

# Berwyn Heights Bulletin

Incorporated 1896

**DECEMBER 2020** 



**DECEMBER 5 - PAGE 15** 

# **BHVFD Christmas Tree Sale**

**PAGE 17** 





# HOLIDAY REFUSE SCHEDULE

#### **Christmas**

Mon	12/21/20	Trash, Bulk, Yardwaste, No
Tue	12/22/20	Trash, Bulk, Yardwaste, So
Wed	12/23/20	Town-wide Recycling
Thu	12/24/20	CLOSED - NO PICKUP
Fri	12/2520	CLOSED - NO PICKUP

#### **New Year**

Mon	12/28/20	Trash, Bulk, Yardwaste, No
Tue	12/29/20	Trash, Bulk, Yardwaste, So
Wed	12/30/20	Town-wide Recycling
Thu	12/31/20	CLOSED - NO PICKUP
Fri	01/01/21	CLOSED - NO PICKUP

Please do NOT leave trash out over a holiday

# CoVID-19 Town Government Operations

Town Hall remains closed to the public. Administration and Code Compliance are working in shifts in the Town office and from home. Police and Public Works continue to provide services in person in a safe manner.

- Public meetings held by video conference, broadcast on Comcast 71 or FiOS 12 and streamed on website;
- Licenses and permit applications to be submitted to Code Department by US mail or e-mailed to zbell@berwynheightsmd.gov.
- Rental inspections suspended until further notice:
- Emergency notary service performed by BHPD at 5411 Berwyn Rd. Call 301-474-6774 to inquire.
- All payments to be submitted by check via US mail to 5700 Berwyn Road, Berwyn Heights, MD 20740.

Check Town website for the latest updates <a href="https://www.berwynheightsmd.gov/">https://www.berwynheightsmd.gov/</a>

# Carol Cottone "The Newspaper Lady"

On Thursday, November 5th at 8:30 am Thelma Carol Cottone peacefully passed away at Johns Hopkins Hospital. She was diagnosed with Stage 4 Ovarian Cancer just over a year ago and fought hard to beat it.

Carol was a resident of Berwyn Heights for 30 years and delivered the Washington Post newspaper in town for more than 25 of



those years. She was looking forward to completing chemo and returning to delivering the paper. She enjoyed getting to know everyone (and their dogs) and children along her route. She treasured all of the friends she made over the years and all of the conversations she had with you all. We will be planning a celebration of life in the springtime when we can hopefully all safely gather together. We will publish that information at that time and hope you all can join us. Thank you for all of your condolences.

~ The Cottone and Buker Family.

# Operaciones del gobierno municipal de COVID-19

El ayuntamiento permanece cerrado al público. Departamentos de Administración y Cumplimiento del Código están trabajando en turnos en la oficina de la ciudad y de forma remota. La policía y las obras públicas están de servicio con personal completo.

- Reuniones públicas realizadas por videoconferencia, transmitidas en Comcast 71 o FiOS 12 y transmitidas en el sitio web:
- Las solicitudes de licencias y permisos deben enviarse al Departamento del Código por correo de los EE. UU. O enviarse por correo electrónico a zbell@berwynheightsmd.gov.
- Inspecciones de alquiler suspendidas hasta nuevo aviso;
- Servicio notarial de emergencia realizado por BHPD en 5411 Berwyn Rd. Llame al 301-474-6774 para preguntar.
- Todos los pagos se enviarán mediante cheque por correo de USPS a 5700 Berwyn Road, Berwyn Heights, MD 20740.

Visite el sitio web para obtener la información más reciente https://www.berwynheightsmd.gov/



#### Virtual Meeting January 25, 2021 7pm

The Committee will discuss possible ways to support educational organizations, families & children in the new year – 2021.

#### Please contact:

thebheac@gmail.com if you would like to join the virtual meeting and a link will be sent to you to participate.



#### Reunión Virtual 25 de enero de 2021 7 pm

El Comité discutirá posibles formas de apoyar a las organizaciones educativas, las familias y los niños en el nuevo año – 2021.

Póngase en contacto con:
thebheac@gmail.com si desea
unirse a la reunión virtual y se le enviará un enlace para participar.

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



Publicworks@bewynheightsmd.gov TEL: 301-474-6897

#### **HOW WE PLOW TOWN STREETS**

When snow or ice shows signs of sticking to the ground, Public Works begins applying salt/ ice-melt to roads and walkways. Plowing of roads begins once snow accumulation reaches 2". Residents can assist Public Works by moving their vehicles off the road during snow plowing operations, where possible.

Public Works has 5 trucks with plowing capabilities. Larger trucks address major roadways and smaller trucks focus on side roads. Public Works also clears Town-maintained walkways, but residents are responsible for sidewalks in front of their homes.

Public Works works hand in hand with the Police to keep the Town safe during weather emergencies. If a snow or ice event occurs after hours, BHPD will notify the Public Works Director. Personnel are dispatched and are on scene within 1 hour. Snow and ice removal continue until the event ends, and finishes with application of additional layers of salt to maintain safe passage.

Amount of Snow	Time to Make Roads Passable	Time to Fully Clear Roads	
< 4 inches	4-6 hours	1 day	
4-6 inches	6-8 hours	2-3 days	
> 6 inches	8+ hours	3-5 days	

#### **CÓMO ARRANCAMOS LAS CALLES**

Cuando la nieve o el hielo muestran signos de pegarse al suelo, Obras Públicas comienza a aplicar sal / hielo derretido a las carreteras y pasarelas. El arado de las carreteras comienza una vez que la acumulación de nieve alcanza 2 ". Los residentes pueden ayudar a Obras Públicas al mover sus vehículos fuera de la carretera durante las operaciones de arado de nieve donde sea posible.

La Oficina de Obras Públicas tiene 5 camiones con capacidad de arado. Los camiones más grandes se dirigen a las carreteras principales y los camiones más pequeños se concentran en los caminos laterales. Obras Públicas también despeja las aceras mantenidas por la ciudad, pero los residentes son responsables de las aceras frente a sus casas.

Obras públicas trabaja de la mano con la policía para mantener la ciudad segura durante emergencias climáticas. Si ocurre un evento de nieve o hielo después de horas, BHPD notificará al Director de Obras Públicas. El personal es enviado y está en escena dentro de 1 hora. La remoción de nieve y hielo continúa hasta que finaliza el evento, y termina con la aplicación de capas adicionales de sal para mantener un paso seguro.



# PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Publicworks@bewynheightsmd.gov TEL: 301-474-6897

# Colección de hojas de acera Finaliza el 30 de diciembre

Su Departamento de Obras Públicas ofrece recolección de hojas sueltos en bordillo hasta fines de diciembre. Puede continuar desechando hojas en bolsas de papel marrón para desechos de jardín los días de recolección de desechos de jardín.

#### Recordatorios de recolección de hojas

- Por favor, rastrille sus hojas hacia un bordillo o hacia una acera existente, pero NO en la calle.
- No mezcle hojas sueltas con palos, piedras, basura o escombros, ya que pueden dañar la máquina recolectora de hojas.
- No mezcle hojas sueltas con ramas gruesas. Se recogen por separado.
- No estacione los automóviles frente o cerca de pilas de hojas, ya que esto dificulta el acceso de la máquina recolectora de hojas.
- Se necesitan aproximadamente 2 semanas para completar una ronda de recolección de hojas en el pueblo.

#### Barrido de calles

El barrendero estará en el pueblo desde el lunes 3 de noviembre hasta el viernes 6 de noviembre. Estacione su automóvil fuera de la calle cuando vea la barredora de calles en su área.

#### Reciclaje de desechos de alimentos

Los desechos de alimentos se pueden dejar en un contenedor designado en el estacionamiento trasero del Town Center o registrarse con nuestro proveedor, Compost Crew, para servicio individual y recogida en la acera. Vacíe los desechos de alimentos sin apretar en el recipiente o use bolsas compostables. POR FAVOR NO USE BOLSAS DE PLÁSTICO.

La construcción para reemplazar aproximadamente 1.73 millas de nuestra red de agua continuará hasta su finalización programada en junio de 2021. Si quieres mantenerte informado, puede inscribirse en <a href="wsscwater.com/CNS">wsscwater.com/CNS</a> para recibir correos electrónicos y / o alertas de texto.

#### Curbside Leaf Collection Ends December 30

Your Public Works Department offers curbside loose leave collection through the end of December. As always, you can set out leaves in brown paper yard waste bags or designated yard waste bins, which will be picked up on yard waste collection days.

#### **Leaf Collection Reminders**

- Please rake your leaves to the curb or to an existing sidewalk, but NOT into the street.
- Do not mix loose leaves with sticks, rocks, trash or debris, as they can damage the leaf machine.
- Do not mix loose leaves with thick branches. They are collected separately.
- Do not park cars in front of or near leaf piles, as this hampers access by the leaf machine.
- Be advised that it takes approximately 2 weeks to complete a round of leaf collection in the Town.

#### **Street Sweeping**

The street sweeper will be in Town December 28 through December 31. Please park your car off the street when you see the street sweeper in your area.

#### **Food Scraps Recycling**

Our food scraps program is doing very well. Please do not hesitate to use this service. Food scraps may be dropped off in a designated toter in the rear parking lot of the Town Center or sign up with our vendor, Compost Crew, for individual service and curbside pickup. Empty your food scraps loosely in the bin or use compostable bags. PLEASE DO NOT USE PLASTIC BAGS.

#### **WSSC Water Main Replacement**

Also, a word of caution as construction to replace approximately 1.73 miles of our water mains will continue until scheduled completion in June 2021. If you would like to be kept updated on this, you may sign-up at <a href="https://www.wscwater.com/CNS">wscwater.com/CNS</a> to receive emails and/ or text alerts.



# Updated Covid-19 Guidelines

# Pautas actualizadas de Covid-19

Effective November 15, the County instituted new guidelines to reduce the spread of COVID 19.

- Masks must now be worn outdoors, except during vigorous exercise, in addition to any indoor public areas.
- Grocery stores and other retail establishments must operate at 50% capacity and follow all social distancing rules.
- Restaurants must operate at 25% capacity indoors and at 50% outdoors.
- Indoor gatherings are limited to 10 persons, or 1 person per 200 square feet and outdoor gatherings to 25 persons.

For the latest information, please visit

Prince Georges County Coronavirus Webpage

A partir del 15 de noviembre, el condado instituyó nuevas pautas para reducir la propagación de COVID 19.

- Ahora se requieren masqueras al aire libre, excepto durante el ejercicio vigoroso, además de las áreas públicas interiores.
- Las tiendas de abarrotes y otros establecimientos minoristas deben operar al 50% de su capacidad y seguir todas las reglas de distanciamiento social.
- Los restaurantes deben operar al 25% de su capacidad en interiores y al 50% en exteriores.
- Las reuniones en el interior están limitadas a 10 personas, o 1 persona por 200 pies cuadrados y las reuniones al aire libre a 25 personas.

Para obtener la información más reciente, visite PGC Página web sobre el coronavirus

#### Worksession Minutes October 5, 2020

This meeting was held by videoconference due to the ongoing COVID-19 health emergency.

The meeting was called to order at 7:09 p.m. Present were Mayor Amanda Dewey, Mayor Pro Tempore (MPT) Jodie Kulpa-Eddy, Councilmembers (CMs) Christopher Brittan-Powell, Jason Papanikolas, and Ethan Sweep. Also present were Interim Town Manager (ITM) Laura Allen, Town Clerk Kerstin Harper, Code Director Hollyce Goodwin, Treasurer Michelle Rodriquez, as well as quests PGC Department of the Environment Staff Jeffrey deHahn, Frank Galosi, Neil Weinstein and Pete Littleton; UMD Campus Community Connections Coordinator Andrew Fellows; Beltway Plaza Representatives Kap Kapastin, Matt Tedesco and Alex Villegas.

#### 1. Announcements

Mayor Dewey made announcements regarding options for voting in the upcoming Presidential election, and extension of the 2020 Census response deadline to October 31. Enumerators are still in the neighborhood to complete the Census.

