville/USDA Beltsville Farmers Market	5601 Sunnyside Ave, Parking Lot B	Apr 26- Oct 25	Thur	10 a.m.-2 p.m.	<a href="mailto:carletha.mcgriff@usda.gov">carletha.mcgriff@usda.gov</a>	Yes
Riverdale Park Farmers Market	Queensbury Road (MARC parking lot)	Apr 5- Nov 15	Thur	3-7 p.m.	<a href="http://www.rpfarmersmarket.org">www.rpfarmersmarket.org</a>	Yes
Hyattsville Farmers Market at Queens Chapel Town Center	3505 Hamilton Street	June 12- Oct 30	Tues	2-6 p.m.	301-985-5000	Yes
Mount Rainer Farmers Market	1 Municipal Place (next to City Hall)	May 5- Oct 2	Sat	10 a.m.-2 p.m.	<a href="mailto:friendsforivv@gmail.com">friendsforivv@gmail.com</a>	Yes
Langley Park/Crossroads Farmers Market	7676 New Hampshire Ave	May 16- Oct 31	Wed	2:30-6:30 p.m.	<a href="mailto:crossroadsmarket@gmail.com">crossroadsmarket@gmail.com</a>	
Bowie Farmers Market	15200 Annapolis Road (Bowie HS parking lot)	May 20- Oct 28	Sun	8 a.m.-12 noon	<a href="mailto:mcorely@cityofbowie.org">mcorely@cityofbowie.org</a>	Yes
Cheverly Community Market	6401 Forest Road	May 19- Oct 20	Sat (alternating)	8 a.m.-12 noon	<a href="mailto:cheverlycommunitymarket@gmail.com">cheverlycommunitymarket@gmail.com</a>	Yes
Fort Washington/Oxon Hill	National Harbor, American Way (Waterfront & Fleet St.)	May 26- Oct 27	Sat	10 a.m.-2 p.m.	<a href="http://www.americanmarketh.com">www.americanmarketh.com</a>	
Laurel Farmers Market	300 Block of Main Street in Laurel	June 7- Oct 25	Thur	9 a.m.-6:30 p.m.	<a href="mailto:GailReinhardt1054@aol.com">GailReinhardt1054@aol.com</a>	Yes
Laurel/Silver Diner/Laurel Farmers Market	14550 Baltimore Avenue	June 23- Aug 26	Sun	10 a.m.-2 p.m.	240-304-8535	
Marlow Heights/Temple Hills	Branch Avenue in Bloom Farmers Market (Iverson Mall Parking Lot)	Apr 14- Nov 17	Sat	9 a.m.-2 p.m.	<a href="mailto:fthomas@umd.edu">fthomas@umd.edu</a>	Yes
Upper Marlboro/Our Local Bounty/St. Thomas Church Farmers Market	14300 St. Thomas Church Road	June 4- Oct 1	Sat	8 a.m.-12 noon	<a href="mailto:ourlocalbounty@stthomascroom.org">ourlocalbounty@stthomascroom.org</a>	

# BERWYN HEIGHTS POLICE BEAT



"Police Beat" includes crimes and accidents that occurred during the month of February 2013. 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.

02/03/2013 at 2:23 pm, Pfc. Ignowski impounded a 1996 Ford Crown Vic from the 6100 block of Greenbelt Road. Tags were suspended on the vehicle.

02/6/2013 at 2:30 pm, Pfc. Krouse and Chief of Police responded to the 6200 block of Ruatan Street for three suspicious white males soliciting in the area. On scene all males were identified and advised to leave the area. However, they were able to negotiate a contract with a

resident for yard work prior to the arrival of the police.

02/10/2013 at 1200 pm, Pfc. Ignowski responded to the 6000 block of Seminole Street for a report of a damage property.

02/14/2013 at 9:30 am, Pfc. Krouse responded to the Prince George's Scrap yard for a report of a burglary of the store yard. Unknown person cut the fence, entered the store yard and removed scraps. The video captured the incident at 2:47 am. Investigation continues.

02/14/2013 at 11:51 am, Pfc. Krouse responded to the 8500 block of 60th Avenue for a report of a stolen 2001 GMC van. Investigation revealed that the owner of the stolen van is out of the States and the theft occurred sometimes during the night. The van is described as a white in color with Maryland registration of 40X158.

