

# Berwyn Heights Bulletin

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

**February 2015**



BHHC CELEBRATES  
**Berwyn Heights Association Centennial**  
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**COMMUNITY POT LUCK SUPPER**  
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**Lose it to Win it Campaign**  
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**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING  
AND ADOPTION**

**CLEAN LOT & COMMERCIAL  
CLEAN LOT ORDINANCES  
AMENDMENTS**

**FEBRUARY 11 TOWN MEETING**

The Town Council will hold a public hearing prior to adopting Ordinance 107, Clean Lot, and Ordinance 134 Commercial Clean Lot, which set standards for the maintenance of residential and commercial properties in Berwyn Heights.

Amendments to Ordinance 107 add and clarify regulations on inoperable vehicles, invasive species, accessory structures and condemned properties, while imposing a shorter compliance schedule on repeat violators and owners of vacant properties. Amendments to Ordinance 134 revise standards in parallel with Ordinance 107, but focus particularly on inoperable, junked vehicles and premise identification. As in Ordinance 107, it is proposed to include a table to show schedules of enforcement for different types of violations in lieu of repeating narratives.

The hearings are open to the public and public comments are encouraged. For more information please contact Town Administrator Cowles at 301-474-5000, or email her at [jcowles@town.berwyn-heights.md.us](mailto:jcowles@town.berwyn-heights.md.us).



**Bulk Trash Collection Change**

**Bulk trash collection has moved to Monday and Tuesday. Please do not put bulk trash out on Thursday or Friday.**

Monday North Side	Tuesday South Side	Wednesday Entire Town	Thursday North Side	Friday South Side
Household Trash	Household Trash	Recycling	Household Trash	Household Trash
► Bulk Trash	► Bulk Trash			
Yard Waste	Yard Waste			



**David John "Mac" McCaffrey, Jr., 84,**

born on December 4, 1930, in Long Branch, NJ, died on January 9, 2015, in the company of his wife Betty, his children, and grandchildren. After graduating from Martinsville High School, VA, Mac followed his father into the sheet metal trade, and retired as a Senior Project Superintendent with Gilbane Building Company in 1987.

Mac married the love of his life, Mary Elizabeth "Betty" Hardesty, in 1951, before serving in the U.S. army in Korea from 1951-1953. In 1957, Mac and Betty moved to Berwyn Heights and made it their home. Mac was active in the PTA, the Boys and Girls Club, the Civic Association and the Seniors Club. His involvement earned him a "Citizen of the Year" award in 2005 and the title "Mayor of Paxton Court" among his friends and neighbors.

Mac is survived by his wife Betty, four children, nine grandchildren, and one great-grandson. He will be missed by Chuck Herberger, Patty Agee and Deisy Varona, whom he thought of as his children. David McCaffrey is buried at Fort Lincoln Cemetery.

**HOLIDAY TRASH SCHEDULE**

**TOWN OFFICES CLOSED ON**

**Presidents' Day**

Mon	02/16/15	NO PICKUP
Tue	02/17/15	Trash & Bulk Trash, Entire Town
Wed	02/18/15	Recycling & Yard Waste, Entire Town
Thu	02/19/15	Trash, North Side
Fri	02/20/15	Trash, South Side

Please Do **NOT** Leave Trash  
at the Curb over Weekend

**COMMUNITY  
ORGANIZATIONS**

**Boys & Girls Club**

President: Shinita Hemby 202-531-6066

Soccer Commissioner: Jason Papanikolas 240-338-5191

Baseball Commissioner: Ronnie Compton 301-345-2661

Tee Ball Commissioner: Jim Hudson 301-982-2052

Basketball Commissioner: Kristen Buker 240-965-7055

Cheerleading Commissioner: Kristen Buker 240-965-7055

Ball Hockey Commissioner: Kevin Conover 301-441-1569

Track Commissioner: Jeff Osmond 301-474-2737

**Neighborhood Watch/Emergency Preparedness/CERT**

Co-Chair Ron Shane 240-965-7022

Co-Chair Joan Hayden 301-474-5037

**Historical Committee**

Kerstin Harper 301-474-5000  
[Kerstin.harper59@gmail.com](mailto:Kerstin.harper59@gmail.com)

**Men's Basketball League**

Jim McGinnis 301-345-1223

**Playgroup**

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

**Quilter's Club**

Lois Williams 301-345-6214

**Recreation Council**

Trinity Tomsic 301-474-6350  
Jaime Sampson  
[sampson.jaime@gmail.com](mailto:sampson.jaime@gmail.com)

**Seniors Club**

Jean McConnell 301-345-6373

**Green Team**

Therese Forbes 301-982-7115

**BH Elementary School PTA**

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

**Karate Club**

Leon Swain 301-237-2829  
Theresa Beck 301-728-2881  
[beck\\_theresa@yahoo.com](mailto:beck_theresa@yahoo.com)

# Worksession

December 1, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Present were Mayor Cheye Calvo, Mayor Pro Tem (MPT) Jodie Kulpa-Eddy and Councilmembers (CMs) Patricia Dennison, and Anthony Schreiber. CM Chris Rasmussen had an excused absence. Also present was Town Administrator (TA) Jessica Cowles, Code Supervisor Kevin Simpson and Clerk Kerstin Harper.

## 1. Mayor

**Calendar:** No changes were made.

**Minutes:** No minutes were adopted.

**Department Reports:** Mayor Calvo reported that he attended the inauguration of County Executive Baker and the County Council. He had the opportunity to speak with Congressman Hoyer about the FBI, Director of DER Adam Ortiz and District 1 County Councilwoman Mary Lehman about the proposed north county animal shelter. He and MPT Kulpa-Eddy also attended a going away party for County Councilmember Eric Olson at the College Park Airport Museum. Mr. Olson was well pleased by Berwyn Heights' proposal to name the Nevada Street Trail *Olson's Way*. Park & Planning Chair Elizabeth Hewlett was present and heard of the request.

Mayor Calvo further reported that Washington Gas recently opened the street on the 8500 block of 60th Avenue. The Town Administrator remained unaware of the project until later that day. This points to the need for a process for Town staff to notify the Town office when they see a contractor performing work on streets. Mayor Calvo also noted that plans for a hydraulic study of Berwyn Heights storm water facilities are taking shape.

CM Dennison announced the upcoming Tree Lighting celebration. CM Rasmussen reported that momentum is building for using goats to curb invasive and non-native plants in Town. MPT Kulpa-Eddy informed him that goats were employed to weed Congressional Cemetery last year. She also reported that there was a water main break on Seminole Street and that the Town received the 1st quarter income tax disbursement in the amount of \$97,000. This is a good sign that income tax revenues will come in at or above the projected \$380,000. CM

Schreiber reported that he met with Public Works Director Lockley to discuss the road salt supply.

**Citizen Comments:** Mayor Calvo received comments on his remarks about not turning the Town into a home owners association and a New York Times article on new trends for assisting senior home owners to stay in their homes.

**Clean Lot Ordinance amendments:** Mayor Calvo welcomed Code Supervisor Simpson for a discussion of the latest changes in the ongoing revision of *Ordinance 107 - Clean Lot*. TA Cowles added a table categorizing enforcement processes for different types of violations, which will be discussed later. The other changes were reviewed in sequential order, starting with definitions.

**Section 3 - Declaration of Legislative Intent:** It was agreed to incorporate this provision into *Section 1 - Purpose and Authority* and eliminate duplicative language.

**Section 4 A - Abandoned, junked and non-roadworthy vehicles:** It was agreed that vehicles without valid Maryland tags after 60 days of residency constitute a code violation. This excludes out-of-state students (and military personnel), who are granted an exception in Maryland's motor vehicle law.

**Section 4 D - Bamboo:** It was proposed to differentiate between "running bamboo," which is very invasive, and "clumping bamboo," which is more easily contained. The differentiation becomes relevant in Section 5, when deciding whether to ban all bamboo or allow certain types of bamboo.

**Section 4 E - Egregious Violator:** It was agreed to use *multiple repeat offender* instead of *egregious violator* as the standard term for home owners who have received more than three code violations in an 18 month period.