#### 2. Approval of the Agenda

MPT Kulpa-Eddy moved to approve the agenda. CM Sweep seconded. Mayor Dewey proposed to add MML legislative priorities to the agenda. There were no objections. The agenda was adopted 5 to 0 as amended.

#### 3. Presentations

**PGC stormwater briefing:** Mayor Dewey welcomed Jeffrey deHahn and Frank Galosi with the PGC Department of the Environment (DoE) Stormwater Management Division, Neil Weinstein with the Low Impact Development Center (LIDC) and Pete Littleton with Corvias for a presentation on the County's clean water program and clean water partnership.

Mr. deHahn gave an overview of the Stormwater Management Division's mission and responsibilities. The Division is tasked with the protection and oversight of Prince George's County waterways and meeting the federal mandates of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES). To achieve these goals, the Division has entered into a long-term partnership with Corvias to restore water quality through retrofitting and impervious area treatment projects. In addition, the Division administers a public-facing Raincheck Re-

bate program and stormwater stewardship grant program, which provide financing for installing devices to filter and reduce stormwater runoff.

Mr. Littleton provided details on Corvias' holistic approach to designing, building, and maintaining stormwater retrofit infrastructure as part of its clean water partnership with the County. The approach involves reaching out to the community and private property owners, hiring local small businesses, and working with local non-profits to ensure that the investment benefits the communities in which the projects are located. Mr. Galosi reviewed stormwater mitigation projects located in the Anacostia Watershed and in Berwyn Heights, including the Town Center raingarden, storm drains on BHES property, Nevada Street outfall retrofit, and several stormwater best management practices (BMP) implemented on private property. Neil Weinstein gave a brief overview of the County's Sustainability Division's public engagement programs, from adopt-a-stream to green school partnerships.

Messrs. DeHahn, Galosi, Littleton and Weinstein responded to Councilmem-

bers' questions as follows:

- BHES stormwater drains are legacy devices that were installed years ago.
- County Stormwater Division is not aware of a 'jellyfish' stormwater device installed at the Public Works Yard entrance and therefore may not be maintaining it.
- Berwyn Heights may be eligible for grant funding if it were to convert trails to permeable paving. Technical advice for adding environmentally friendly pedestrian and bicycle amenities is available from the LIDC and other non-profits partnering with the County.
- M-NCPPC owns the green areas along Indian Creek and undertakes reforestation and other projects to control erosion and improve water quality. M-NCPPC's Environmental Section may be a starting point to explore cleanup efforts of Indian Creek.
- Groups of neighbors can coordinate efforts to abate a shared water runoff problem and obtain funding through the Raincheck Rebate program to build raingardens.
- The County can provide sample legislation on how it regulates stormwater problems.
- The efficacy of permeable pavers is determined by manufacturing quality, but mostly by installation and maintenance.
- Resident participation in the raincheck program can be improved by education and outreach. The County's Sustainability Division holds regular workshops on installation of rain barrels and raingardens as well as training workshops for contractors that can be hired for installation. The Chesapeake Bay Trust has dedicated experts on staff to advise property owners.
- The Stormwater Division and Chesapeake Trust can provide educational materials in Spanish.
- County will check if Town Center raingardens are in maintenance inventory and send out staff to inspect and discuss maintenance responsibilities. Aesthetic maintenance is often done by the community.

Campus Community Connection (C3) stormwater project: Former College Park Mayor and UMD Campus Community Connections (C3) Coordinator Andrew Fellows was present to give an update on collaborative projects UMD students are working on for Berwyn Heights. The C3 program, in which Berwyn Heights participates, seeks to apply academic knowhow and technical expertise to real world problems in the communities surrounding

the University. Mr. Fellows said this year he teaches a group of information science students, 5 of whom are working on identifying areas with flooding problems in Berwyn Heights. They are looking for data on incidents of flooding the County may be collecting.

Mr. deHahn said data on flooding incidents might be gleaned from the County's citizens reporting system. Click 311, or from the three divisions that deal with stormwater in DoE, DPIE and DPW&T. County staff is happy to share the information. MPT Kulpa-Eddy noted that DPW&T performed a hydrological survey in Berwyn Heights in 2015 following a severe flooding event, which maps inadequacies in the Town's storm drain system. Mr. Galosi confirmed that DPW&T has information about the County's storm drain system within each subsector and is preparing for the next phase of hydrological analyses. Mr. Fellows said his students would like to mine any available County data to identify those areas and properties with stormwater problems that would most benefit from re-

Mr. Fellows provided additional background on the C3 program, as well as earlier efforts to improve water quality and mitigate flooding along Indian Creek among local jurisdictions. Examples include the Four Cities street sweeping program, the Town Center raingardens, advocacy for Indian Creek through Citizens to Conserve and Restore Indian Creek (CCRIC), and the UMD Environmental Finance Center's pet waste program. The C3 program currently has 8 participants. Berwyn Heights has submitted 10 projects for collaboration with the University, of which 6 are being worked on, including several that are focused on education and community engagement.

Mr. Fellows noted that Berwyn Heights is also participating in a grant proposal developed by UMD's Smart Cities initiative for a 'demand response' project that seeks to reduce energy consumption during periods of peak demand. If the grant is successful, it could result in significant energy savings and financial returns for participants.

Mayor Dewey said the Council is looking forward to the results of this year's collaboration projects and thanked Mr. Fellows for the update.

Beltway Plaza redevelopment: Quantum Co. General Counsel Kap Kapastin, McNamee Hosea Attorney Matt Tedesco, and Rodgers Consulting Representatives Alex Villegas were present for an update on the redevelopment of the Beltway Plaza mall. Mr. Tedesco gave an overview of the project. He said the redevelopment of the mall has been planned for decades but a conceptual site plan and preliminary plan of

subdivision have only recently been approved. A detailed site plan for phase I is now under review with approval expected early in 2021.

Mr. Tedesco said phase I includes the redevelopment of parking lots in the rear of the mall into residential housing and pedestrian improvements along Greenbelt Road, a priority for both Berwyn Heights and the City of Greenbelt. The Greenbelt Road corridor was the subject of a 2018 Urban Land Institute Technical Assistance Panel (ULI TAP), in which Beltway Plaza participated. It produced recommendations for improvements some of which were incorporated in the plans.

Alex Villegas gave an overview of the phase I detailed site plan. The residential component will include 4 housing blocks, and a hotel along Cherrywood Road. The residential units will set the stage for renewal of the commercial center. Other changes include connector roads through the center of the mall, new pedestrian/ bicycle facilities along Greenbelt Road and Breezewood Drive, which connect to the regional trail network, and an indoor community center with state-of-the-art recreational facilities. The future mixeduse development will comply with current stormwater regulations by incorporating landscaped streets and multiple parks/ greenspaces with micro bio-retention facilities

Mr. Kapastin, Tedesco, and Villegas responded to questions from the Council as follows:

- Adequate school facilities the developers are bound by State regulations as delegated to Prince George's County, which require them to pay a school facilities surcharge fee to the County at the time of permitting. The fee is used by the County to build or update schools as needed. In phase 1, the school surcharge fee paid by Beltway Plaza developers is approximately \$7 million and \$20 million upon full build out. However, the type of housing proposed for Beltway Plaza is not expected to attract many families with school-aged children.
- <u>Stormwater management</u> the new development will exceed current MDE stormwater requirements with wetlands and bio retention facilities throughout the property.
- <u>Pedestrian access</u> substantial improvements to pedestrian crossings along Greenbelt Road are planned that will slow traffic and increase safety.
- Housing mix of 2,500 planned residential units up to 2,000 will be set aside for rental; for the remaining

units the developers are exploring options for seniors, students and cooperative living. Potential impact on Berwyn Heights rental housing has not been studied.

- Traffic impact the developers performed traffic analysis on 16-18 intersections around Beltway Plaza that were reviewed by M-NCPPC's Transportation Section and SHA as part of the preliminary plan of subdivision. All current intersections were found to be adequate under the County's transportation guidelines. Greenbelt required additional tests.
- Public Safety impacts on police and fire department service were studied as part of the preliminary plan of subdivision and found to be adequate. Developers will pay a public safety surcharge a portion of which will go to the City of Greenbelt. The cost of one dedicated police officer for the development will be shared with the city. Beltway Plaza maintains its own security detail, which has been able to stop car thefts and keep other incidents very low. Beltway Plaza security would coordinate with Berwyn Heights Police if desired.
- <u>Professional services</u> doctors' offices and other professional services would be included in the later phases of development.
- Impact on development along Greenbelt Road and larger area - Beltway Plaza developers are eager to implement the ULI-TAP recommendations for improving the Greenbelt Road corridor. They are also thinking about redeveloping the Staples and former Money One properties they own in Berwyn Heights for mixed use once the Beltway Plaza build-out has started. Research indicates that a hotel would do well at the proposed location. Physical stores, including discount stores, will remain part of the mix. Small retailers will be supported with an e-platform to sell merchandize online. The mall will also continue to offer community services such as food giveaways, voter registrations, Census support and seasonal celebrations. The developers believe Beltway Plaza can serve as a model for other development in the area.

#### 4. Discussion Items

Beltway widening draft environmental impact statement: Mayor Dewey provided a letter for Council's review that will be submitted to the Maryland Department of Transportation as a formal comment on the I-495 and I-270 Managed Lanes Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) by November 9. Councilmembers are requested to provide feedback.

Councilmembers proposed to add concerns about impact of the Beltway expansion on waterways and about utilizing a public-private partnership (P3) framework for completing the project, as well as an endorsement for alternatives to interstate improvements, such as on-demand transit and commuter incentives. Mayor Dewey will incorporate these ideas into the letter to be approved at the October Town meeting.

CARES Act funding update: ITM Allen gave an update on the CARES Act coronavirus relief funds Prince George's County is distributing to municipalities on behalf of the federal government. Berwyn Heights submitted an application for CARES Act funds in the amount of \$199,000 in July 2020 and has received the first reimbursement. Several items in the Town's 1st reimbursement request were disallowed but added to a contingency fund for other potential expenses. The County did not approve the Town's request to fund hazardous duty pay for the Code Enforcement staff and the Town Clerk. Rather than reduce the Town's CARES allocation, they transferred the amount of those requests to a contingency line item to enable the Town to reallocate the funding to other expenses. The Town submitted a revised spending plan by October 1 to account for the contingency funds, which were allocated to Public Safety salaries. The revised plan has been approved.

Council is requested to give input on a business relief program developed by Code Director Goodwin, for which \$60,000 is requested, and a \$20,000 deep cleaning contract that is proposed to be piggybacking on a County contract. Director Goodwin and Treasurer Rodriguez are present to answer any questions.

Councilmembers suggested that the deep cleaning contract include cleaning of such behind-the-scenes items as air ducts and water lines prior to the reopening of the Senior Center, as well as a more thorough cleaning of the Town office. ITM Allen is finding out what type of cleaning other municipalities have had done. No objections were expressed to piggybacking on the County's cleaning contract.

Responding to Councilmembers' questions about the business relief program, Director Goodwin said about 50 Berwyn Heights businesses may be eligible for relief funds. It is unclear whether there will be enough interest to use the \$60,000 allocated to the program. The City of Greenbelt saw fewer applications than expected with its business relief program. ITM Allen said all applications are due by November 20 and will be kept securely stored in her locked office. The Town must review the applications and submit them to the County for reimbursement by

mid-December because CARES Act funds must be spent by the end of the year.

Councilmembers proposed to add a requirement that businesses be in compliance with Prince George's COVID-19 protocols and to substitute Maryland's business in good standing certificate for some of the questions listed on the application form. ITM Allen will incorporate the Council's suggestions and prepare a revised business relief fund proposal for approval at the October Town meeting.

Event policy update: Mayor Dewey explained the Council has discussed repeatedly what types of events Town organizations may hold while COVID restrictions remain in place. It was agreed that events should be virtual through 2020 while the Council develops a comprehensive policy for rollout in 2021 that addresses potential risks and liability. ITM Allen said to date she has collected event policies from other municipalities and spoken to city managers about what type of events are held in their communities to lay the groundwork for a Berwyn Heights policy.