02/15/2013 at 9:00 am, Pfc. Krouse responded to the Greenbelt Road Shell for a report of a disorderly subject. On scene Pfc. Krouse a 37 Y/O, b/f was identified as being disorderly. Ms. Sherlita Jenkins

had on her person a crack cocaine pipe along with other drug paraphernalia. Ms. Jenkins became violent and subsequently arrested and charged with the possession of CDS along with being disorderly.

02/18/2013 at 3:40 pm, Pfc. Thompson responded to the 8300 block of 55th Avenue for a report of someone dumping used tires at said location.

02/20/2013 at 5:30 pm, Pfc. Roberson impounded a 2003 Hyundai from the 8900 block of 62nd Avenue. Driver was acting suspicious around the area and found to be driving without a proper license.

02/21/2013 at 8:30 am, Pfc. Krouse impounded a 2005 Chevy Malibu from the 8800 block of Edmonston Road. Driver was driving the said vehicle without a proper license.

02/22/2013 at 11:00 am, a search warrant was served at the 8900 block of 56th Avenue by the State Comptroller's Agents. Det. Unger, Pfc. Krouse, Pfc. Ignowski, Dir. Solomon and the Chief of Police assisted in the case. Investigation continues.

02/22/2013 at 2:30 pm, Pfc. Ignowski apprehended Mr. Delfino Peral-Rodriguez a 22 Y/O, L/M, resident of Riverdale, MD for an outstanding warrant for FTA. The incident occurred at the Hyattsville Court House.

02/25/2013 at 10:10 am, Pfc. Ignowski responded to the 8500 block of 60th Place for a report of a 57 Y/O, B/F in distress. She was transported to the hospital for evaluation.

02/28/2013 at 5:15 am, Sgt. Moroney responded to the 8800 block of 58th Avenue for a report of theft of a GPS unit from a 2010 Ford Truck.

02/28/2013 at 8:00 am, Pfc. Krouse responded to the 8600 block of Cunningham Drive for a report of theft of a GPS unit from a 2005 Jeep Truck.



## Free Karate Training!!!!

Train with Sensei Leon  
Swain, 5<sup>th</sup> degree black belt,  
four-time inductee into the

World Professional Martial Arts Hall of Fame, and member of Shihan John Roseberry's Sho-Rei-Shobu-Kan Budo Organization.

Open to All Ages/ All Levels:

Berwyn Heights Town Center-5700 Berwyn Rd-2<sup>nd</sup> Fl.

Year-Round: Mondays and Fridays 5-7 pm

For more information, contact Theresa Beck at 301-237-2829  
([beck\\_theresa@yahoo.com](mailto:beck_theresa@yahoo.com)) or Sensei Leon Swain at 301-728-2881





# Berwyn Heights Historical Committee

# Ten Year Anniversary

Since its inception in April 2003, the BHHC has had way too much fun! Thanks to the wonderful work by our committee and volunteers, the Town now has its own museum, historic walking tours, oral history program, plus, a book and a website all dedicated exclusively to our Town's history. We've also had the pleasure to host over a dozen presentations with exhibits and guest speakers at our annual Wine & Cheese Receptions. There's a lot more to do in the next decade—and the BHHC needs you to keep it going strong!



The BHHC welcomes new members and volunteers. The BHHC meets at the Town Office on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. **Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, April 23, 2013.**

Visit us on our new website: <http://berwynheightshistory.wordpress.com/>

# BERWYN HEIGHTS SENIORS CLUB

## “Celebrating 25 Years in Town”

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

Apr. 2	Joyce Bilger
Apr. 3	Mary Biggs
Apr. 4	Bettie Prosise
Apr. 5	Mike Attick
Apr. 6	Bertha Davies
Apr. 11	Louise Barkley
	Eddie Daffron
Apr. 12	Beverly Goodwin
Apr. 15	Stanley Plopa
Apr. 25	Martha Baxter
Apr. 27	Ruth Woodhouse