**Section 4 L - Person:** TA Cowles was requested to look up a definition of natural person.

**Section 4 H - Invasive Plant Species:** It was clarified that environmental harm caused by invasive plants includes harm to native plants. No special mention is required. TA Cowles was asked to determine if English Ivy is classified as an invasive species.

**Section 4 K - Paved Parking Areas:** Moving the provision of how paved parking areas must be accessed to *Section 5 K - Parking Surfaces* was approved.

**Section 4 K - Vacant Property:** It was proposed to clarify the definition of vacant property 1) as one that is abandoned rather than unoccupied; and 2) as one that is not occupied on a regular basis for its intended use. It was also proposed to strike "where the owner of record or his whereabouts is unknown." This definition was flagged for further refinement.

At 8:55 pm., the Council took a 10 minute break.

The Council resumed review of the Ordinance with *Section 5 - Violations*.

**5 A - Condition of Exterior Areas:** "Debris" is to be defined as an umbrella term for a collection of things that are strewn across an area, including tree parts, auto parts, litter, etc.

**Section 5 C - Bamboo and Invasive Species:** Three options for dealing with bamboo and other invasive species were considered: 1) allow all invasive species; 2) allow invasive species that predate adoption of Ordinance amendments; and 3) allow invasive species up to 2 feet within property line. Option 3 was generally preferred. In addition, it was proposed to prohibit the planting of very invasive "running bamboo," to simplify enforcement and prevent unintended consequences from planting it. If allowed, it must be on condition that a barrier is installed preventing it from spreading to neighboring yards.

**Section 5 E - Vehicle Condition and Storage:** It was agreed to add the provision that a stored vehicle "may not cause an environmental harm," such as leakage of motor oil or other fluids, to the section.

**Section 5 J - Shrubbery:** It was proposed to use the term "vegetation" instead of shrubbery. TA Cowles was asked to check if the requirement that vegetation may not obstruct sight lines at intersections is already covered in Ordinance 118.

**Section 5 M - Accessory Structures:** It was agreed to delete examples of accessory structures, which are listed in definitions. Clarification is needed on which codes should be referenced regarding accessory structures. The suggestion to keep the requirement for painting accessory structures to provide weather resistance and prevent decay was not adopted. The Town Administrator rather than a Code Compliance Officer was designated as the representative authorized to enforce this type of violation. TA Cowles was asked to pro-

pose a standard for erosion damage that requires remedial action.

**Section 5 N - Premises Identification:** It was agreed to strike specifications about the format for house numbers. The focus should be on house numbers being visible from the street.

**Section 5 O - Vacant Property Registration:** It was agreed to delete this section, as the Council previously agreed not require owners of vacant properties to register with the Town. The Town's authority to board up a vacant property is based on *Section 5 L - Unattended Property*, which provides that vacant properties may not become a public nuisance, safety hazard or invite trespassing.

The Council reviewed a proposed table of enforcement processes for different types of violations.

**Immediate:** It was clarified that currently "immediate" fine notices, which give a 24 hour period to correct a violation before a fine is issued, apply only to cars parked on grass or other unapproved surface. Such notices are issued by a police or code officer on site. If the violation is not corrected in 24 hours, a fine and another order to correct the violation within 24 hours is issued. The process repeats every 24 hours until the violation is corrected. The proposed 2 day correction period for 2nd and 3rd notices was returned to 24 hours. Parking on unapproved surfaces was added to the proposed table of enforcement. Also added under immediate correction was the keeping of domestic animals in unsanitary conditions. Ordinance 101 - Animals deals with other violations related to domestic animals. Abandoned vehicles and unattended structures were considered for immediate enforcement.

**Regular order:** This enforcement category with a 15 day, 10 day, 10 day compliance schedule was proposed to be applied to most clean lot violations, including condition of exterior areas, invasive species, vehicle condition and storage, building materials, wood storage, vegetation and premises identification. The time-frame was changed to a 15 day, 7 day, 7 day schedule.

**Time sensitive:** Currently, this enforcement schedule applies only to high grass, which gives 10 days from date of notice to correct the violation before a fine is issued. The proposed 5 day, 3 day, 3 day enforcement schedule was changed to a 7 day, 7 day, 7 day enforcement schedule. This schedule still allows for correction of a violation on a

weekend if the notice is issued on a Monday. A building materials violation was considered for addition to this category.

**Structural:** This new enforcement category will apply to accessory structures, such as retaining walls, sheds or fences that pose a health or safety hazard for neighbors. It requires a flexible approach whereby the Code Department informs the property owner that a problem with a structure needs to be fixed, and asks the owner to come up with a plan in a specified period yet to be determined. Then a framework for fixing the issue is negotiated. If no agreement can be reached, the matter comes to the Town Council for a decision.

**Vacant:** This new enforcement category applies to properties, which have been vacant for at least 15 days, and should be based on the County's vacant property abatement process. If a clean lot violation occurs on a vacant property, the Town notifies the owner of record. If the violation is not corrected within 3 days, or the time frame used by the County, the Town may abate the violation at owner's expense. This would include any administrative costs and/or fines that may apply.

TA Cowles was asked to consult Town Attorney Shay to find out if a repeat offender category can be set up to implement an accelerated enforcement process. Further, Section 7 - Enforcement should be cleaned up once a table of enforcement schedules is adopted.

**Commercial Clean Lot Ordinance:** Mayor Calvo said that changes to this Ordinance focus on eliminating junked vehicles increasingly stored on industrial properties along Ballew Avenue and Branchville Road. Also needed is a specific violation for not having a property identification/ address number posted. Otherwise, changes from the residential Clean Lot Ordinance can be imported to the Commercial Clean Lot Ordinance. Business owners should be notified of the introduction of these Ordinance amendments at the December 10 Town meeting.

## 2. Administration

**Pepco tree removal request:** TA Cowles explained that Pepco has identified a number of trees in Town to be removed as part of its vegetation management program around power lines. M-NCPPC and private property owners have already signed off on trees located on their properties. Removal of trees in

the Town right of way is subject to the recently revised Ordinance 118. However, there is no fee and fine schedule to fully enforce its provisions as of yet. Therefore, it is recommended to negotiate with Pepco about the tree removal. Public Works Director Lockley has identified trees that may be worth saving. The Council is requested to review the list and make any changes.

Mayor Calvo noted that 37 trees in the Edmonston Road buffer are slated for removal. Pepco already cleared that area out after a destructive summer storm took down the power lines in 2012. If more trees are to be removed he would like to see Pepco replant the area with trees, such as native holly trees, that do not interfere with power lines but do provide a screen for Kenilworth Avenue. CM Rasmussen said that he finds Pepco's policy of removing trees based on the chance that they might one day fall on power lines appalling.

Mayor Calvo proposed to allow removal of only those trees that grow within the actual safety zone around the power lines, as prescribed by the Public Service Commission. At the same time, the Town should engage Pepco and SHA about clearing out vines and invasive species in the Edmonston Road buffer and replant it with native species. He asked for a motion authorizing staff to negotiate with Pepco on behalf of the Town. CM Rasmussen so moved. CM Dennison seconded. The motion passed 5 to 0.

**Priority 1 sidewalks update:** TA Cowles explained that there is a new request for a change order to the sidewalks plan at 8616 57th Avenue. The property owner has requested that the new sidewalk be built closer to the existing curb line than the remainder of the bumped out 57th Avenue sidewalks to make it easier for him to get out of his driveway. She will have complete cost estimates for all red line changes when the engineers and contractors have made an assessment of the sidewalk changes at Berwyn Heights Elementary School. Mayor Calvo added that even with the change, this stretch of sidewalk will go further out into the intersection with Pontiac Street to improve visibility at the stop sign. The cost for this red line change may be balanced by a shorter sidewalk after the turn onto Pontiac Street. The cross walk will be angled to reach the north side of Pontiac Street, where the sidewalk continues.

TA Cowles said that the new driveway entrance to the Town Center is now

higher than the remainder of the parking lot, creating a bump and preventing water run-off into the street. The engineers and contractor are working on proposals for fixing this problem. Another issue awaiting a Council decision is the final location for the bus stop pads and type of benches to be installed. Pads were proposed for the north side of Pontiac Street at either the 60th Avenue footpath, or the intersection with Cunningham Drive. Director Lockley also specified nicer benches made from recycled plastic, which would be slightly more expensive than the original plastic coated mesh. Mayor Calvo expressed a preference to place a bus stop pad at the 60th Avenue footpath and to stick with the original benches. No formal decision was made.