Mayor Dewey proposed the Council take a new look at the Town organization policy and the relationships it defines between the Town and its organizations. Some organizations are not appointed by the Council nor receive Town funds. These might have more leeway to determine their own event policy.

#### MML legislative action requests:

Mayor Dewey said the Maryland Municipal League (MML) each year sets priorities that it plans to pursue in the State legislature. This year the MML legislative committee is proposing only one priority, the restoration of Highway User Revenue Funds (HUR). Councilmembers are requested to indicate whether or not they support this legislative action request and/ or give input.

MPT Kulpa-Eddy asked to what extent HUR funding has been restored and what level of funding is being sought. Mayor Dewey replied MML says current funding levels are at 85% which would leave 15% to be requested. MPT Kulpa-Eddy said it should be clarified which year serves as the baseline for full funding.

#### 5. E-Newsletter

MPT Kulpa-Eddy provided a draft enewsletter for review and summarized the content. Council asked to add the deadline for requesting absentee ballots to the election article. Mayor Dewey noted that a new Public Information Aide has been hired and will soon take on the

production of the e-newsletter.

#### 6. Department Reports

Mayor Dewey reported that BHPD instituted a new pet registration program, proposed by a Police intern, which will make it easier to reunite lost pets with their owners. Berwyn Heights and neighboring cities have seen an increase in thefts from cars, mostly when doors are left unlocked. BHPD and the Code Department have been working together on ensuring businesses comply with the County's COVID-19 protocols. Later this week, the Council will attend the MML fall conference, which will again be held virtually.

MPT Kulpa-Eddy reported that WMATA is requesting citizen input on proposed budget cuts through an online survey, while the Anacostia Watershed Society is polling County residents about their knowledge of the environment in an online survey.

CM Papanikolas announced that the Town is conducting a survey both online, and in the Bulletin, to request resident input in the ongoing Town manager search. An inperson citizen panel could not be established this time due to coronavirus restrictions. The deadline is October 7.

CM Brittan Powell said that the Code Compliance Department has a lot of work and is following up on some complaints regarding political yard signs. He hopes the Town will be able to move forward with some of the clean water initiatives mentioned earlier in the meeting.

CM Sweep announced a modified trash collection schedule for the coming week due to a holiday, as well as the street sweeper coming to Town.

#### 7. Town Council Schedule

The Council reviewed the upcoming schedule. No changes were made.

#### 8. Citizen Comments

MPT Kulpa-Eddy said residents have received letters from Pepco announcing a round of tree pruning around power lines that was supposed to start in September, and a letter announcing a public meeting on a County-wide map amendment in November. ITM Allen said Pepco has a permit for the tree trimming project that will take place in October and has given detailed information to the Town. She will have this information posted to the Town website. Mayor Dewey said the Shade Tree Board has reviewed the list of trees to be removed by Pepco this summer. The trees are either dead or small, with the exception of a few trees on Cunningham.

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

#### Town Meeting Minutes October 14, 2020

This meeting was held by videoconference due to the ongoing COVID-19 health emergency.

Call to Order 7:00 p.m.

Present were Mayor Amanda Dewey, Mayor Pro Tempore (MPT) Jodie Kulpa-Eddy, Councilmembers (CMs) Chris Brittan-Powell, Jason Papanikolas, and Ethan Sweep. Also present were Interim Town Manager (ITM) Laura Allen, Town Clerk Kerstin Harper, Code Director Hollyce Goodwin, Historical Committee Chair Debby Steele Snyder, Neighborhood Watch/ Emergency Preparedness Chair Mike Attick, Recreation Council President Susan Jones and Andre Plummer, Financial Service Program Manager of the Prince George's Economic Development Corporation.

Pledge of Allegiance

#### 1. Announcements

Mayor Dewey announced that the Census deadline has been changed to October 15, and congratulated Berwyn Heights on a high response rate.

#### 2. Approval of the Agenda

Mayor Dewey requested to add a discussion item for moving the November Town meeting date. CM Sweep moved to approve the agenda, as amended. MPT Kulpa-Eddy seconded. The amended agenda was approved 5 to 0.

#### 3. Discussion (added item)

Mayor Dewey explained that the November Town meeting date happens to fall on Veterans' Day when Town offices are closed. The Council is requested to set another date. The Council discussed alternate dates and agreed to hold the meeting on Tuesday, November 10.

#### 4. Approval of Minutes

MPT Kulpa-Eddy moved, and CM Sweep seconded to approve the August 31 worksession minutes. The minutes were approved 5 to 0. MPT Kulpa-Eddy moved, and CM Sweep seconded to approve the September 9 Town meeting minutes. The minutes were approved 5 to 0.

#### 5. Mayor's Report

Mayor Dewey reported on available voting options for the Presidential Election, including voting by absentee ballot, early voting, and voting on Election Day. Last Saturday, Prince George's County Mayors held a joint voting event at the Board of Elections. The 2020 Census deadline is set for October 15. BHPD initiated a new pet registration program and continues to try new ways to stay in touch with the

community during the pandemic, such as a virtual Coffee with a Cop. BHPD seeks information on the assault of an 8-year old girl that occurred yesterday at approximately 11:30 a.m. near the Town Center.

#### 6. Department Reports

CM Papanikolas moved, and CM Sweep seconded to accept the Department reports into the record. The motion passed 5 to 0.

#### Presentation (discussed out of order)

Prince George's Economic Development: Andre Plummer, Financial Services Program Manager for the PGC Economic Development Corporation (EDC) gave an overview of the Corporation. He said the EDC has 5 focus areas, each headed by dedicated staff. These include Economic Development, Business Development, Small Business Services, International Business Development and Marketing & Branding. The EDC's two top priorities are growing jobs for County residents and growing the County's commercial tax base. The EDC pursues a mix of strategies in furtherance of these goals:

- retain and grow existing Countybased businesses;
- attract new development;
- attract grocery stores and fresh food vendors to address 'food deserts;'
- support transit-oriented development (around Metro stations);
- attract quality retail;
- grow and support technology startups (UMD innovation zone); and
- revitalization or redevelopment of older shopping centers.

Mr. Plummer described his responsibilities as Financial Services Manager, which center on facilitating the opening and operating of businesses in the County through tax incentives, projection of investment returns, and gap financing through loans and grants. The two most important tools for accomplishing this are the Economic Development Initiative Fund (EDI), which makes gap financing available to eligible applicants, and Enterprise Zones, which incentivize businesses to locate within a designated area through property and employee tax credits. Berwyn Heights has been encouraged to join the Enterprise Zone program and was provided a sample resolution that must be adopted to qualify.

Mr. Plummer responded to Councilmembers questions:

Assistance to grocery stores is predicated on the provision of fresh fruit and produce within a designated 'food desert' while being financially viable. The EDC's Business Services Division manages this program and can provide more information.

- Berwyn Heights is advised to consider participating in the Enterprise
  Zone program to access marketing
  services that help the Town attract
  new businesses, including its industrial zone. The Revitalization Tax
  Credit program is another useful tool
  to attract business.
- The 2035 General Plan sets the parameters guiding future development in County and is a good place to start to understand how Berwyn Heights might fit into it in terms of attracting business. Manufacturing and construction businesses are particularly useful in generating economic growth. Similarly, professional and IT services tend to have a big economic multiplier effect.
- Berwyn Heights may benefit from the development that happens in the neighboring communities in attracting new businesses.
- Support from the community is vital when seeking to attract specific types businesses. Health care providers could be good for a community if they satisfy existing needs and circumstances.
- The EDC may be able to provide economic data that helps identify needs and unmet demand in an area (usually by Census Tract) for the purpose of attracting business. M-NCPPC's Planning Department can also provide such data.

In response to ITM Allen, Mr. Plummer explained that an Enterprise Zone designation is primarily a way to advertise the zone's availability as a business location. There is no obligation for a financial contribution. However, a participating municipality would forego the full property tax revenue from a new business. In the first year, a business would receive an 80% tax credit which then declines by 10% each successive year. The Town would reap the benefit of new investment, new jobs, and additional tax revenue. The EDC can provide examples of how the trade-off works but it would be difficult to predict to what degree Berwyn Heights would benefit because it depends on the project. Mr. Plummer said he has submitted the County's Enterprise Zone application to the Department of Commerce with a clause that would allow Berwyn Heights to join if it so decides.

#### 6. Department Reports

Administration: CM Papanikolas reported that the new Public Information Aide has started to work and will be able to take on the publication of the enewsletter. Pepco has notified the Town Manager that its contractor will begin tree trimming starting next week. Administration is assisting Public Works in solving technical difficulties with its

phone service.

**Town Manager's Report:** ITM Allen reported that the County has approved the Town's revised CARES Act application.

**Code Compliance:** CM Brittan Powell reported the Town lost 66 rental units that are now owner occupied. Mayor Dewey clarified that the Code monthly report has a category for lost rentals. This Code report shows that 66 rental units became owner occupied since 2014.

In response to CM Papanikolas, Code Director Goodwin explained provisional licenses are currently granted to rentals in good standing. When circumstances allow, on-site inspections will resume. If a rental home fails an inspection, the Code Department works with them to fix deficiencies, but ultimately would revoke the license if the deficiencies are not corrected.

Parks, Recreation, Education & Civic Affairs: MPT Kulpa-Eddy announced two surveys being conducted, one by WMATA on budget cuts and another by the Anacostia Watershed Society on residents' opinions about their environment. Both can be accessed from the Town website.

**Public Works:** CM Sweep reported that Pepco contractors will start trimming trees this week, that the street sweeper will be in Town, and that refuse collection has been postponed to Friday because of a holiday. He asked ITM Allen whether the leaf vacuum machine is ready for loose leaf collection. ITM Allen confirmed that the machine is ready, and collection will begin in November.

The Council discussed information captured in monthly reports, generally, and food composting and recycling, in particular. Department reports will be discussed in detail at an upcoming meeting.

**Public Safety:** Mayor Dewey announced that Prince George's County remains in Phase II of reopening and is expected to remain so as COVID cases are on the rise. Residents are advised to follow CDC guidelines for celebrating Halloween, which discourage trick-or-treating. BHPD and the Code Department continue to work with Town businesses on compliance with COVID protocols and is initiating a pet registration program.

Mayor Dewey said she attended a Park & Planning budget hearing to advocate for continued funding to maintain recreational facilities. It provided an opportunity to discuss the basketball and tennis court on the school property, where regular maintenance is a concern.

#### 7. Committee Reports

Education Advisory Committee: MPT Kulpa-Eddy reported that information collected by the Committee about learning pods was published in the Bulletin and shared with the parent engagement assistants at BHES and Greenbelt Middle School, as well as with families that responded to the learning pod survey. Further, the BHEAC is working on developing a grant process for the Town's education grant funds and will seek the Council's input at a future worksession.

Green Team: Mayor Dewey congratulated the Green Team on getting the Town Sustainable Maryland recertified for the 3rd time. The Committee is also exploring the requirements to obtain Bee City, USA certification. A Bee City subcommittee will be set up, which any resident is welcome to join. The Green Team, with assistance from ITM Allen, is looking into applying for obtaining the services of a scientist through Thriving Earth Exchange. MPT Kulpa-Eddy added the Green Team is conducting an online litter survey to identify areas with litter problems and explore opinions on pollution.

Historical Committee: Historical Committee Chair Debby Steele Snyder gave the report. She said the Committee continues to meet virtually on the 4th Wednesday of each month. In September the Committee elected its officers. She was elected chair, Lee Fuerst Vice Chair and Sharmila Bhatia Secretary. The Committee attended an open house of Sportland, the oldest house in Town. The Committee also started a series of virtual Wine & Cheese events, beginning with the BHHC's walking tour of Berwyn Heights.