### APRIL ACTIVITIES

Apr. 2	Bingo	12:30 P.M.
Apr. 3	Wii Bowling	10:30 A.M.
Apr. 4	Pool Night	7:00 P.M.
Apr. 9	Meeting	11:00 A.M.
	Bingo	1:00 P.M.
Apr. 10	Wii Bowling	10:30 A.M.
Apr. 11	Pool Night	7:00 P.M.
Apr. 13	Dinner, Potluck & Movie	5:00 P.M.
Apr. 16	Bingo	12:30 P.M.
Apr. 17	Wii Bowling	10:30 A.M.
Apr. 18	Pool Night	7:00 P.M.
Apr. 23	Meeting & Potluck	11:00 A.M.
	Bingo	1:00 P.M.
Apr. 24	Wii Bowling	10:30 A.M.
Apr. 25	Pool Night	7:00 P.M.
Apr. 30	Bingo	12:30 P.M.

## SENIORS TRIPS

Contact Margritt Vause (301-356-5566) for more information.

May 18 — Mystery Trip

Sept. 21 Hooper Island Crab Festival

December 8 — Shreck the Musical, Old Oprey House, Charles Town, WVA.  
Show and Dinner—\$95.00.





# Berwyn Heights Elementary PTA Newsletter

April 2013

Berwyn Heights, MD

## Mark Your Calendars

April 2-5 - Schools Closed - Spring Break  
April 18 - Berwyn Heights Talent Showcase  
Rehearsal  
April 19 - Berwyn Heights Talent Showcase  
April 20 - Garden Clean Up

## Special Events

### Happy Birthday Berwyn Heights Elementary!



classes.

We celebrated the school's birthday on Friday, March 15th. Your PTA was able to provide cupcakes and drinks for every student, teacher and staff person in the school to help celebrate. Thank you to our volunteers who helped out by passing all of the goodies out to the

**Ice Skating Party Update** - Our Ice Skating Party was held on Friday, March 15 and it was attended by an estimated 250 people. Students, teachers, parents and friends came out to enjoy themselves for a family night of skating. Thank you to all of our teachers and staff that came out and for our volunteers who helped make this night such a successful night. Thank you to all that bought pizza and helped out with the 6th Grade fundraiser for North Bay.



**Talent Showcase** - April 19th come watch our talented children sing, dance, do magic tricks, and more.

Check out our BHES PTA Website:

BHESPTA.org

Contact us at: Officers@BHESPTA.org.

## Market Day

Thank you to all who have ordered from Market Day!

*I know with all the Boys and Girls Club practices our children have lined up it is nice to have a quick and easy meal to put together. Leslie Wolfinger*

## PTA Officers 2012-2013

Need to reach us?

Officers@BHESPTA.org

President: Kristen Buker  
1st Vice President: Leslie Wolfinger  
2nd Vice President: Susanne Baldwin-Bott  
Secretary: Kimberly Goings  
Treasurer: Vicky Buckland  
Past President: Cheryl Compton

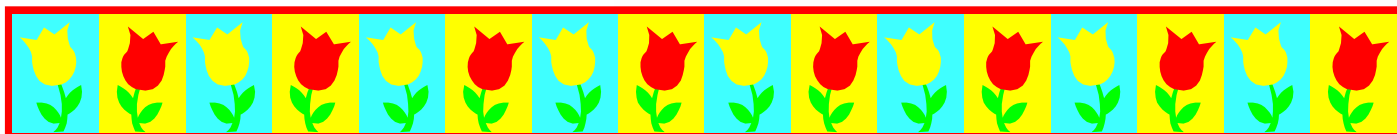
Would you like to be a PTA Officer? We are accepting nominations for officers for next year! E-mail us with your name and position you would like to hold. Voting will take place in May.

## Gardening

On Saturday, April 20th at 10:00 there will be a **spring garden clean-up** and a **plant exchange**.