**FY 2014 audit:** Mayor Calvo explained that the audit is an opportunity to reflect on the Town's financial standing. Berwyn Heights' fiscal policy is defined by its use of reserves and surplus for financing large capital purchases and projects instead of taking out loans. While the Council has budgeted surplus money for operational expenses since the last reassessment, it has not actually spent it. As a result of the Town's continued financial prudence and long-range planning its net worth has increased 5 fold since he became Mayor. Councilmembers are encouraged to review the audit and become familiar with its findings. In response to CM Rasmussen, Mayor Calvo said that the Council does not usually accept the audit with a formal vote.

**Bulletin cover:** The following items were approved for the January Bulletin cover: Happy New Year theme, announcements of Clean Lot Ordinance hearings; recycling and trash collection changes.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 10:49 p.m.

Kerstin Harper, Town Clerk

## Town Meeting December 10, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 p.m. Present were Mayor Calvo, Mayor Pro Tem (MPT) Kulpa-Eddy, CMs Rasmussen and Schreiber. CM Dennison had an excused absence. Also present were Town Administrator (TA) Cowles, Officer Roberson, Treasurer Lape, Clerk

Harper, WSSC representatives Samuel Bajomo, Project Manager, April Wilt, Contract Manager, David Wilkins, Customer Advocate and Ash Hoyat, Design Engineer, and citizens.

Mayor Calvo led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### 1. Presentation

Mayor Calvo welcomed Samuel Bajomo, Project Manager in the WSSC Infrastructure Systems Group and his colleagues for a presentation of the Indian Creek Water Main Replacement Project (WMR) scheduled to start this year. The Indian Creek WMR will require trenching on most blocks west of Cunningham Drive, including a number of streets most in need of repair. The Town Council is in the process of developing a comprehensive street renovation plan and is exploring the possibility of piggybacking onto WSSC's contract.

Mr. Bajomo said that this project is part of WSSC's ongoing efforts to proactively rehabilitate its aging infrastructure. The 2.95 miles of pipes to be replaced in Berwyn Heights date from the 1930-1960s and are some of the older pipes in the WSSC system. Most pipes will be replaced within the same trench, but a few will be relocated. Replacement of pipes will stop at the property line and will not go beyond it as a matter of policy. During construction, temporary water mains will be installed to minimize disruption in service. WSSC is in the process of obtaining permits for tree removal and sediment control and has been in touch with the Town of Berwyn Heights to discuss its plans.

The project time line anticipates completion of the design and engineering phase in December 2014, submission of the request to advertise (RTA) in December 2014, going out to bid in March 2015, WSSC's award of contract in April 2015, receipt of notice to proceed (NTP) in June 2015 and estimated completion of the project, inclusive of restoration of streets, in June 2017.

Affected property owners will be notified of impending construction, water shut-offs and street work with a telephone number they can call with any questions or problems. WSSC's normal work hours are between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Access to properties will be maintained for the duration of the project. When pipes have been replaced, WSSC will backfill the trenches and apply temporary patches. Full restoration of the roadway will occur after completion of the project. For more

information about what to expect, customers can view a video at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yuUwM3prdEs>

In response to Mayor Calvo's questions, WSSC representatives said that there will be one main contractor to coordinate the various subcontractors used for trucking, supplies, concrete work, resurfacing streets, etc. The main contractor will be on site at all times. Inspectors will also be on site daily watching the work in progress. The impact from construction on any given day will be around 180 feet, or 4 to 5 houses, where trenches are open and pipes replaced. Trenches will be shored up mainly at joints and elsewhere if the soil is loose and sandy.

When roads are resurfaced, WSSC is following Prince George's County standards, which require a 6" base course and a 2" topping of asphalt. One contractor is used to perform all WSSC street restoration projects. Normally, the permanent patch will be applied to that half of the street where the trench was dug. Berwyn Heights may coordinate with WSSC to restore the entire width of the roadway, either by piggybacking onto the WSSC contract or, alternatively, seeking a contractor itself and obtain a reimbursement for WSSC's share of the cost. This is handled by the Systems Infrastructure Group (SIG) through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). Keith Tyson is the contact for exploring this option.

In response to MPT Kulpa-Eddy and CM Rasmussen, WSSC representatives said they will notify homeowners that pipes will only be replaced up to the property line, which may be up to 2' into the yard from the curb. The water meter is usually located in the public right of way but is not necessarily an indication of where the property line is. WSSC contractors do not perform work beyond the property line. There is no particular advantage for home owners in trying to use WSSC contractors to replace the water pipes leading to the house. Also, trees are usually removed if trenching causes a significant impact on the root system. WSSC policy is to replace removed trees by planting new trees of the same species.

Mayor Calvo thanked Mr. Bajomo and his team for coming in and asked that the Town be sent the same notifications as residents so that it can better handle their inquiries.

### 2. Hearing, Clean Lot Ordinance Amendments

Mayor Calvo said the Clean Lot Ordinance perhaps impacts residents the most because it regulates the maintenance of private properties. Therefore the Council is taking the time to thoroughly discuss all changes and seek feedback from home owners. The amendments focus on several key areas, including: 1) creating an accelerated enforcement process for multiple repeat offenders; 2) creating a framework for towing junked and inoperable vehicles; 3) setting standards for invasive species, especially bamboo, and holding home owners responsible for confining it to their property; 4) setting up new regulations for accessory structures that pose a health and safety risk; 5) implementing a speedier abatement process for vacant properties; 6) establishing a process apart from the County's for demolition of condemned properties; and 7) setting up time tables for enforcement of different types of violations.

At 9:00 p.m., Mayor Calvo opened the public hearing. Robert Baker, Osage Street, said that he has had an ongoing problem with an improperly constructed retaining wall on a neighboring property, which should have been stopped by the Code Department. Neighbors piled up several feet of dirt against a chain link fence when regrading their property, which results in water and mud inundating his property during every rain. He has spent a lot of money and many hours trying to fix the problem. He has also talked to officials in the Town, the County and the EPA to seek redress, to no avail. He hopes the amended Ordinance will provide the tools to deal with this situation.

With no further comments, Mayor Calvo closed the hearing at 9:06 p.m. He invited residents watching at home to send in comments by email or call the Council and Town Administrator.

### 3. Minutes

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

### 4. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Lape gave the Treasurer's report for the month of November. She noted that the receipts for November in FY 2015 need to be corrected to read \$381,547.00, and total receipts for FY 2014 to read \$1,383,749.00.

### 5. Mayor's Report

Mayor Calvo reported that the Town recently completed its audit and again received a clean bill of financial health. One notable finding is the Town's net assets standing at \$3,982,000. This is a nearly 4 fold increase since 2004 when he became Mayor. Mayor Calvo also reported that the construction of sidewalks has begun and people can now walk on the first stretch of sidewalks from the Town office to Sports Park. There are still a number of minor adjustments to be made and TA Cowles, the engineers and the contractor are consulting daily to ensure those issues are resolved. Work also continues to get the sidewalks on the 8900 block of 63rd Avenue, funded with a Safe Routes to School grant, off the ground.

Mayor Calvo continued that he attended the inauguration of County Executive Baker, County Council Representative Danielle Glaros and new School Board Member Lupi Gradi. He also met with the new Principal of Greenbelt Middle School, George Covington, who came here from Central High School. Mr. Covington was a bit surprised to find municipal leaders and parents taking an active role in school matters.

Further, the Town Council participated in the PGCMA legislative dinner where its legislative priorities were formally adopted. The top priority is restoring lost funds from changes in the tax differential paid by the County to municipalities for providing services such as trash pickup and policing.

Mayor Calvo also attended a meeting of the Route 1 Coalition, spearheaded by College Park. Those present received a comprehensive overview of all the development that is occurring along Route 1. Apart from the hotel complex that is being built across from UMD's main entrance, there are plans for the College Park City Hall to be moved up to Route 1 into a new complex that includes shops and restaurants, and other projects. He hopes Berwyn Heights can tap into the momentum to jump start the redevelopment of the Route 193 commercial district.