**Neighborhood Watch/ Emergency Preparedness:** MPT Kulpa-Eddy said the Committee plans to hold a virtual meeting on the first Wednesday of November. Those interested in participating should contact BHPD Clerk Muralles.

Recreation Council: Recreation Council President Susan Jones gave the report. For Halloween, the Committee has planned an Instagram costume contest and a home decorating contest. Several homes have already been entered into the contest but many more have put up decorations. In November, the Recreation Council will host a virtual Trivia Night organized by MPT Kulpa-Eddy, and in December a virtual tree lighting and holiday concert is planned. Everyone is requested to send in ideas for events that can be done safely during the pandemic.

Neighborhood Watch/Emergency Preparedness (discussed out of order): Mike Attick called to confirm that the NW/ EP is planning to meet virtually starting in

November. BHPD will facilitate the technical aspects of the meeting. Interested residents are requested to contact BHPD to participate.

#### 8. Old Business

Beltway Widening DEIS comments: Mayor Dewey explained that the Council discussed the contents of a letter to the Maryland Department of Transportation opposing the proposed widening of the Beltway at previous worksessions. The Council's comments have been incorporated into a revised version, which the Council is requested to approve tonight. CM Sweep so moved, MPT Kulpa-Eddv seconded. Mayor Dewey summarized the main points of the letter and asked if Councilmembers have further changes. MPT Kulpa-Eddy proposed to include WSSC rate increases likely to result from having to move water and sewer pipes. With this amendment, the letter was approved 5 to 0.

CARES Act Business Relief Program approval: Mayor Dewey said the Council discussed the Business Relief Program proposal at a previous worksession and requested some changes that were incorporated in the final version that is before the Council tonight. CM Papanikolas moved to approve the Business Relief Program. CM Brittan Powell seconded.

In response to questions, Code Director Goodwin said the program would be advertised to Berwyn Heights businesses through a mailed flyer and email blast, followed up with phone calls. The program was approved 5 to 0.

#### 9. New Business

Ordinance 181-A – 1st Reading and Introduction of Budget Amendment to Purchase Server: ITM Allen explained that the server replacement was budgeted in the FY 2020 budget but not executed because it continued to function. When the server crashed this September, it was patched up but needs to be replaced. As no money was budgeted for the server in this year's budget, a budget amendment is required to fund the purchase.

In response to questions, ITM Allen said the money would be taken from the cable TV reserve, from which the purchase was originally funded. She has reached out to Greenbelt's IT director to help evaluate different options for a new server, including a cloud-based version. Approval of a purchase would be made when proposals have been solicited.

Clerk Harper read the Ordinance. CM Sweep pointed out that the adoption date needs to be changed because the November Town meeting was moved. CM Papanikolas moved to introduce the Ordinance, as amended. CM Sweep second-

ed. The motion passed 5 to 0.

Ordinance 181-B - 1st Reading and Introduction of Budget Amendment for Architectural Study: ITM Allen explained that the contract for an architectural feasibility study of collocating the Police station and Town Hall was approved and funding was available in FY 2020. The funds were to be carried over into FY 2021 because the study would be completed in FY 2021. However, the Treasurer informed her that the Towns' fiscal process does not allow it. As a result. the funds are not in the FY 2021 budget. Ordinance 181-B would appropriate \$40,000 from the General Fund balance to pay the architectural firm for the service they have performed.

Clerk Harper read the Ordinance. MPT Kulpa-Eddy moved, and CM Sweep seconded to approve the Ordinance. The motion passed 5 to 0.

#### 10. Citizen Discussion

James Wilkinson, Pontiac Street, commented by email that a stop sign is missing at the intersection of Seminole Street and 63rd Avenue.

Mike Attick, 62nd Avenue, commented by phone. He questioned spending \$40,000 on the architectural study as an earlier study had already found that there are pipes in the ground that limit any planned expansion of Town Hall. This study confirmed that finding. He said the entire Town Center lot is too small for moving the police department there and doubts anything will happen.

Mr. Attick further suggested the three Code officers spend more time in Town patrolling and checking for violations. Mayor Dewey replied that Code staff works in the Town Hall on a rotating basis to minimize the chance of COVID infections. When not in the office, they work from home on issuing licenses and permits and other administrative tasks. The same holds true for administrative staff.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:43 p.m.

#### Worksession (draft) October 19, 2020

This meeting was held by videoconference due to the ongoing COVID-19 health emergency.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Present were Mayor Amanda Dewey, Mayor Pro Tempore (MPT) Jodie Kulpa-Eddy, Councilmembers (CMs) Christopher Brittan-Powell, Jason Papanikolas, and Ethan Sweep. CM Brittan Powell joined at 7:20 p.m. Also present were

Interim Town Manager (ITM) Laura Allen, Chief of Police Kenneth Antolik, Code Compliance Director Hollyce Goodwin, Town Clerk Kerstin Harper, Public Information Aide (PIA) Amy Hargadon and Prince George's County SPCA/ Humane Society President Tamela Terry.

#### 1. Announcements

Mayor Dewey announced that October 20 is the last day to request an absentee ballot

#### 2. Approval of the Agenda

MPT Kulpa Eddy moved to approve the agenda. CM Sweep seconded. The motion passed 4 to 0.

#### 3. Introduction

Amy Hargadon, Public Information Aide: On behalf of the Council, Mayor Dewey welcomed Ms. Hargadon as the new Public Information Aide. ITM Allen said Ms. Hargadon's references praised her ability to come up with creative solutions and work independently, which are important skills during this pandemic. Ms. Hargadon said she will be focused on producing the e-newsletter, adding content to the website and to the Town's social media accounts. She is looking forward to working with Berwyn Heights.

#### 4. Discussion Items

Pit Bull legislation, draft resolution, possible ordinance change: Mayor Dewey explained the Prince George's County SPCA/Humane Society contacted her asking whether Berwyn Heights might consider legislation that assigns a low enforcement priority to the County's Pit bull ban. Mount Rainier has adopted a resolution that implements the policy, which could serve as a model. The SPCA has reached out to municipalities about limiting enforcement of the County's pit bull ban following an unsuccessful attempt to repeal it.

In the ensuing discussion Councilmembers expressed differing views.

MPT Kulpa-Eddy and CM Brittan Powell were opposed to ignoring the County's pit bull ban or assigning it a low enforcement priority. MPT Kulpa -Eddy said, as a veterinarian, she has seen the injuries pit bulls can inflict and has had to euthanize some dogs because their owners no longer felt safe keeping them. Pit bulls were bred for a certain purpose and can be unpredictable. She would prefer to wait and see what happens in municipalities that have implemented the policy. CM Brittan Powell thought pit bulls are a problem in Berwyn Heights. His children have been terrorized by a neighbor's pit bull and he has heard from others who are concerned.

Mayor Dewey and CM Sweep expressed support for the legislation. They said the data do not show that pit bulls are inherently more aggressive than certain other large dog breeds and that their temper is dependent on treatment by the owner. Second, pit bulls are not easily identified by their looks, which makes targeting them in legislation problematic. Third, the County is wasting time and money by rounding up pit bulls, holding them in shelters and then trying to ship them out of the County.

CM Papanikolas said the Town may want to focus on enforcing its existing Animal Ordinance and not worry about County regulations. If the County wants to enforce the pit bull ban in Berwyn Heights, the Town could not stop it.

Chief Antolik said he thinks that pit bulls are not a problem in Berwyn Heights. Most reports of dog attacks are from small and mixed breeds. He has personally rescued several pit bulls and finds them to be good pets. He believes BHPD should focus its resources on removing dogs that are dangerous.

Tamela Terry, President of the Prince George's SPCA/ Humane Society, provided additional background on the pit bull ban. She said her organization has been advocating for the repeal of the pit bull ban because it is outdated and ineffective. The 1996 ban was instituted because of mauling and a death, but maulings and deaths have occurred despite the ban. Data collected by the National Canine Resource Council show that most attacks come from dogs of any breed who are not altered, have irresponsible owners, and are kept not as pets but as guard dogs. Further, the data on pit bull attacks are unreliable because pit bulls cannot be conclusively identified by their appearance. She has personally witnessed the relabeling of dogs in shelters, either to label them as pit bulls or vice

Ms. Terry stated that the County spends \$1.3 million a year on enforcing the pit bull ban, but pit bulls are everywhere. Her organization takes the threat of aggressive dogs and dog attacks very seriously and supports euthanizing dangerous dogs. Last year, the County adopted a law that focuses on removing dangerous dogs. The SPCA believes this is a better way to deal with the problem because it would deal with all dogs that are dangerous.

Mayor Dewey thanked Ms. Terry for joining the meeting. The Council will revisit this topic at a later time.

Project tracking update: Mayor Dewey

said the Council receives regular updates on projects that implement Town Council priorities. The current project list comprises priorities of the previous Town Council, recommendations from the Quality of Life Commission, and staff recommendations. The list will be updated with this Council's priorities after the Town Manager hiring process has been completed.

Staff provided updates on projects they are working on and answered questions.

Clerk Harper said her projects have mostly been completed or require further instructions from the Town Council and Town Manager on whether to proceed, among them upgrading the Town's PEG station to high definition, codification of Town Charter and ordinances and website improvements.

ITM Allen reported for Public Works that the tree planting project will commence when Public Works has verified the types of trees requested and their location. Mayor Dewey added that progress was made on a bond bill to make improvements to the Town Center. An initiative to alleviate traffic congestion on 60th and 58th Avenue at Greenbelt Avenue has been paused and collaboration with the County on stormwater improvements is ongoing.

Chief Antolik reported that many BHPD projects have been completed while some have been paused due to the pandemic. These include outreach to the business community; developing a process to decommission police vehicles; reviewing and updating charter and ordinances related to policing; and production of outreach videos.

In response to questions, Chief Antolik said old police vehicles are regularly used as decoys to deter speeding on Edmonston Road and other Town streets. Speed cameras are stationary and can only be moved by the vendor, OptoTraffic. New speed monitors have not been purchased yet because the Town wants to wait for revenues to come in before making major purchases.

Treasurer Rodriguez reported that the pandemic has reordered her project priorities. Acquiring an asset management system and updating financial policies have been paused, while the administration of the CARES Act has been added to her responsibilities. Electronic check processing and remote payments have been implemented.

Code Director Hollyce Goodwin reported that she continues to work on streamlining the business licensing process in the context of the pandemic. She has regular

discussions with ITM Allen about implementing virtual rental inspections and making adjustments to other code processes. The College Park feasibility study about instituting a municipal building permit program is expected to conclude in spring 2021. Code web pages have been updated with the latest permit applications and the Town's Business Relief Program. Production of professional outreach videos with BHPD has been postponed as has a review and update of code ordinances.

ITM Allen reported that the new Public Information Aide is producing her first e -newsletter and is publishing information on the Town's social media outlets. Regarding the Town Manager's projects, she has Yvonne following up on the bond bill for Town Center improvements. The welcome sign project has been paused and employee handbook changes are in progress. Manns Woodward Architects are reaching out to the Volunteer Fire Department about a joint public safety facility. She has talked with Park & Planning about picnic areas, the soccer field, and a dog park. She also wants to take a closer look at the joint use agreements with Park & Planning. Tree pruning and tree planting projects are underway.

Investment policy: Mayor Dewey said that the State Treasurer's Office requires each municipalities to have an investment policy on file. The Council discovered that Town's current investment policy dates from 1995 and initiated an update to the policy.

ITM Allen explained the revision of the policy began under TM Broadbent but stopped with the COVID shutdown. ITM Allen resumed work on the policy in September and made additional changes to reflect best practices in public investment and to meet the requirements of the State Treasurer's Office. Per Council's suggestion, credit unions have been added as authorized agencies for investment. She has also contacted MML to ascertain whether other municipalities use citizen committees to assist Councils with investment decisions but has learned that this is not common practice. This policy does not include step-by-step procedures for making investments, which would be developed by staff once the policy has been adopted based on information solicited from other municipalities and the Town's auditor.