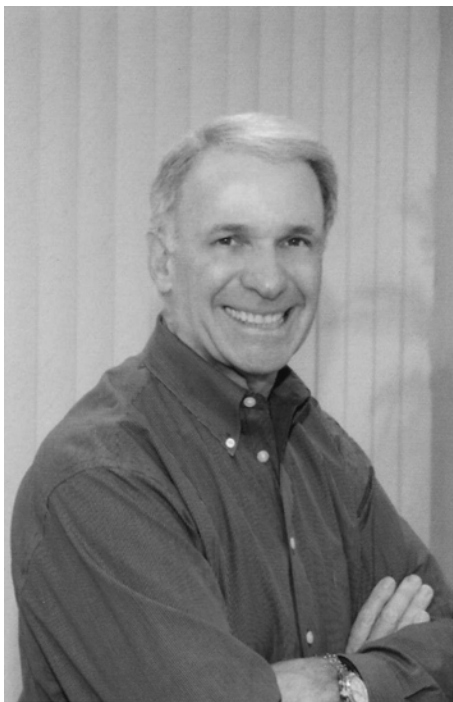
Please bring your community spirit to the school gardens and help to prepare the gardens for the children to plant. Also, if you have a plant you would like to share or you are looking for some plants please join in the plant exchange. Thank you!

If you would like to help, please contact Therese Forbes at fundraising@bhespta.org or 301-982-7115.



# Your Neighborhood Family Dental Office

Cosmetic and Family Dentistry



**Aaron I. Linchuck, D.D.S., P.A.**

**Norman R. Ressin, D.D.S., P.A.**

6201 Greenbelt Road, U-5

**Science Park Medical Building**

**Berwyn Heights, MD 20740**

**301-441-2550**

## **New Patient Special**

**\$86**

Exam, X-rays &  
Cleaning

## **Senior Discount Plan**

We offer a discount plan for  
Seniors 65yrs and over

- New Patients Welcome
- Britesmile® Teeth Whitening
- Crown and Bridgework
- Implant Restoration
- Tooth Colored Fillings
- Digital X-rays
- Complete and Partial Dentures
- Denture Repairs
- Most Insurances Accepted
- Interest Free Financing Available

**Are you a snorer?** We can help you.

New treatments being offered to help  
you and your loved one get a better  
night's sleep.





# Berwyn Heights Volunteer Fire Department, Co. 14

Berwyn Heights Volunteer Fire Department & Rescue Squad, Inc. • 8811 60th Avenue • Berwyn Heights, MD 20740


Station Telephone: (301) 474-7866

***In Case of Emergency Call 911!***

## Smoke Dectectors:

As the weather starts to turn and we spring ahead to daylight savings time please remember to check the batteries in your smoke detectors! For the safety of you and all who live with you, make sure that you have smoke detectors in each bedroom, in hallways connecting bedrooms and at least one on each floor of your residence. Smoke detectors are recommended to be replaced every 10 years. Having trouble with your detector? Don't know how to change the battery? *Please call the firehouse and someone will be happy to assist you!*



Is Your House Number Visible From the Street?	Run Statistics-February 2013	
<p>In order for our volunteer firefighters to get to you in an emergency we have to be able to find you first. Please make sure your house numbers are unobstructed, affixed to the side of the house facing the street, and large enough for emergency responders to see from the road!</p> 	Rescue Squads:	99
	Ladder Truck:	72
	Technical Rescue Support Unit:	2
	Ambulances:	160
	<b>Total Station Runs for February:</b>	<b>333</b>
	Working Structure Fires	6
	Vehicle Extrications	2

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO SEE RECENT INCIDENTS WE'VE RUN VISIT OUR WEBSITE!

**BHVFD14.ORG**

Follow us on



**Visit our booth at  
Berwyn Heights Day  
on May 4<sup>th</sup>!**



**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)



**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](mailto:dharding@ecapitol.com)

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

# COOKES



# LAWN CARE

ask for Michael **301-580-1264**  
FREE ESTIMATES

*Since 1988, we have  
been privileged to serve  
many local communities.  
Now residing in Berwyn Heights,  
we offer the following  
services for both  
Residential & Commercial:*

- MOWING & MULCHING
- DESIGN & INSTALL
- FERTILIZATION
- PLANTING & SEEDING
- YARD CLEAN-UPS
- HEDGE TRIMMING
- LEAF REMOVAL
- GUTTER CLEANING  
& MORE



## Sharon A. McCraney, Realtor®

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

sharonsells@lnf.com • www.sharonmccraney.com



Welcome to the Spring real estate market, It is a Sellers Market!  
The true "measure" of real estate success ..... I list and sell "by the yard"!

### Great Looks for Less

Here are some great tips to help you create that new look you've been thinking of:

How you decide to arrange your furniture will affect the room's appeal, comfort, and functionality.