Mayor Calvo noted that the Tree Lighting was well attended and thanked Phil Ventura for providing the musical entertainment. Lastly, he recollected the 8 years of great representation the Town had from retiring County Councilmember Eric Olson. To honor his service, the Town requested Park & Planning to name the Nevada Street connector to the Indian Creek trail *Olson's Way*.

## 6. Department Reports

**Administration:** MPT Kulpa-Eddy reported that efforts to install emergency generators at the Town Center continue. Two bids have been received, which are in the process of being evaluated. The Administration Department is also busy in preparing for the FY 2016 budget process and working on budget guidelines and the next budget calendar. MPT Kulpa-Eddy also highlighted the postal service that is available in the Town office, noting that it is contract station with limited service. However, for many simple services, such as buying stamps and mailing letters and domestic packages, it is a convenient alternative to visiting a USPS post office.

**Code Compliance:** CM Rasmussen congratulated Code Supervisor Kevin Simpson on earning his certification as Code Enforcement Administrator. Landlords are reminded that December 1 is the last day to register a rental property older than 1978 construction with the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE). MDE requires that such properties must obtain lead free certification whenever there is a change in tenants.

Further, CM Rasmussen reported that he attended a meeting in Mt. Rainier about Pepco's vegetation management program which aims to reduce the trees and tree branches around power lines. The meeting was called by people from towns in northern Prince George's County, who think that Pepco's approach to tree removal is too aggressive. They discussed what might be done to minimize the number of trees cut down. He believes that Berwyn Heights could be more proactive in protecting its tree canopy and replacing lost shade trees.

CM Rasmussen announced a Recreation Council event "Loose it to win it" sponsored by UMD's School of Public Health that seeks to motivate Prince George's County residents to lose an average of 4 lbs in 2015. He is resolved to lose 40 lbs next year.

**Parks and Recreation, Education and Civic Affairs:** No report.

**Public Health and Safety:** Officer Roberson reported for Chief Antolik, who had an excused absence. He said that there were 8 Part I offenses in November, as compared to the 5 year average of 9.8. The year-to-date total was 64, also below the 5 year average of 77.6. Berwyn Heights police issued 147 state and municipal citations, and 140 speed

camera citations, all of them on Greenbelt Road.

Officer Roberson also reminded residents that the police will set up checkpoints during the holiday season to stop people from drinking and driving. Instead party goers are encouraged to use "sober ride," a free cab ride home that is in effect from December 12 to January 1.

In response to CM Rasmussen, Officer Roberson said that he does not know whether a speed camera will be kept on Pontiac Street in the future. Very few tickets have been issued there after the Legislature raised the minimum speed limit from 15 to 20 mph in school zones. Mayor Calvo said that one of formerly two cameras on Pontiac Street has been taken away.

**Public Works:** CM Schreiber reported that Public Works employee Troy Simmons resigned effective November 25, and thanked him for his years of service. He congratulated Bruce Hockman who was named employee of the month.

## 7. Committee Reports

**Neighborhood Watch/Emergency Preparedness:** MPT Kulpa-Eddy announced that the next meeting will be held on January 7, at which the Committee will hold its election of officers. Also on the agenda is the FY 2016 NW/EP budget.

## 8. Unfinished Business

**Ordinance 107 - Clean Lot Amendments:** MPT Kulpa-Eddy moved and CM Schreiber seconded to postpone consideration of the Clean Lot Ordinance. The motion passed 4 to 0.

## 9. New Business

**Ordinance 134 - Introduction of Commercial Clean Lot Ordinance Amendments:** Mayor Calvo explained that Ordinance 134, adopted in 2008, is the companion to the residential Clean Lot Ordinance and most of the changes will be analogous. In addition, the Council proposes to implement a stricter standard for storing inoperable vehicles on a commercial property. This seeks to address the increasing number of junked vehicles on the industrial properties along Ballew Avenue. CM Rasmussen moved and MPT Kulpa-Eddy seconded to introduce the Commercial Clean Lot Ordinance amendments. The motion passed 4 to 0.

## 10. Citizens Discussion

Phil Ventura, 57th Avenue, commented that he likes the proposed change in the refuse collection schedule, which moves bulk trash collection to the beginning of the week and consolidates the 2nd weekly collection on Thursday. Commenting on the loss of a speed camera on Pontiac Street, he suggested installing a "dummy" camera to prevent speeding. Further, he expressed concern about the Domino's Pizza next to Staples advertising their business as being in Greenbelt, and the possible loss of tax revenue.

Mayor Calvo replied that this restaurant has a Berwyn Heights business license and pays taxes to the Town. The State's Comptroller's Office decides where taxes must be paid. The bigger problem is businesses the Town does not know about, such as an ATM vendor. The Town has implemented a system to track businesses located within its boundaries.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:51 p.m.

Kerstin Harper, Town Clerk

# W

orksession  
December 15, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Present were Mayor Cheye Calvo, Mayor Pro Tem (MPT) Jodie Kulpa-Eddy and Councilmembers (CMs) Patricia Dennison, and Anthony Schreiber. CM Chris Rasmussen had an excused absence. Also present was Town Administrator (TA) Jessica Cowles, Public Works Director Adrian Lockley, Clerk Kerstin Harper, and McDonald's Representatives Daniel Lynch and Gary Kilfeather.

### 1. Mayor

**Announcements:** CM Dennison's son James became engaged.

**Calendar:** Adoption of the Clean Lot Ordinances may slip to the February Town meeting. A meeting of the Commercial District Management Authority (CDMA) will be called in January, to which all business will be invited. Development updates, Commercial Clean Lot Ordinance and appointment of board members will be on the agenda.

**Minutes:** On a motion by CM Dennison, and second by MPT Kulpa-Eddy, the November 3 worksession minutes were

approved 4 to 0. On a motion by CM Dennison, and second by MPT Kulpa-Eddy, the November 17 worksession minutes were approved 4 to 0

**Department Reports:** Mayor Calvo reported that he attended the first meeting of the newly formed Route 1 Coalition on December 10. The coalition consists of the municipalities of College Park, Berwyn Heights, University Park, Riverdale Park and Hyattsville and is intended to be a platform to discuss and shape development in the Route 1 Corridor. Mayor Calvo hopes to get Berwyn Heights' commercial district involved and tap into the expertise the coalition communities have gained with redeveloping Route 1. The Hyattsville Community Development Corporation (CDC) is looking to expand its operations beyond Hyattsville, and might be a candidate for assisting with planning redevelopment in the 193 Corridor. Mayor Calvo thinks that Berwyn Heights needs to invest in some type of professional expertise to redevelop its commercial district along Greenbelt Road, hopefully in cooperation with the City of Greenbelt.

CM Dennison said some visioning of improvements in the commercial district was done in connection with a 2003 Community Legacy Grant put together by Tom Renahan, who was briefly the acting town administrator for Berwyn Heights. She thought the grant application might be reviewed to see what improvements were planned at that time. CM Dennison also reported that the Recreation Council is planning to hold a community wellness workshop in January, under the banner "lose it to win it." Mayor Calvo added that his wife Trinity was named "Master Gardener of the Year" for Prince George's County.

MPT Kulpa-Eddy reported that the road salt supply contract with SHA for this winter has been executed.

**Citizen Comments:** There were none.

**McDonald's renovation:** Mayor Calvo welcomed Daniel Lynch and Gary Kilfeather for an update on the plans for renovating the McDonald's restaurant on Greenbelt Road at 63rd Avenue. Daniel Lynch provided site plans to explain the planned reconstruction of the restaurant. He said this McDonald's franchise dates from the 1970s and has been slated for modernization. The new building will have a brick facade and entrances in the front and west side for walk-in service. The interior will also be remodeled and a modern kitchen installed to more efficiently handle food preparation.