In discussion, Councilmembers offered the following comments:

 The purpose of a citizen advisory committee might be described as

an option for supplementing investment expertise if it is lacking on the Council and/or staff at a given point in time:

- The policy might clarify the roles of the Council, Town Manager and Treasurer; and
- The policy should require that a report be submitted to the Council quarterly.

ITM Allen responded that the role of the Council is to set the policy and ensure its parameters of safety, liquidity and yield are met. Staff is responsible for establishing procedures that comply with the policy and implement internal controls that protect investments from loss or misuse while assuring sufficient cash flow. The policy includes a reporting requirement in Section 14, which specifies its components.

Phone pal program: Mayor Dewey said she would like the Council's feedback on the idea of starting a phone pal program to address some of the loss of community that has resulted from the COVID restrictions. The program would randomly match interested residents who have signed up by submitting their name, telephone and a short introduction. Once matched up, participants would decide what to talk about and how often. This would be a safe way to meet new people and maintain community connections.

In discussion the following points were made:

- The signup form should be available in paper as well as electronic format to be usable by all.
- A review process might be needed to ensure that people are not matched with someone who may want to take advantage of them.
- Participants might like to choose themselves who they want to meet.
- The Seniors might be consulted on how they manage their phone program.
- The BHEAC's attempt to facilitate learning pods might inform the phone pal effort.
- Home phone numbers are controlled unclassified information (CUI) that is protected under Maryland law. Participants would need to agree to disclose their information ahead of time.
- Email might be an alternative way to match residents who may be uncomfortable calling up a stranger.

Mayor Dewey and MPT Kulpa-Eddy will explore how to move forward with the program.

**MML** conference debrief: Councilmembers shared highlights from the virtual conference of the Maryland Municipal

League. MPT Kulpa-Eddy said she attended workshops on 'continuity of operations plans', and 'traffic calming and complete streets.' This reminded her to talk to NW/EP about reviewing the Town's emergency operations plan. She also learned that towns can rent speed bumps to try them out.

CM Papanikolas enjoyed a workshop on 'play and playgrounds,' which explored ways to enable creative playing in an inexpensive manner. CM Brittan Powell attended a budget workshop and a session on 'traffic calming and complete streets.' He thinks the information is relevant to the efforts of the Walkable, Bikeable Berwyn Heights Task Force (WBBH) to make the Town more pedestrian and bicycle friendly.

CM Sweep attended workshops on budgeting, 'advancing race equity,' "mitigating the housing crisis,' and a 'young municipal leaders event.' He was able to pick up valuable information on how Towns can advance race equity and received an overview of the housing programs the County has on offer.

Mayor Dewey attended workshops on 'engaging citizens through social media,' 'advancing race equity,' and the 'young municipal leaders event,' which she cochaired. She took notice that social media can be used as a tool to drive traffic to a municipal website, which serves as an information hub. The race equity workshop stressed the importance of integrating equity considerations into everything a Town does.

#### 5. Department Reports

Mayor Dewey reported that a surprise ceremony was held for Chief Antolik to celebrate his 10th year as Berwyn Heights' police chief. She thanked him for his service and for being a great community leader and regional leader. Mayor Dewey also reported on BHPD's pet registration program, Governor Hogan's most recent COVID order, how to vote in the upcoming Presidential Election and upcoming public hearings on M-NCPPC's planned multi-generational centers.

MPT Kulpa-Eddy reported on the Education Advisory Committee's ongoing work on an educational grant process for the Town, the upcoming PGCPS budget process and a potential 10% cut in individual school budgets for FY 2022. She said the Green Team has achieved another Sustainable Maryland certification, and is working on a litter survey and Bec City USA certification. The Historical Committee has elected new officers and is reviewing its historic markers, while the NW/EP is gearing up for its first virtual meeting. The Recreation Council is host-

ing a Halloween home decorating contest and a costume contest but discourages trick-or-treating. Trick-or-treating has been labeled a high-risk activity by the CDC.

CM Papanikolas reported that Pepco's contractors have started trimming trees on Edmonston Road. The Town has received detailed information about the project and the proposed tree removals, which are mostly comprised of smaller trees.

CM Brittan Powell said he has received many inquiries as to whether trick-ortreating will take place this year. He believes the Town should do more to get the word out about the activity being discouraged. Mayor Dewey said there is some confusion about the Town's role in the event. Trick-ortreating is a holiday tradition, not a Town-hosted event which it can cancel. Advisories discouraging trick-ortreating have been published on the Town's social media and will be included in the next e-newsletter. However, to stop people who are not residents from trick-or-treating, residents might be encouraged to turn their porch lights

CM Sweep asked when loose leaf collection starts. ITM Allen said it starts on November 2 and ends on December 28. Public Works has performed a test run of the leaf vacuum machine to make sure it is working. CM Sweep provided information on several hosted Halloween events in the area.

#### 6. Town Council Schedule

The Council reviewed the schedule. The Town meeting date was corrected to indicate Tuesday, November 10. The Town's legislative dinner was set for December 1, with alternate dates for November 30 and December 2. The December 21 worksession was cancelled and the January 18 worksession was moved to Tuesday, January 19.

#### Citizen Comments

Mike Attick, 62nd Avenue, commented by telephone. He said a new emergency operations plan was adopted under Mayor Jewitt, which was revised under TM Broadbent. This version should be made available to NW/EP if the Committee is asked to review it.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Signed: **Kerstin Harper**, Town Clerk



# Berwyn Heights Seniors Club

#### HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO

December 5	Joan Ahrens
December 7	Russell Ricketts
December 7	Dan Woodward
December 13	Buddy Robson
December 14	Dora D'Ambosio
December 16	Kay Angell
December 26	Susan Jones
December 26	Alan Sinclair
December 26	Charles Thomas
December 30	Patricia Savinski

#### **DECEMBER ACTIVITIES**

CANCELLED: All regular Senior's Club activities have been suspended due to the COVID-19 health emergency. Please check the Town website for updates.





#### It's time for another Virtual Wine & Cheese Event!

The Berwyn Heights Historical Committee invites you to their Virtual Wine and Cheese Series, a safe way to continue to share interesting bits of history. Settle down with some wine and cheese and enjoy this month's offerings. Also check out Prof. William G. Thomas' virtual event for PGC Libraries on December 8, 7 pm.

#### Part Two of Six:

- <u>The Families Who Challenged Slavery from the Nation's Founding</u> to the Civil War, by William G. Thomas
- Out of a Hidden Compartment: Civil War Diaries from Prince Georges County, MD, by PGC Historical Society & ATHA

# NEXT MEETING (VIRTUAL) DECEMBER 16, 2020 | 7:30 PM

To participate, please contact Sharmila Bhatia at <a href="mailto:sharmila\_bhatia88@hotmail.com">sharmila\_bhatia88@hotmail.com</a>
All other inquiries to <a href="mailto:dsteelesny@yahoo.com">dsteelesny@yahoo.com</a>
For more information visit our <a href="mailto:Facebook Page">Facebook Page</a>
or <a href="mailto:BHHC Website">BHHC Website</a>.

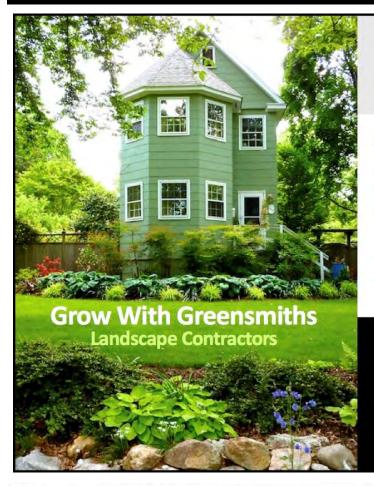
#### **NEW OFFICERS**

Chair: Debby Steele Snyder

Vice Chair: Lee Fuerst

Secretary: Sharmila Bhatia





#### **Contact Mark Emmell**

Owner/President and **Berwyn Heights Resident for 37 Years** 

- Landscape Design, Installation and Maintenance
- Annual Landscape Cleanups and Mulching
- **Rain Gardens and Native Plantings**
- **Pruning and Plant Removal**
- **Drainage Solutions and Grading**

301-335-4485

greensmithsinc@hotmail.com



#### Karel C. Petraitis

**General Law Practice** 

Specializing in Family Law, Wills, and Estates

7100 Baltimore Avenue, Suite 205 College Park, Maryland 20740 Business: (301) 277-1443

# As You Like It Heating and Air Conditioning, LLC Owner, Mike Menard: (240) 375-1146



Family Owned and Operated for 17 years

**Town Resident Since 1985** 



Specializing in:

. Heating and Air Conditioning

Custom Fabricated Duct Work

 Humidification Indoor Air Quality

Air Filtration Systems

Water Heaters

Now accepting Bi-Annual Maintenance

Agreements to keep you and your family comfortable all year round!

\*References gladly supplied upon request

· Boilers

Sheet Metal, Mike Jr.: (301) 466-4617 Office/Fax: (301) 931-3595

E-mail: mike@asyoulikeitheatingandair.com

Check out our new website:

Licensed www.asyoulikeitheatingandair.com Insured

# Happy Holidays!



from the Berwyn Heights Rec Council

# Join us for our Virtual Tree Lighting Event

# Saturday, December 5th, 2020 at 6pm

Our Annual Tree Lighting Event will be held virtually this year, broadcasting live on BHTV channels Comcast 71 or Fios 12, online through the Town website, and through the rec council YouTube channel https://bit.ly/bhrecyoutube.

Grab some cookies and hot cocoa, put on an ugly sweater, and enjoy our show! We will have music by our own Phil Ventura, special musical guest appearances, carol sing-along and of course, the tree lighting itself!

Visit with your friends and neighbors via Zoom, and maybe even Santa Himself, if Wi-Fi is working at the North Pole! Visit the Town website for a Zoom link as well as downloadable craft projects.

Check out our special Ornament Coloring page in this month's bulletin! - p.16

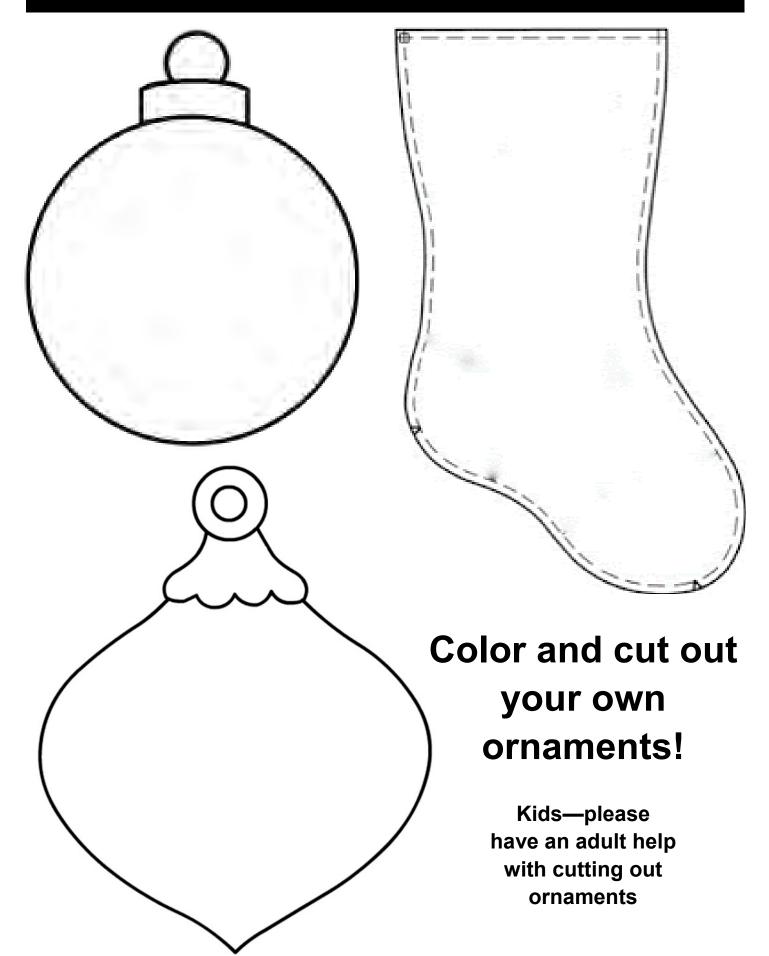


# **Annual Toys for Tots Drive**

Spread some holiday cheer and donate a new, unwrapped toy to the Toys for Tots Drive, sponsored by the US Marine Corps Reserve. Donation box will be located at the BHPD station at 5411 Berwyn Rd, Berwyn Heights, MD 20740. Drop off your toys 9am-5pm until December 11th.