*Define the purpose of the room:* This will help you decide how to use the space effectively. For example, if you need a place to work or study, you will want to allow room for a desk and chair

*Choose a focal point:* You might include the television, fireplace, a window, or an aquarium as the focal point in your room. Decide where you want to focus attention so you can arrange the furniture accordingly

*Don't waste valuable space:* Position large pieces of furniture parallel to the wall, especially in smaller rooms. Diagonal placement of furniture cuts down on precious space.....*Finally:* consider moving pieces into different rooms. You'll be surprised at how well an old nightstand might look in your living room as an end-table. Be creative and enjoy!



### LISTED/SOLD this month by Sharon:

**Just Listed**- 6117 Ruatan St...4 BR, 2BA rambler.....\$239,900.  
**Reduced**-8824 Edmonston Rd...2BR...2BA bungalow, FP.....\$234,900,  
also for rent \$1550 mo.  
**New Listing**-6220 Seminole Pl...3BR...1.5BA brick rambler...FP...\$239,900.  
**Available**-5820 Quebec St...6Br...3.5BA farmhouse.....\$389,000.  
**Sold**-5710 Berwyn Rd...4BR...2BA rambler.....\$250,000.

If your property is currently listed with another broker, this is not a solicitation of that listing.







# April 2013

## Town of Berwyn Heights Monthly Calendar of Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>MARCH 31</b> <b>EASTER SUNDAY</b> 	<b>1</b> Worksession 7:00 P.M. Town Office Televised on Ch 71, FiOS 12	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> NW/EP Meeting Town Office 7:15 P.M.	<b>4</b> <b>N</b> Recreation Council Meeting Town Office 7:00 P.M.	<b>5</b> <b>S</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Budget Worksession 7:00 P.M. Town Office Televised on Ch 71, FiOS 12	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Town Meeting Tax Rate Hearing, Budget Introduction 7:30 P.M. Town Office Televised on Ch 71, FiOS 12	<b>11</b> <b>N</b>	<b>12</b> <b>S</b>	<b>13</b> Nevada Street Trail Dedication 11:00 A.M.
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Worksession 7:00 P.M. Town Office Televised on Ch 71, FiOS 12	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> <b>N</b> Green Team Meeting 7:00 P.M. Town Office	<b>19</b> <b>S</b> Talent Showcase 7:00 P.M. BHES	<b>20</b> BHES Garden Cleanup 10:00 A.M.
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> Mock Student Council 6:30 P.M. Worksession 7:00 P.M. Town Office Televised on Ch 71, FiOS 12	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> <b>N</b>	<b>26</b> <b>S</b>	<b>27</b> Electronic Recycling Greenbelt DPW 9:00-12:00 
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> Tentative Budget Worksession 7:00 P.M. Town Office Televised on Ch 71, FiOS 12	<b>30</b> BHHC Meeting Town Office 7:30 P.M.	<b>MAY 1</b> NW/EP Meeting Town Office 7:15 P.M.	<b>2</b> <b>N</b> Recreation Council Meeting Town Office 7:00 P.M.	<b>3</b> <b>S</b>	<b>4</b> <b>BERWYN HEIGHTS DAY</b> 
PLEASE DO NOT PARK ON THE STREET WHEREVER POSSIBLE WHEN THE STREET SWEEPER IS IN TOWN.			Recycling Collection	Refuse Collection <b>N</b> <b>S</b> North South	Yard Waste <b>N</b> <b>S</b> North South	Bulk Pick-up <b>N</b> <b>S</b> North South

# 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  
 Public Works Department ..... (301) 474-6897  
 Email: [publicworks@town.berwyn-heights.md.us](mailto: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  
 Maryland Relay Service (TTY)..... 1(800) 735-2258

#### Mayor and Council

Cheye Calvo (301) 474-6350 [ccalvo@town.berwyn-heights.md.us](mailto:ccalvo@town.berwyn-heights.md.us)  
 Mayor — Public Safety and Health  
 James Wilkinson (301) 982-5152 [jwilkinson@town.berwyn-heights.md.us](mailto: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](mailto:ralmoguera@town.berwyn-heights.md.us)  
 Councilmember — Administration  
 Patti Dennison (301) 404-2759 [pdennison@town.berwyn-heights.md.us](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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  
 to request a pay time.

**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**