To conform to the newly approved Greenbelt Sector Plan, the building will be closer to Greenbelt Road and aims to make the drive-through more efficient. About 60% of the McDonald's clientele now uses the drive-through. The building will be longer front to back with 3 drive-through windows and 2 lanes of traffic. The parking lot will also be redesigned. Parking spaces will be reduced from 45 to 26 and angled to guide the traffic counterclockwise around the building in one direction only. The existing "pork chop" entrance on Greenbelt Road will be reconfigured to be further away from the traffic light.

In response to questions from the Council, Messrs. Lynch and Kilfeather said that they will try to accommodate the request for a sidewalk along the 63rd Avenue side of the property to improve pedestrian access from Berwyn Heights. However, new sidewalks add impervious surfaces, which McDonalds is required to reduce by 50% to comply with new storm water runoff regulations. This might be achieved by using pervious pavers for parking areas. McDonald's will also think about how to guide pedestrians coming up 63rd Avenue through the parking lot in a safe manner. The redesign of the property calls for removal of some existing trees in conformance with the requirements of Prince George's County's landscaping manual. No solution was offered to address neighbors' complaints about trash trucks servicing the restaurant in the early morning hours. Loudspeakers will be angled away from the adjacent residential properties and lights that shine down used to reduce noise and light pollution.

Reviewing the time line for the renovation, Mr. Lynch said that McDonald's has filed an application of the detailed site plan with the Planning Board, and is waiting for the application to be accepted. Once accepted, it takes approximately 70 days to be reviewed and approved. Then it will be sent the Department of Permits, Inspections & Enforcement (DPIE) and other agencies that have to sign off on the plans before permits are issued. In all, the planning and approval process is expected to take another 10 months before construction can begin. Construction itself will last between 3 - 4 months.

Mayor Calvo thanked Mr. Lynch and Mr. Kilfeather for coming in and asked them to send the Town revised plans, including a sidewalk on 63rd Avenue and a proposed new sign board. The Council will then take a position on the plans as early as the first worksession in January.

At 8:09 p.m., the Council took a 10 minute break.

**DPW staffing (discussed out of order):** Director of Public Works Lockley was present to discuss his proposal to create a full-time administrative assistant/ crewman position from 2 part-time positions currently budgeted in the Department. In the FY 2015 budget, the Council established a part-time administrative assistant position, which has not been filled yet. In addition, one full-time crewman recently resigned and left a vacancy to be filled. Mr. Lockley proposes to fill the full-time crewman vacancy with a current part-time employee, and require him to get a CDL license during a six month probationary period. This would leave 2 part-time positions to be filled, which Director Lockley seeks to fill with a dual administrative assistant/ crewman II position that would still have to be advertised.

Mr. Lockley further explained that the budget impact of this change would be a nominal plus of \$900 in the departmental salary budget as the candidate is not yet CDL certified, plus additional savings in the health care budget as the candidate already has insurance. The full-time crewman II salary would go up, however, if a CDL license is obtained. The budget impact of the new hire to fill the combined administrative assistant/ crewman II position would produce some savings in the salary line initially, but may cost more next year because of the benefits to which a full-time employee is entitled.

Mayor Calvo said he has no objection in principle to combining the 2 part-time positions to hire a full-time employee, as long as the budget impact is neutral. There is no leeway in next year's non-departmental/ benefits budget to incur additional expenditures. He recommended authorizing Director Lockley to advertise this position and see what candidates apply. If the chosen candidate proves to be more expensive than what is appropriated, Director Lockley would be asked to cut the Public Works budget elsewhere. The Council would make a decision on hiring a candidate at the next worksession. The Council agreed.

Nothing was discussed under 2. **Code Compliance** and 3. **Parks & Recreation**.

#### 4. Public Safety

**Shift differential:** Mayor Calvo said that the Council approved a raise in shift differential for police officers from \$1.00 to \$1.30 in the FY 2015 budget but made it contingent on an increase in revenues

from fines and forfeitures. This revenue is on track to hit the budgeted mark. Therefore he recommends approving the increase in shift differential to be effective January 1, 2015. MPT Kulpa-Eddy so moved. CM Schreiber seconded. The motion passed 4 to 0.

#### 6. Administration

**FBI video proposals:** Mayor Calvo said that the Council recently approved a \$5,000 contribution for the production of a video promoting the communities surrounding Greenbelt Station as the best location for the future FBI headquarters. The contribution was conditioned on the hiring of professional videographer to produce the video. MPT Kulpa-Eddy said that the City of Greenbelt has since put out a request for proposals and received 2 proposals. To her knowledge a selection has not yet been made and asked if Berwyn Heights should express a preference.

Mayor Calvo thought that Berwyn Heights should not express a preference but ensure the selection follows the approach endorsed by the Council. The approach favored is in essence to assemble a script from footage taken in the Four Cities, rather than shooting the video in accordance with an existing script. Berwyn Heights will be able to decide on whether to commit its money later, depending on the approach taken when the video is in production.

MPT Kulpa-Eddy proposed that TA Cowles be asked to follow up with the City of Greenbelt to find out what the status of the selection of a video production company is and to submit in writing Berwyn Heights' conditions for participation and funding. The Council agreed.

**Budget calendar guidelines:** TA Cowles gave a summary of the revised budget guidelines that will be provided to the department directors for the FY 2016 budget process. Important deadlines include January 23, 2015 for submission of departmental budget requests to the Town Administrator, the February 2 and 16 worksessions for presentation of departmental budget requests to the Council, and the March 2 worksession for presentation of the Town Administrator's proposed FY 2016 budget. Further, the budget guidelines detail the forms directors are asked to submit and other information requested, to include: statement of accomplishments, major initiatives, or changes in service and special challenges facing the department. Directors are also advised that FY 2016 will be another tight budget year, as the Town is

entering its 3rd year of lower real property assessments, and to submit a recommendation on how to achieve a 5% reduction in their departmental budgets. They are further advised that the State budget is expected to remain tight and that Highway User Revenues (HUR) and police aid are likely to be below normal levels.

Mayor Calvo noted that the role of the councilmember/ department head in the budget request may need to be clarified as a result of the newly-adopted *Executive Powers & Duties Ordinance*. While Department heads should know what their department director is requesting, they may no longer have a veto over the budget request. Rather, they might advise on what should and should not be requested. He recommended adding a date in the budget calendar for department directors to discuss their budget with their department head.

MPT Kulpa-Eddy asked if TA Cowles plans to meet with the Neighborhood Watch/ Emergency Preparedness Committee (NW/EP) to discuss its proposed budget. In past years, NW/EP has presented its budget to the Council without it having been vetted by a department head or the Town Administrator. TA Cowles said that she plans to meet with them and offer assistance. Mayor Calvo asked whether NW/EP needs to present its budget to the Council at all since it is a simple and stable budget, and any unspent money rolls over into a reserve for a new trailer. MPT Kulpa-Eddy, who serves as Liaison to NW/EP, thought the Committee would be fine with not presenting their budget to the Council. TA Cowles was asked to inform the Committee chairs.

The Council also reviewed the budget calendar. Public Works and Code Compliance budget presentations were scheduled for February 2, and Police and PRECA budgets for February 17. The March 30 budget worksession was canceled and the April 27 budget worksession was marked tentative if needed. On a motion by CM Dennison and second by MPT Kulpa-Eddy, the budget calendar was adopted 4 to 0.

**Metroland revenue/ liability:** TA Cowles explained she learned that Metroland payments the Town received this year to compensate it for traffic and safety impacts from the development at Greenbelt Station were recorded as a liability in recent budget statements. She spoke to former TA Murphy about it, who said this was done because the auditor

has previously zeroed out such revenue and added it to the fund balance. However, if there is a projected use for this money it cannot be committed if it is a liability.

Mayor Calvo said he would disregard the auditor's opinion on how this money should be classified but is concerned that the FY 2015 audit may not show this revenue. This is important because the Council budgeted \$120,000 of Metroland revenue to help fund the sidewalks project. Therefore the Council may want to set up a special pool for this unrestricted revenue to be able to track it. Otherwise, this money would just become part of the undesignated surplus. Mayor Calvo further suggested the Town use any future speed camera revenues to retroactively pay for the sidewalks project. This would free up Metroland revenues for other expenditures. However, such expenditures should be one-time and not operational. They could be used for investments such as a police station, economic development or a dog park.