And coming up in January, another virtual concert on January 14th, 7-8 pm with Jorge Anaya. Stay tuned for announcements in next month's Bulletin and the Town website for more virtual activities.

Until the Rec Council can safely resume in-person meetings (normally the 1st Tuesday of the month at 7:30pm) we are conducting all of our business via email. If you would like to be added to our email list, or have any suggestions for safe, fun activities during the pandemic, contact Susan at violindreams@verizon.net





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

In Case of Emergency Call 911!

#### **Recent Working Incidents**

Oct 24th: Rescue Squad 14 was dispatched to the southbound lanes of the Baltimore Washington Parkway after Powder Mill Rd in Greenbelt for a reported rollover with people trapped. BHVFD arrived on-scene to find one vehicle on fire and one vehicle with a person trapped. The volunteer crew from Squad 14 utilized its Amkus vehicle rescue tools to remove 2 doors and a B-post to extricate the patient.

Oct 27th: Berwyn Heights VFD Rescue Squad 14 & Technical Rescue Support 14 were alerted to the 5200Blk of Newton Street in Bladensburg for a car into an apartment building. Units arrived to find an SUV that had crashed through the structure's brick wall and caused severe structural issues. BHVFD assisted in evacuating the building's occupants and joined up with the rest of the County's Technical Rescue Team to survey and condemned the structure due to severe structural damage.

Nov 3rd: BHVFD Ladder Truck 14 was alerted to the 3300BLK of Pennsy Drive in Landover for a reported warehouse on fire. The combined career & volunteer crew arrived to find a fire in a warehouse. Rescue Engine 33 (Kentland) was initially alerted to a fire alarm at the building, but the call was upgraded to a Structure Fire/Box Alarm. The crew split with the interior crew entering the building to assist with extinguishing the fire and the exterior crew going to the roof to open up ventilation hoods. BHVFD and other crews operated for approximately 2 hours before returning to service. Ambulance 14 remained staffed at the station to help cover the area.

<u>Nov 13th:</u> Rescue Squad 14 and its volunteer crew were alerted to the 11800Blk of Blanding Ct in Bowie for a reported House Fire. Units arrived to find a working fire.

Nov 11th: While volunteer were staffing the Station during the day for Veteran's Day the Rescue Squad and Chief 14B were alerted to North-bound Balt-Wash Parkway near Powder Mill Road for reports of an SUV hitting multiple different vehicles along the Parkway, then crashing into the woods. Units arrived to find an SUV had launched itself down a steep embankment and into the woods at a high rate of speed, with the driver in serious condition. Due to the steep embankment, the volunteer crew set up a rescue pully system to haul the patient up out of the woods back to the roadway to be transported to a trauma center. Chief 14B had incident command.

#### **Christmas Tree Sale 2020**

The Berwyn Heights Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad is once again holding our Annual Christmas Trees Fundraiser Sale in the rear parking lot of the Firehouse. This is one of our most important fundraisers of the year, and would like to thank everyone in advance for your support!

We accept cash, checks, and credit cards.

#### Sale hours:

Monday – Friday 5:00pm to 9:00pm Saturday & Sunday 9:00am to 9:00pm

#### Frasier Fur Tree prices:

5-6ft Fraser Fir - \$45 6-7ft Fraser Fir - \$55 7-8ft Fraser Fir - \$65

Please wear a mask and maintain and keep 6ft distance when visiting our tree lot!

#### Santa on a Fire Truck Christmas Eve!!

COVID-19 can't stop Santa and the BHVFD! Our volunteers will, per tradition, be escorting Santa around the area on Thursday December 24th, 2020, from approximately 7pm until around 9pm. We try our best to ensure Santa visits all streets in Berwyn Heights, College Park Estates, and Westchester Park. We will still be responding to any emergency calls during this time which

Missed your house in the past? Email: ksnyder@BHVFD14.org

may affect our rounds. Just listen for our

sirens on Christmas Eve!

#### LIVE SANTA TRACKER:

BHVFD will once again be broadcasting Santa and his emergency vehicle parade location live! Visit
BHVFD's Facebook, Twitter, or Nextdoor
pages for the link that will be posted by
6:30PM on Christmas Eve!



#### Proudly serving the Berwyn Heights Community for over 20 years

New Patients & Emergencies Welcome
Offering Senior Dental Discount
Maryland State Healthy Smile Provider
Accepting Most Insurance Plans
Patient Financing Plans through CareCredit

## We provide a full range of dental services including

Tooth Colored Fillings Crown & Bridges Dentures Implant Restoration Regular Exam & Cleanings Oral Cancer Screening Digital X-rays
Sealants
Custom Mouth Guards
Treatment for Snoring
Treatment for Grinding
ZOOM Whitening

# WE'RE DEDICATED TO GIVING YOU THE FINEST ORAL HEALTH CARE AVAILABLE WITH SOMETHING EXTRA

A Caring Attitude and Gentle Care







# Berwyn Heights GreenBee

Email us your ideas at bgreen.berwynheights@gmail.com.
Website: www.berwynheightsgreenteam.wordpress.com
Facebook page: www.facebook.com/BerwynHeightsGreenTeam



Our next meeting will be Thursday, January 14th at 7:00 p.m. via ZOOM All residents are welcome to attend. Please email Mayor Dewey for ZOOM information.



#### I. The how and why of inside cats.

Berwyn Heights Felines are animals we care about and need to be more vigilant about their needs and health.

Let's start with the health reasons for cats to remain indoors, versus outdoor cats, so you can enjoy your feline for many more years. Allowing your cat to roam outdoors can significantly shorten their lives. Dangers of parasites, catching diseases from other cats, being hit be vehicles, stolen by strangers, attacked by predators or just getting lost are some of the constant threats of outdoor cats.



Many cats can transition to the indoors with little effort but do it gradually.

- Introduce the scratching post and litter box well before the transition to cat life inside
- Feed your cat indoors and after meals keep increasing the inside period.
- This time of year, a warm, dry bed to snuggle in will help convince your cat to stay inside.
  - If the cat tries to make a break for the door, rattle a jar of pennies or give them a squirt with a water gun to catch their attention.
  - You can also train them to run away from an open door by throwing a treat to the other side of the room!
  - MAKE LIFE INSIDE FUN FOR YOUR CAT!
     Join in future discussions on cat safety.



The Green Team will have a holiday light recycling box at the Town Office door starting on Friday, November 27<sup>th</sup>! MOMs is also recycling lights in Hollywood.

Happy holidays from all of us @ the Green Team

## **Litter Survey**

#### Let us hear your thoughts about our Town

Litter consists of any substance, material or item deposited in, or disposed of in, or within sight of a public place in such a manner as to be detrimental to the amenity of the natural or built environment. The amount of litter that defaces our footpaths, streets, parks and poles is one of the major environmental issues that our Town can be faced with.

#### Main Causative Factors to be Aware of

- Pedestrians
- Passing motorists
- Gathering points.
- Dogs/Cats
- Illegal dumping
- Posters & signs
- Retail outlets
- Windscreen advertisement notes

Please take 3 minutes to complete our simple survey.

Litter survey deadline January 1st, 2021

https://bit.ly/37q3CpA

Please join us in a meeting to share your views with no commitment required.

## AMWELL ORTHOPAEDIC PHYSICAL THERAPY, LLC

We Treat: Hip Pain, Knee Pain, Shoulder/Arm Pain, Back or Neck Pain, Sports Injuries, Auto Accidents, Worker's Compensation Cases, Postural Correction, Post-surgical Care

Dr. Agron M. Lubick, PT, DPT, MS

**Proudly serving BERWYN HEIGHTS for 20 years!** 





#### PREMIER MEDICAL CENTER

6201 Greenbelt Road, Suite L-7 Berwyn Heights, MD (across from Staples) www. amwellorthopt.com

# Early Morning/ Late Evening Appointments Available

Most Insurances Accepted: Medicare Medicaid | Blue Cross/ Blue Shield United Healthcare | Aetna







# Sharon A. McCraney, Realtor\*

Certified Sr. Housing Specialist • Top Producer 2006-2011 • Md Representative L&F Gold Team Cell: 301.346.1462 • Office: 301-441-9511 x113 sharonsells@lnf.com • www.sharonmccraney.com



Thinking of selling or buying?? I have a **full marketing plan** on how I seamlessly take you from A-Z in the world of selling your home. I sell more Berwyn Heights homes than other agents, let me show you how I do it. Consistency, proven results, referral network, satisfied clients! I also have lenders, stagers, contractors & more for your selling /buying needs.

THE REAL ESTATE MARKET IS DOING VERY WELL! If you are thinking of selling anytime in the next year, give me a call for that 1st prelisting meeting. Meeting however you feel comfortable! In person with masks, virtually on Zoom, in the yard or on the patio 6 ft apart! Most properties sell in days/weeks with full price and/ or multiple offers! The biggest reasons? The continued low interest rates for buyers (around 3%) and the lack of inventory.

**Thank You** !! to all the 1st responders and essential workers, who continue to serve. I am so thankful and have so much gratitude for all that you do!

\*TEXT Me\* DO YOU WANT A HOLIDAY DESSERT? Text me "Pumpkin or Apple" by Dec 15 and III drop off a pie at your front door (no contact)!

I hope you and your families are well and safe. Enjoy getting out and about while the weather is still good. Wishing you the best for the upcoming holidays with friends and family! Remember if you want to buy or sell anytime in 2021 call/text or email me!!

- FREE MARKET ANALYSIS OF YOUR HOME
- NATIONAL/INT'L WEBSITE/ADVERTISING
- LICENSED IN MD & DC
- 20 YEARS + OF REAL ESTATE EXPERIENCE
- TOWN RESIDENT

Just a few of my Listings/Sales last 30 days!!
"Homework" is what I do best, let me do your "Homework" too!

SOLD- 8804 Edmonston Rd 3 BR 1 BA rambler......\$315,000. UNDER CONTRACT- 8804 63rd Av 3 BR 2 BA cape w/garage. NEW LISTING-5810 Pontiac St 4 BR/3 BA cape w/scr porch\$397K SOLD- 6100 Westchester Pk Dr 3BR 2BA Hi rise living \$199,000. NEW LISTING-6100 Westchester Pk Dr 1 BR/den & pkg sp!\$160K





#### **BULLETIN BOARD**

Adult Education - Zoom ESL Classes English for Speakers of Other Languages • (ESL) Literacy, beginning, & intermediate English classes • Instruction & practice in speaking & understanding English • Instruction in reading, writing & grammar in real life contexts • GED Prep & US Citizenship Test Prep. Contact Kathy Brosh kathbrosh@gmail.com or 301-310-3809

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.

Approved Childcare of Essential Personnel Opening for infant to 12 years old. Licensed and approved by the State to provide childcare during COVID-19. Meals provided. Openings Monday-Friday from 6 AM to 6 PM. Please contact Karuna at 301-345-2939 or karunaemeldarozario@outlook.com.

**Piano Lessons** in your home. Former PGCPS music teacher, experienced private instructor. Students with special needs welcome. Ms. Liz 240-601-2825.quote today. Call 202-820-0771.

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.

**Meals-on-Wheels** needs your HELP! This 45-year old program needs volunteers to help with their daily operations out of College Park location. Please call 301-474-1002 M-F, 8:30-12p if available.

**Need Yard Help?** Shawn and Jeremy have helped Berwyn Heights residents with mowing, raking, mulching, and more for several years. Call 240-601-1298.