TA Cowles noted that the auditor approved re-classifying the Metroland funds as revenue with a journal entry. It is now listed under *miscellaneous revenues*.

**Priority 1 sidewalks update:** TA Cowles said that she has received cost-estimates for all red-line changes to the sidewalk plans totaling \$12,000. The additional cost is for hand work in reconstructing a storm water inlet at 57th Avenue and Berwyn Road, using more aggregate base course for leveling aged road beds where sidewalks are bumped out into the street, more concrete used in re-configuring the intersection of 57th Avenue and Pontiac Street, and less savings than anticipated from omitting a retaining wall at the school.

TA Cowles also presented options proposed by the contractor for fixing a puddling problem at the Town Center front entrance that came about from constructing a driveway apron that is higher than remaining driveway:

- repaving the driveway from apron to curb line at the Senior Center entrance at a cost of up to \$5,000 with a pitch to enable draining of rainwater into the street;
- repaving a 4-5 foot area behind the driveway apron and easing the curb at the garden adjacent to the driveway to enable rainwater to drain into it;

- rebuilding the apron with a lower pitch and dropping the apron wings to enable better draining into the street.

Mayor Calvo said he is concerned that the driveway entrance becomes a sheet of ice in winter if this problem is not fixed. He regards the problem as mistake on the part of the contractors, who should have consulted with the Town. Then the Town could have given permission to build the apron with a lesser pitch to allow water to drain into the garden area. TA Cowles said that federal regulations allow aprons to be built with pitch of up to 2 degrees. The new Town Center apron has a 1 degree pitch, which is within the allowed range.

The Council set aside a decision on a permanent solution to the Town Center driveway. TA Cowles was asked to explore a temporary fix to allow water to drain into the garden area. Also postponed was a decision to construct a piece of sidewalk in front of the school because it would cost an additional \$2,500 for red-lined changes. However, the Council agreed to approve all other red-line changes relating to 57th Avenue. On a motion by CM Schreiber and second by CM Dennison, the changes were approved 4 to 0.

**Clean Lot Ordinance amendments:** Mayor Calvo said that he would like to address only unresolved issues relating to the Clean Lot Ordinance tonight. TA Cowles said she researched the questions the Council had during the last review of the Ordinance and provided the following answers:

**Section 4 A - Abandoned, Non-Roadworthy Vehicles:** In answer to the Council's question about exemptions from Maryland's vehicle registration, she found out that non-resident students are exempt from Maryland vehicle registration if their home state has a reciprocal arrangement. Mayor Calvo suggested the Ordinance incorporate all exemptions allowed under Maryland law, but make owning an improperly registered vehicle a code violation that can be fined. Police can only ticket the owner of an out-of-state vehicle if they catch him driving it.

**Section 4 H - Invasive Species:** The Maryland Invasive Species Council references English Ivy, Phragmites, and Running Bamboo as invasive species of concern. Another list is being developed by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) but has not yet been adopted. Other State-established lists may be used as authoritative sources, as deter-

mined by the Town Administrator.

**Section 4 L - Person:** A distinction is made between a "natural person," which is any individual human being, as opposed to a "legal person," which can be a corporation.

**Section 4 P - Vacant Property:** The Council accepted an alternate definition proposed by Code Supervisor Simpson.

**Section 5 A - Condition of Exterior Property Areas:** "Debris," the presence of which constitutes a code violation, was clarified as including downed trees, litter, rubbish or garbage, among other items. MPT Kulpa-Eddy asked to check the Refuse Ordinance for alternate definitions of debris, litter and garbage to ensure they are consistent.

**Section 5 C - Invasive Species and Bamboo:** It was clarified the Council had decided at an earlier worksession that bamboo and other invasive species are permitted so long as they are confined to within 2 feet of property line of the originating property.

**Section 5 F - motor vehicle parts:** This section forbids the storage of motor vehicle parts on exterior property areas. The Council agreed that, although motor vehicle parts are a form of debris, a separate violation should be retained because they can contain oils and other contaminants that could pose a health or environmental risk.

**Section 5 M - Accessory Structures:** Revisions of this section to ensure that accessory structures pose no health and safety hazards, conform with County code and Town ordinances, and have a proper permit were approved. References to aesthetic standards had been dropped.

TA Cowles noted that she contacted Town Attorney Shay to clarify issues with legal ramifications. Attorney Shay confirmed that 1) email is not a sufficient form of notification of a code violation and 2) multiple repeat offenders may receive immediate fines so long as all violations are clean lot violations.

The Council discussed the table of enforcement schedules applying to different code violations. TA Cowles said that Mr. Simpson had contacted the County about their abatement process of vacant properties. She will forward Mr. Simpson's memo on this issue but, in essence, the County process is not as stringent as the Council assumed. Mayor Calvo said the Town should use a process that already has legal prece-

dent and apply that time frame for abatement.

MPT Kulpa-Eddy posed the question whether some periods between notice of a violation and imposition of a fine are too short, given the time it takes for a certified letter to be received by the property owner in violation. For example, owners of cars parked on grass have 24 hours to correct this violation from the time the citation is issued. Mayor Calvo replied that immediate fine notices must be hand delivered to the property owner, or issued on site. Regarding the "time sensitive" enforcement schedule, which gives 7 days to correct the violation before a fine is imposed, has been in place for years. The Town is merely obligated to give time for a certified letter to reach the property owner, but does not have to wait for the return receipt. Further, a property owner has the option to be notified by email or regular mail if he or she wants to receive a notice earlier and respond more quickly.

MPT Kulpa-Eddy also asked if Ordinance 107 has a requirement on how to notify home owners of a violation. TA Cowles said that Section 7 C specifies 3 options: hand-delivery, certified or registered mail, or posting a notice on the door of the property. Mayor Calvo said that the Code Department makes judgment calls on which is the best option to use in a given a case. He would like to preserve that flexibility. It was agreed to return to unresolved issues at the January 12 worksession.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:38 p.m.

Kerstin Harper, Town Clerk



**Patronize Our Advertisers** Pg.

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# CODE NEWS

## Animals at Large

Dear Pet Owners:

Please be advised that your beloved pets must not be at-large in the Town. **Ordinance 101** defines "at-large" as, "not under physical restraint of a leash and off the premises of its owner or custodian..."

Allowing pets to roam around neighboring properties or public right-of ways unconstrained is a violation of Ordinance 101, and can be fined: \$25 for the first offense, \$50 for the second offense, and \$100 for subsequent offenses occurring within a twelve-month period.

### Code Activities—December

<b>Clean Lot Violations</b>	
High Grass/ Vegetation	0
Tree Parts/ Yard Waste	0
Refuse Collection/ Litter	13
Vehicles	8
Miscellaneous	4
<b>Total Clean Lot Violations</b>	<b>25</b>
Warnings	15
Fines	5
Abatements	2
<b>Permits</b>	
Building	4
Dumpster/ PODs	2
Violations	4
<b>Rentals</b>	
New Rentals	3
Lost Rentals	3
<b>Total Rentals</b>	<b>202</b>
Inspections	18
Re-inspections	11
Fines	7
<b>Vacant Homes</b>	
New Vacant Homes	1
Lost Vacant Homes	3
<b>Total Vacant Properties</b>	<b>45</b>

# Recreation Council

## News & Events

### Upcoming Events

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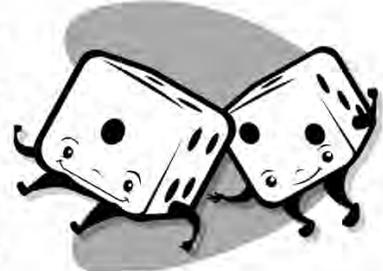


### COMMUNITY POTLUCK DINNER FEBRUARY 21, 2015 AT 5PM

Bring a dish and your friends and family along for some fine dining...except cheaper and prepared by your neighbors. Many folks from town groups will be in attendance so you can meet them and learn more about each group while you enjoy some home cooked meals. As a part of the Lose It to Win It Initiative, please prepare a **healthy** meal to keep that New Year's resolution going strong. Please aim to feed approximately four people with your meal.