**Get Out More!** Let me help you free up your time by helping you in different ways. If you have children, I babysit age 3 and up. Do your kids need help in school? I tutor in different subjects. Don't have time to exercise your lovable pet? I enjoy dog walking/sitting. Please call Greta at 301-982-7115. References upon request.

Help is Here. Do you need help grocery shopping, bill paying, pick up prescriptions, post office run, general household management, shopping and more...look no further...for \$20 per hour have your own personal concierge. Reliable, Dependable, Fast, and more importantly, TRUSTWORTHY. Call Jackie at 202-669-6297. I'll be there tomorrow.

**Loving, Licensed Child Care:** (CDA) credentialed in BH. M-F 6:30 AM to 5:30 PM. Ura Daley, 301-313-9131.

Infant or Senior Care: Nurse/midwife, recent US refugee, legal with work permit, looking for infant care or senior care. Full or part time. IRC internationally certified. Worked in Burundi and Tanzania. Special gift with babies, children with disabilities, and disabled adults. Intermediate English, fluent French. Does not drive. Contact jeynekanyudo@gmail.com

**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.

**New Home Brewing Club** – Calling all homebrewers and mead makers in

Berwyn Heights to help inaugurate a home brewing club. Let's get together to brew, taste, and exchange ideas. It doesn't matter if you're a novice or an expert. Just send me an email and let's get brewing. Contact:

jason.michel@comcast.net





Provides you reliable and confidential tax preparation and Advisory service. Six years top tax company experience, specialized in rental property. Affordable price. Tax return could be done face to face or VIRTUAL (send documents via Fax, scan or Email). Also phone interviews at your convenience. Email me at:

<u>llyqi99@gmail.com</u> or text me at 301-728-1097. "Lily Qi"



# Angela's House Cleaning Service

Cleaning your home like my own. Residential & commercial. References available in Berwyn Heights. Over 10 years professional experience. Providing my own materials at reasonable price.

Call (240) 645-5140 or email angelalazo1@hotmail.com

# 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.

Tel: 301-474-3920 • Web Site: holy-redeemer.org

Email: parish@holy-redeemer.org

### Thomas A. Gentile, Attorney



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



Berwyn Heights Resident Admitted to Practice, MD, DC, VA Over <u>45</u> years experience Wills, Powers of Attorney, Probate, Trusts, Home Visits to Berwyn Heights Residents.



## Thursday, October 01, 2020, at 6:23 pm, 'THEFT FROM VEHICLE'

On 10/1/2020 at 18:23 hours, Pvt. Scales responded to the 6200 block of Ruatan Street for a report of stolen tags. Upon arrival, he met with the victim who advised that both front and rear tags had been stolen from his green 1998 Toyota Corolla. The vehicle was parked on the public roadway in front of the residence for over a month, according to the victim. Victim further stated that the last time he observed the above listed vehicle with tags was on 9/30/2020 at 12:00 hours.

#### Thursday, October 01, 2020 at 9:00 am, 'PET REGISTRATION PROGRAM SER-VICE'

Effective October 1, 2020, the BHPD Pet Identification Registration Program will be available to all Town residents. All information will be strictly confidential.

The Pet Identification Registration Program is intended to help identify lost pets and return them to the owner. Reuniting lost pets with their owner quickly helps free up limited space at the Prince George's Animal Shelter for other animals in need. Town residents can request to have pet registration form mailed or emailed to them or pick it up at the police station at 5411 Berwyn Road., Suite 101b, Berwyn Heights. For information please call (301) 474-6554. 'Free cookies for puppies!'

\*To ensure the health and safety of our officers, employees, and residents, body temperature check will be required before entering the facility.

#### Friday, October 02, 2020 at 5:00 am, 'THEFT FROM VEHICLE'

On 10/2/2020, Cpl. Hollowell was dispatched to the 8900 block of 58th Ave for a report of a theft from auto. Cpl. Hollowell met with the victim who said between 17:45 pm, 10/1/20 and 5:50 am, 10/2/20, an unknown suspect entered her vehicle and stole property. The listed vehicle was parked on the street and the doors were unlocked. The suspect(s) located a wallet inside the vehicle and removed \$140 in US currency and five credit/debit cards. Victim indicated that she was able to cancel most of the cards to prevent additional fraud/theft. There were no leads identifying a possible suspect and no surveillance footage capturing the incident.

## Thursday, October 08, 2020 at 2:27 pm, 'ARMED PERSON'

On Thursday 10/8/2020 at 2:27 pm, a citizen went to the Greenbelt City Police Department (GCPD) to report a man with a gun. GCPD notified Prince George's

County Communications and BHPD was assigned the call for service. The victim reported that at 1:20 pm, she was pumping gas at X-Tra Fuel gas station at 5919 Greenbelt Road for her silver Nissan Rogue SUV with MD tags 2EE8273. A man in a light green Nissan Altima car approached and asked the victim for her telephone number. The victim refused to provide it. The man showed her a medium sized, black, semi-automatic handgun and said "I don't have my phone. I suggest you put my number into your phone. The victim said she was afraid and entered the man's cell phone number (215-971-6252) into hers. At 1:26 pm. the man called the victim from 215-971-6252 number and identified himself as Rasheen from Philadelphia. At 1:27 pm, the victim received a text message from 215-971-6252. The victim blocked the number and made this report.

At 3:12 pm, BHPD visited the T-Mobile Store at 8904 62nd Avenue and with help from employees found that the 215-971-6252 number is a T-Mobile account. At 3:31 P.M. officer called 215-971-6252 from a BHPD office phone. A man answered who confirmed he is Rasheen. The officer asked him to speak with him about the woman at X-tra Fuel station. The gave a different account of events and hung up on the officer. At 4:00 pm, the officer visited X-tra Fuel and asked the clerk to show him the security camera video footage. It became apparent that the date and time record of the video does not match. The real time and video of the victim report was not present/ available.

On 10/9/2020, the officer obtained instructions on how to contact T-Mobile Law Enforcement Services to request information on the 215-971-6252 number. At this writing the officer are still missing 1) vehicle tag number, 2) account holder identification, 3) I.D. of the man on 215-971-6252, 4) knowledge if the gun is real, 5) X-tra Fuel video.

## Tuesday, October 13, 2020 at 11:26 am, 'ASSAULT'

On Tuesday 10/13/2020 at 11:42 am, the parent of an 8 Y/O girl visited the Berwyn Heights Police Department to report an assault. BHPD responded to the 5700 block of Berwyn Road where the victim was reportedly going for a walk when she was assaulted. She was confronted by a man around 11:26 am, who used his left hand to grab her by the right upper arm and held it tightly in his grasp. The victim screamed and kicked the man and the man let go. Victim then fled on foot back to her home at Goucher Drive and 58th Avenue. The investigation is ongoing. SUSPECT: 60' Y/O, light brown male with white hair, medium beard, 6'01", 160

Tuesday, October 13, 2020 at 3:27 pm,

#### 'THEFT FROM AUTO'

On Tuesday 10/13/2020 at 2:00 pm, a victim called the Berwyn Heights Police Department to report a theft from motor vehicle. The victim reported that on Thursday 10/8/2020 at 11:00 pm, someone entered the residential driveway of his home, unlocked the doors on his silver 2013 Ford Focus, went inside and dumped the contents of glove compartment and center console onto the front seats and floor. The suspect stole \$5.00 in coins from the console and walked away from Cunningham Drive.

#### Tuesday, October 13, 2020 at 9:07 pm, 'THEFT FROM VEHICLE'

On 10/13/2020 at 9:07 pm. Pvt. Scales responded to the 7700 block of Edmonston Road, for a theft from auto report. Officer spoke with Victim, who advised that he had various tools stolen from his white 2004 Chevrolet Express van bearing Maryland registration 77N048. The victim said he was preparing for work around 4:15 am that day, when he heard car doors shutting outside of his residence. Unbeknownst to the victim, they were the rear doors of his van. Items stolen include a 3-ton Jack, Milwaukee 18 Volt cordless charger. Makita Power drill set, and a 200 Amp Battery Charger, in total valued at \$790. Victim advised he mistakenly left the rear doors unlocked but has no idea who may have committed the crime.

#### Friday, October 16, 2020 at 1:30 pm, 'Chief Antolik's 10-Year Anniversary'

The BHPD celebrated Chief Antolik's 10th year as the Chief of Police of the Town of Berwyn Heights.

## Wednesday, October 21, 2020 at 9:48 pm, 'MOTORCYCLE ACCIDENT'

On 10/21/2020 at approximately 2148hour Pf. C. Rufino and Pvt. L. Scales responded to a crash at 6200 Blk of Ruatan St. Upon arrival, they observed a black male lying unconscious and prone on the ground. Prince George's County Police Department also arrived along with the ambulance. Male Identified by family as 36 Y/O, B/M was pronounced dead on the scene by the Fire Department. The scene was secured, and statements were taken from residents who were on the scene. The PG County Collision Analysis Reconstruction unit arrived and took over the scene. Berwyn Heights Police Officers remained on scene for traffic and crowd control. BHPD contacted Public works and requested that the 6200 Blk of Ruatan St. be swept from all the debris that was left behind. The family was provided with family services information so they can contact the crisis center for help and support. The scene was secured at 0115 Hours. Some family members remained

on the street by the crash site. They were advised.

#### Thursday, October 22, 2020 at 8:00 am, 'BHPD ANNUAL FIREARM TRAINING'

Officers from the BHPD attended their annual firearm training at the Maryland Training Commission in Sykesville, MD.

#### Friday, October 23, 2020 at 5:03 pm, 'DEATH INVESTIGATION'

On Friday, October 23rd, 2020, BHPD assisted with a death investigation in 6200 blocks of Pontiac Street, Berwyn Heights. The decedent was located in the upstairs bedroom of the residence. There was no indication of struggle or distress within the residence, and no apparent trauma to the decedent's body. The decedent's body was transported for an autopsy under OCME case number 20-14761.

# Sunday, October 25, 2020 at 10:11 am, 'VANDALISM'

Victim states she arrived for a service at the Presbyterian Church at 6215 Greenbelt Rd at 10:11 am on October 25. Upon returning to her vehicle around 1:30 pm, she discovered that the left front passenger window had been smashed out. Victim said she later received a call from her bank to advise her that someone had tried to use her ATM card but were unsuccessful. Victim was assigned a case numbers. The investigation found that the building has cameras facing the parking lot. The officer will follow up with building management to see if anything was recorded.

## Sunday, October 25, 2020 at 3:00 pm, 'BURGLARY OF A SHED'

A resident of the 5600 block of Ruatan Street contacted BHPD after he discovered that his garage had been broken into and property removed. The garage is approximately 50 feet from the main house in the backyard. The victim reported he went to sleep at 11:00 pm and did not hear any disturbance during the night. The investigation revealed that entry into the garage was gained either through the garage door or a side door leading into the building. Both locks were broken with an unknown tool. The suspect(s) fled stole two leaf blowers, a cordless hand drill and various hand tools. Other equipment in the garage was not disturbed.

## Tuesday, October 27, 2020 at 11:26 am, 'THEFT'

On Tuesday 10/27/2020 at 11:26 am, an employee of the Shell Gas station located at 5550 Greenbelt Road reported a theft. The employee was working at the clerk's counter when at around 11:20 am two black males wearing hooded sweatshirts with hoods up and face masks (per COVID prevention protocols) entered the T/A posing as customers. The male wearing a light gray hoodie grabbed the Mary-

land Lottery Ticket dispenser from its desktop mount and with the male wearing a dark colored hoodie fled through the lobby south on Greenbelt Road. The employee briefly chased the two suspects.