### Game Night March 21, 2015 (exact date & time TBD)

Dealing with a little cabin fever lately? We have just the cure! Be a participant in our second annual game night! Bring your favorite game and a friend, or play one of ours and meet new friends! There'll be something for everyone, with kid and adult-friendly games and activities! Also refreshments will be served! If you'd like to be a part, but playing games isn't your thing, come volunteer to help our night be a success!



**SAVE THE DATE for the Annual Hollywood Talent Show, March 20th at 6:30PM (with rehearsal on March 19<sup>th</sup>) see next month's Bulletin for more information.**

The Berwyn Heights Recreation Council is seeking new members.

Come see what we are all about ☺

Next meeting will be held February 5, 2015, at 7 PM at the Town Center. For more information on any of our events please contact: Trinity Tomsic (301)-474-6350, [trinity.tomsic@gmail.com](mailto:trinity.tomsic@gmail.com), Jaime Sampson, [sampson.jaime@gmail.com](mailto:sampson.jaime@gmail.com), Tim Tormoen, [totormoen@yahoo.com](mailto:totormoen@yahoo.com), or Theresa Beck, [beck\\_theresa@yahoo.com](mailto:beck_theresa@yahoo.com)



## POLICE BEAT

Includes crimes and accidents that occurred during the month of December 2014. It is not a complete listing of every crime and/or accident

that occurred in the Town. Incidents are listed from beginning of the month to the end of the month starting with the first report taken during the period within a specified category.

12/09/2014 at 11:31 am, Pfc. Ignowski and the Chief of Police responded to the 8800 block of 62nd. avenue for a report of a domestic dispute.

12/10/2014 at 12:40 am, Sgt. Moroney impounded a 2010 Ford truck from the location of Greenbelt Road at 62nd. Avenue. The vehicle was involved in an accident.

12/10/2014 at 12: 15 am, Pfc. Ignowski responded to the 7-11 on Greenbelt Road for a report of vandalism to the side of the building. Unknown person used black paint to deface the property.

12/11/2014 at 11:46 am, Pfc. Ignowski responded to the 5900 block of Pontiac Street for a report of theft. Two black males were seen taking a package from front porch of a house. They were last seen driving away in a gold compact car similar to a Toyota Corolla, with a rope on the trunk.

12/11/2014 at 3:3 8 pm, Pfc. Ignowski responded to the McDonalds on Greenbelt Road for a report of theft of a bank deposit.

12/17/2014 at 7:21 am, Pfc. Ignowski responded to the Staples store for a report of vandalism to the glass window of the store.

12/18/2014 at 3:12 pm, Pfc. Ignowski responded to the Staples store for a report of a lost permanent resident card.

12/29/2014 at 12:45 am, Cpl. Roberson responded to the 6200 block of Seminole Street for a report of vandalism to a 2011 Hyundai. All four tires were slashed. Victim stated that he is having domestic problems with his wife and she is on the process of moving out.

12/29/2014 at 10:51 am, Pfc. Krouse responded to the King and King Construction located at 5505 Branchville Road for a report of a stolen dump truck.

12/30/2014 at 9:31 am, Pfc. Ignowski responded to the Xtra Fuel for a report of a black male in his 20's who passed a counterfeit \$20.00 and purchased cigarettes.



SAVE THE DATE !

## ACTIVE SHOOTER: WHAT YOU CAN DO



The Berwyn Heights Emergency Preparedness Committee and the Prince George's County Department of Homeland Security will hold a 2 hour class on active shooter situations:

**Saturday, March 14th, 2015, 10:00 am**  
**Town Center 2nd Floor**

An active shooter is an individual actively engaged in killing or attempting to kill people in a confined and populated area. In most cases, active shooters use firearms and there is no pattern or method to their selection of victims. Active shooter situations are unpredictable and evolve quickly. Upon completing this course, the participant will be able to:

- Describe actions to take to prevent and prepare for potential active shooter incidents;
- Recognize potential violence indicators;
- Describe actions to take when confronted with an active shooter and responding law enforcement officials;
- Describe how to manage the consequences of an active shooter incident.

Please contact Mike Attick [mikeattick@verizon.net](mailto:mikeattick@verizon.net) to sign up.

### GET ALERTS



Local Public Safety

Weather, Traffic

And now...

Town of Berwyn Heights

Closings & Cancellations

Sign up with

Nixie or Town Twitter mail:

[https://local\\_nixie.com/register](https://local_nixie.com/register)

And/or <https://twitter.com/>

### BULLETIN ADVERTISING RATES

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

JOIN THE BERWYN HEIGHTS YAHOO GROUP  
AND STAY ON TOP OF EVERYTHING...  
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Berwyn Heights Group?>

# The Berwyn Heights Historical Committee

Join the BHHC in celebrating the **100th Anniversary** of the **Berwyn Heights Association**

**PRESIDENTS' DAY WEEKEND**

**WINE & CHEESE RECEPTION**

**Sunday**

**February 15**

**2:00 p.m. at Town Hall**

**HISTORICAL PRESENTATIONS  
MUSIC & REFRESHMENTS!**

**Don't miss this unique opportunity to learn more about the beginnings of our Town government.**

On display, the lost and then found minutes-book of the Berwyn Heights Association, the precursor of the first Board of Commissioners elected under the Town's 1924 Charter. This citizen association was formed on January 28, 1915 "primarily for the betterment of walks and streets of Berwyn Heights, and incidentally the general improvement of the conditions in which the local community were interested." It was led by Fred H. Benson, a Washington lawyer who worked for the U.S. Treasury Department. He moved his family to Berwyn Heights around 1912 and lived in a house at the corner of 58th Avenue and Goucher Drive (at the time known as Huntley and Joyner Avenues). Former resident, James Benson, a great grandson of Fred and Maude Benson, plans on attending to share his memories of Berwyn Heights.



## TELEGRAPH TALK

**Tues. February 24—7:30 pm**

Bob Day of the Washington D.C. Cornell Club will be giving a presentation of his research on the first telegraph line that was constructed along the B&O Railroad tracks in 1843-44. The BHHC hosted the Cornell Club alumni last September when they were touring the nearby sites where Ezra Cornell lived and worked—after being hired by Samuel Morse to build the first telegraph line between D.C and Baltimore. Please feel free to join us for what promises to be an enlightening evening.

Happy New Year! The BHHC is thrilled to report that we have re-scheduled the popular presentation "Slavery in Maryland" by guest speaker Maya Davis for March 15. We hope this second opportunity awards those who couldn't make our last wine & cheese event in November a chance to come. See the February *Bulletin* for more details. You can also get event updates on our blog.



We invite those who are interested in working on events and projects to our monthly meetings. **You don't have to be a historian or researcher to join us!**— just a Town resident who wants to have fun giving back to their community! The BHHC meets at the Town Office on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

**OUR NEXT MEETING IS FEBRUARY 24**



Visit the **BHHC Website & BLOG** at: <http://berwynheightshistory.wordpress.com>

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





Berwyn Heights Boys and Girls Club

Registration



FEBRUARY 2015

Registration!

- 2015 Registration is here!!!! Come meet with us and register your child either Saturday, February 7th or February 14th from 10-2pm at the Community Center next to the Berwyn Heights Elementary school for soccer, track, softball, ball hockey, and baseball.
- There will be board members, coaches, and players present to speak with you about all activities the club has to offer and the opportunities available in your neighborhood. The fee is \$60 per sport which includes the county fee and we are proud to say our fees are the lowest in the county. Please bring any children that may be interested even if they live in other communities within PG County.

SAVE THE DATE!!!

- Don't forget to mark your calendars!!! Feb 7 & 14th 10-2 Registration
- March 27 from 7pm-9pm BHBGC Sports Banquet
- April 25 or May 9th as the rain date BHBGC Olympic Camp Out
- May 2nd - Berwyn Heights Day & October 3rd -FALL HARVEST FESTIVAL!!!!!!!!!!

Thank You!

- Our board members are working harding to ensure we have activities available for your child even if they are not interested in sports. Please ask us about the Artway Alliance class that we have on Saturdays! The children are learning so much and are so excited about the class!
- We also would love to have you to join this exciting club. Please contact Shinita Hemby at (202) 531-6066!