# Tuesday, October 27, 2020 at 11:26 am, 'VANDALISM'

On Tuesday 10/27/2020 at 11:26 am, a BHPD officer was investigating a daytime theft of the Maryland Lottery Ticket dispenser from a convenience store at Beltway Plaza Shell (T/A, V-1) at 5550 Greenbelt Road under RMS 20-0050296. The cashier at Beltway Plaza Shell reported destruction of property that occurred around 1:20 am on 10/27/2020. The employee told the officer that someone damaged the front door of the Shell convenience store. Officer noted a 10-pound 10inch diameter chunk of concrete lying next to the front door. The exterior side of the 9' x 3 1/2' glass door was shattered by the impact from the concrete. Copies of security video were provided for both events, the lottery machine theft and the attempted break-in resulting in damage to the door. The video of the attempted break-in featured a black male wearing a red hoodie throwing a concrete chunk into the door window. When the window did not break, he and his accomplice are seen fleeing on foot. The suspects pictured in both events are the same.

## Saturday, October 31, 2020 at 12:00 am, 'TRESPASSER'

A resident in the 7700 block of Edmonston Road contacted BHPD after reviewing his security camera footage which showed two men entering in his back yard. The resident presented the video to BHPD officers for viewing. It showed two males, possibly Hispanic, climbing the fence and entering the back yard at around 2:00 am. The complainant reported that one of the subjects tried to open the sliding glass door to his home. However, entry was not gained, and no property was removed. The complainant said that he will e-mail his security footage to BHPD.

#### Homicide = 00 | Rape = 00 | Robbery = 00 | Assault = 01 | Burglary = 01 | Larceny/Theft = 05 | Stolen Auto = 00

OCTOBER	CITATIONS
STATE	39
TOWN	89
WARNINGS	20
SERO	01
TOTAL	149



Berwyn Heights Police Presents:

#### Santa's Mailbox

We may not be able to visit Santa in person this year, but your family can still write him letters! Have your child write a personalized letter to Santa and receive one back! Santa would love to hear from you and your family.

Letters can be dropped off from November 30 to December 18 from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. A mailbox will be placed in front of the police department located at 5411 Berwyn Road.





For Emergencies

CALL **301-352-1200**For Non-Emergency
Police Assistance.

Tell the PGC Police Dispatcher the nature of your problem and ask that the on-duty BH Police Officer respond to your call.

#### Visit us online at:

www.berwynheightsmd.gov/police-department

# Don Bunuan | Realtor

Hi, I'm Don Bunuan. As your Berwyn Heights neighbor and longtime area resident, I'm a big fan of the Route 1 Corridor and everything it has to offer.

As a Realtor®, I provide unparalleled service to my clients and am proud to have been named a "Top Agent" in 2020 by Washingtonian Magazine.

If you're thinking about making a move, now is actually a great time to consider your options. I offer:

- Complimentary Staging
- 3D Matterport Home Tours
- Virtual Open Houses
- Free, no-obligation consultations

Call, email or text me today!





Hola, soy Don Bunuan. Siendo vecino de BERWYN HEIGHTS y residente del area hace mucho tiempo, soy un gran admirador del ROUTE 1 CORRIDOR y todo lo que tiene para ofrecer.

Como Realtor®, proporciono un servicio incomparable a mis clientes y estoy orgulloso de haber sido nombrado "Top Realtor" en 2020 por la revista Washingtonian.

Si usted está pensando en tomar acción para buscar o vender su hogar, ahora es un buen momento para considerar sus opciones. Lo que ofrezco es:

- Muebles para decorar la escena de la casa (staging)
- Tours de la casa en 3D
- Open houses virtuales
- Consultas gratuitas y sin compromiso;

Llama, envía un correo electrónico o envíame un mensaje de texto hoy!

Don is awesome! He assured us a stress-free selling process and he delivered. He listened closely to our needs and put us at ease all the way through settlement, despite a pandemic! Our house was sold faster than he could put a "For Sale" sign on it! We highly recommend Don and his team and would give him a 10 star review if we could.

- Patty Galati and Karen Jung







5101 Baltimore Ave., Hyattsville, MD 20781 don@gobrent.co | C: 301.213.6332 | O: 301.565.2523



#### **NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH/EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS**

VIRTUAL MEETING 1st WED of month CHAIR: Mike Attick, Tel. 301-335-1633

# We are resuming meetings, virtually - Join us Dec. 2 | 7pm

Please contact BHPD to participate at 301-474-6554 or mmuralles@berwynheightsmd.gov

#### Some tips on how to keep warm when venturing out in the cold:

- Dress for winter weather by wearing several layers of loose-fitting, lightweight, warm clothing rather than one layer of heavy clothing. The outer garments should be tightly woven and water repellent.
- Wear mittens, if possible. They are warmer than gloves.
- Cover as much exposed areas of your body as possible. This includes wearing a hat and scarf, insulated and waterproof shoes and covering your mouth to protect your face from cold and windburn.

Find more winter safety information at How to Prepare for a Winter Storm.



# Free Karate Training !!!!

Train with Sensei Leon Swain, 6th degree black belt, five-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

#### **CLASSES WILL BE VIRTUAL USING ZOOM UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

Mondays and Fridays from 5:15 pm – 5:55 pm

For information, contact Sensei Theresa Beck beck theresa@yahoo.com or Sensei Leon Swain at 301-728-2881



# WINTER TREE CANOP

Shade trees provide many benefits for our town.

In addition to summer shade, trees provide energy savings in the winter by blocking cold wind.

Trees also reduce stormwater runoff that contributes to flooding and allows harmful substances to enter waterways.

You can contribute by protecting trees in your yard from invasive species and other harm.

The Berwyn Heights Shade Tree Board is always happy to hear from residents!

Next meeting (Virtual):

January 14, 2021, 7:00 pm

Contact: Amanda Dewey at adewey@berwynheightsmd.gov

# CODE COMPLIANCE

#### **CoVID-19 Operations**

Please note, the Code Compliance Department continues to operate with modified procedures in response to the CoVID-19 pandemic, as follows:

- Rental inspections cancelled until further notice;
- Rental license application due dates and applicable fees remain the same, but must be submitted via email to zbell@berwynheightsmd.gov or by U.S. mail with check or money order;
- All other license applications (building, roll-off, POD and right-of-way permits), must be submitted by email to zbell@berwynheightsmd.gov or by U.S. mail:
- All payments for licenses & permits, fees & fines must be submitted by U.S. mail to 5700 Berwyn Road, Berwyn Heights MD 20740. Drop-off payments are not accepted.

For additional information please call the Code Compliance Department at 301-513-9331.

#### **Storing of Fire Wood**



If you are storing fire wood on your property, please ensure that it is kept off the ground. This will prevent rotting and creating hiding places for rodents and insects.

Section 4 (H) of Ordinance 107- Clean Lot permits the storage of wood on the premises, as long as it is elevated at least 6 inches above the ground.

There are numerous ways to store fire wood, such as using platforms, pallets, and rails, or better yet, placing the wood in a small shed.

Please contact the Code Department at (301) 513-9331 with any questions about storing fire wood.

# COMMUNITY **ORGANIZATIONS**

#### **BH Elementary School PTA**

President: Marilyn King

President@BHESPTA.org

Vice President: Sarah Jacobson &

Kimberly Bills Treasurer: Lilly Ridge

#### **Boys & Girls Club**

President: Brandon Batton bhbqc@qmail.com

Vice President: vacant

Registrar: Tiffany Papanikolas 240-338-5191

Treasurer: Sandra Zuniga Secretary: Jianmei Zhu

Athletic Director: Asgar Asgarov Soccer Commissioner: Vacant

Track Commissioner: Brandon Batton

#### **Education Advisory Committee**

Contact: Joanna Whitaker thebheac@gmail.com.

#### Green Team/ Shade Tree Board

Facilitaor: Jeffrey Knutson jbknutson@verizon.net

Public Outreach: Therese Forbes therese@celticclans.com

#### **Historical Committee**

Chair: Debby Steele Snyder dsteelesny@yahoo.com

#### Men's Basketball League

Jim McGinnis 301-651-8142

#### Movie Club

Jonathan Loutsch

bhmovieclub@gmail.com

#### **Neighborhood Watch/ Emergency** Preparedness/ CERT

Chair Michael Attick mikeattick@verizon.net

#### Karate Club

Leon Swain 301-728-2881 Brett Bentley 240-678-9103 Brett.bentley@gmail.com

#### Quilter's Club

Coordinator: Janet Freitag quilttag1@yahoo.com

#### **Recreation Council**

President: Susan Jones violindreams@verizon.net Secretary: Theresa Beck beck theresa@yahoo.com

#### Seniors Club

Ray Smith 301-474-3482



# DECEMBER 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29	30 N	1 (5)	7:00 PM NW/EP Meeting VIRTUAL	3	4	5 6:00 PM Tree Lighting VIRTUAL
6	7:00 PM Worksession VIRTUAL	8	9 7:00 PM Town Meeting VIRTUAL	10 N 8 8 8	11	12
13	14 N	15 \$	7:30 pm BHHC Meeting VIRTUAL	17 N 2 S S	18	19
20	21 N			24 CHRISTMAS EVE Town Offices Closed	25 CHRISTMAS DAY Closed	26
27	28 N	29	30	31  NEW YEARS EVE Town Offices Closed	NEW YEARS DAY Closed	2



Please do not park on the street when the street sweeper is in Town to ensure the street sweeper cleans everywhere along the curbs.

Trash, Bulk Trash, Yard Waste North-side Collection



Trash, Bulk Trash, Yard Waste South-side Collection



Recycling Collection



# 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 Permit No. 5442

# POSTAL CUSTOMER BERWYN HEIGHTS, MARYLAND

Dated Material — Do Not Delay!

## **TOWN INFORMATION**

#### Town of Berwyn Heights Phone Nos.

Emergency - Fire & Rescue	9-1-1		
Police (Non-Emergency)	(301) 352-1200		
Police Administrative Office	(301) 474-6554		
Code Compliance Department	(301) 513-9331		
Email: code@berwynheightsmd.go	V		
Public Works Department	(301) 474-6897		
Email: publicworks@berwynheightsmd.gov			
Fire Department	(301) 474 <b>-</b> 7886		
Senior Center	(301) 474-0018		
Community Center (Gym)	(301) 345-2808		
Town Office	(301) 474-5000		
Office Hours: MON - FRI 9:00 am - 5:00 pm			
Call-a-Bus Reservations	(301) 513-9331		

#### Regular Trash Collection Schedule

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

Heavy Trash Day:

Monday for North of Pontiac Tuesday for South of Pontiac

Recycling Schedule:

Wednesdays for the entire Town

#### **Mayor and Council**

Amanda Dewey (443)-646-3529 <u>adewey@berwynheightsmd.gov</u> Mayor — Public Health & Safety

Jodie Kulpa-Eddy (301) 345 1516 <u>jkulpaeddy@berwynheightsmd.gov</u> Mayor Pro Tem — Parks & Recreation, Education & Civic Affairs

Christopher Brittan-Powell (240) 786 2578 <u>cbrittanpowell@berwynheightsmd.gov</u> Councilmember — Code Compliance

Jason W. Papanikolas (240) 338-5191 jpapanikolas@berwynheightsmd.gov Councilmember — Administration

Ethan D. Sweep (218) 280-2273 <u>esweep@berwynheightsmd.gov</u> Councilmember — Public Works

Laura Allen — (301) 474-5000 <u>lallen@berwynheightsmd.gov</u> Town Manager

#### 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@berwynheightsmd.gov

Be assured that your communication
will be answered promptly
and in confidence.

#### **Watch Council Meetings**



On Comcast channel 71 FIOS channel 12

Most recent meeting: M-S 11:00 A.M. 2nd most recent mtg: M-S 3:00 P.M. 3rd most recent mtg: Tue, Thu, Fri., Sun.: 8:00 P.M.

Town of Berwyn Heights Website: http://www.berwynheightsmd.gov; Follow us on Twitter @BerwynHeightsMD

Questions — call Kerstin Harper, Administration at (301) 474-5000, or email <a href="mailto:kharper@berwynheightsmd.gov">kharper@berwynheightsmd.gov</a> Advertising Rates — call Yvonne Odoi, Administration at 301-474-5000, or email: <a href="mailto:yodoi@berwynheightsmd.gov">yodoi@berwynheightsmd.gov</a> Submission Deadline is the 15th of the month