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





**BOB NERI**  
(301) 441-1100  
(240) 460-4722



**YOUR TOWN RESIDENT REALTOR**

**Your Neighbor Just Did This!**

5717 Nevada Street - **Sold**

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Of Investors Who Will Buy  
Your Home in Any Condition.  
ALL CASH - FAST SETTLEMENT!**

**HOMES SOLD IN BERWYN HEIGHTS!**

6126 Ruatan Street \$224,900.00 **Sold**

5719 Berwyn Road \$315,000.00 **Sold**

5802 Quebec Street \$285,000.00 **Sold**

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### Thomas A. Gentile, Attorney



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



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



### HOLY REDEEMER Catholic Church

**Weekend Masses:**

Saturday Vigil 5:00 p.m.

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

4902 Berwyn Road • College Park MD 20740  
Tel: 301-474-3920 • Web Site: holy-redeemer.org  
Email: parish@holy-redeemer.org

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and Tree Care Needs!**



# Berwyn Heights Elementary School PTA

February 2015

## Spring is in the air in the BHES gardens!



The Garden Team is ready to get their hands dirty with the students! We will be offering Terrarium workshops for classes to learn the water cycle and grow their own greens.

Last year, our pumpkin patch drew attention to the fact that not all pumpkins are orange! This year we are thinking of planting a pumpkin called Galeuse D'Eysines. This heirloom's lovely French name translates, prettily enough, as "embroidered with warts from Eysines," that being a small town in southwest France.

We will compliment that garden with Batwing pumpkins to show the many varieties of pumpkins in the horticulture world. Also, we will be adding a gourd mix to the pumpkin patch. We all know gourds can be used as decoration but dried gourds can be used for bird houses, musical instruments, crafts, vases, bowls and so much more!

For the vegetable gardens, we will focus on diverse types of fertilizers to use, and will be testing to see if one works better. The kids will be planting a variety of veggie seeds in the classroom this February. They will grow three varieties of cauliflower, pink cabbage, purple-skinned kohlrabi and purple broccoli making an elegant appearance with

Dinosaur Kale which will be a conversation piece just by its name! We are saving space in the raised beds for a lettuce garden featuring two varieties of lettuce: Red Sails and Rhazes Romaine to make tasty wraps with. At the end of the growing season, the kids will be enjoying many healthy treats from their very own gardens.

Lastly, we will be enhancing our gardens to invite more pollinators, especially the Monarch Butterflies. They migrate through our area after the kids start school in the fall and it would be great to see more Monarchs visiting our school gardens.

*We are always in need of volunteers, especially for the Terrarium workshops. Please email me at [Therese@CelticClans.com](mailto:Therese@CelticClans.com), if you are interested in helping during the school hours.*

## New t-shirts coming soon!

Check out the awesome new school logo designed by Joshua Thomas in Ms. Ottaiano's 5th grade class! Joshua won the school's competition to design a logo that incorporated our Husky Pride. Well done Joshua! We think he did a great job! The PTA is organizing the sale of new t-shirts for students and adults with this logo on. More information will be coming soon!



## Next Box Tops Collection: February 24



Thank you to all the families who collected Box Tops and brought them to school in November. Ms Holland's kindergarten class brought in the most and won a Gogurt party and the traveling box top trophy.

Ms. Rathbone's 4th grade class came in a close second and the class shared gingerbread cookies. Ms Ruffin's 2nd grade class came in third place and won box top stickers.

Our next collection date is **Tuesday, February 24th**. Please give your box tops to your teachers and the PTA will collect them from classrooms.

Box Tops are found on many General Mills' cereals, Betty Crocker mixes, Ziploc and Hefty products, kid's yogurts, Pillsbury doughs, Green Giant products, Mott's applesauce and juice, Nature Valley and Fiber One bars, and much more.

## Important Dates



Feb. 3 - PTA Meeting, 6:45pm, Library

Feb. 13 - No school (professional development for teachers)

Feb. 16 - No school (President's Day)

Feb. 24 - Bring in your Box Tops!



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# Berwyn Heights GreenBee



The **GreenBee** is your monthly guide to tips and resources from the Green Team! If you'd like to share your ideas, please email us at [bgreen.berwynheights@gmail.com](mailto:bgreen.berwynheights@gmail.com), or contact Therese Forbes, outreach coordinator, at 301-982-7115. Our next meeting will be Tuesday, February 10 at 7:00 pm. at the Town Center—all residents are welcome to attend!

## **Lose It to Win It Campaign—Free Health Promotion Events in 2015!**

You may have seen in last month's GreenBee that the Green Team is partnering with the University of Maryland on its Lose It to Win It campaign, which focuses on promoting a healthy, active lifestyle among the residents of Prince George's County. As part of this initiative, the Green Team will be sponsoring a variety of health and wellness activities throughout the year. Last month we had two kick off events—a nutrition education workshop and a yoga class. If you enjoyed those activities and want more, or didn't have the chance to participate, not to worry, we have additional events this month! And we hope you'll continue to check the GreenBee and our Facebook page, since we'll be offering new events each month. See below for details about February's events!

### **Healthy Town-Wide Potluck: Saturday, February 21, 5-7 p.m.**

Interested in healthy eating and promoting community health? The Berwyn Heights Recreation Council is coordinating a healthy foods town potluck on Saturday, February 21 from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Town Center. Bring a healthy dish to share and meet new community members! If you have any questions, please contact Tim Tormoen at [tortormoen@yahoo.com](mailto:tortormoen@yahoo.com).

### **Lake Artemesia Walk/Jog & Calisthenics: Sunday, February 22, 1:30-2:30p.m.**

Winter blues got you down and are you getting cabin fever? Or have your New Year's resolutions to be healthier become a distant memory and exercising with others might give you an extra kick of motivation? Come join the Green Team for some exercise activities outdoors!



Since we have easy access to the beautiful Lake Artemesia, we'll be coordinating exercise activities there on Sunday, February 22, from 1:30-2:30 pm. We'll meet in the parking lot, and from there participants can walk or jog around the lake at their own pace. We'll even offer tips on fun and easy ways to incorporate calisthenics into your exercise! If you're interested in participating, please email [bgreen.berwynheights@gmail.com](mailto:bgreen.berwynheights@gmail.com).

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## **9 Tips from the Lose It to Win It Campaign: Be a "Loser" & Gain a Better Life**

**Add, don't subtract!** Forget about denying yourself food—instead try adding more healthy food to your diet.

**Jump, jump, jump, jump around!** You don't need to do hard core exercise, just get moving in some way.

**Lighten the food you already love:** One of the easiest ways to cut back without feeling denied is to switch to lower-calorie varieties of your favorite foods.

**Hydrate!** Drinking water before a meal helps fill you up and keeps you from over-eating.

**Share the love:** When you go out to eat, share your meal with another person. Also, if you are having trouble motivating yourself to work out, find a work out buddy.

**Tune in, tone up:** Love TV, but want to exercise? Put on a music channel and dance away! Or hop on a stationary bike or treadmill or lift some weights while watching TV.

**Size matters:** Want to start eating less? Switch your dishware and size down your plates to give you the visual signal that you've eaten enough.

**Keep busy:** If you eat when you're bored, seek out new hobbies and activities you enjoy, to help you avoid mindless eating when you're not hungry. If your life already feels too hectic for new projects, at least avoid just eating and watching TV without being aware of how much you're eating.

**Lose it today, keep it off tomorrow:** Set realistic goals for weight loss, and don't get discouraged if you don't meet them. And once you reach your goal, don't give up on your new healthy practices!

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### Top Remodeling Projects for R.O.I . (Return on investment)

1. New Front Door- expect to pay around \$1000, but it will add \$1200-\$1500 in return.

2. Small Wood Deck- expect to pay around \$11,000 for a 12x15 deck. A composite deck will cost much more. Expect it to add around \$12,000.

3. Update the Kitchen- update counter tops, sink, faucet and paint. If you need appliances try dent and scratch or floor models to save \$\$ . Expect to pay \$2500 for minor updates and a ROI of \$5000.

4. Basement remodel- new windows, flooring, paint & bath. Expect to pay \$7000-\$10,000. Increase your homes salability! ROI-\$10,000-\$15000.

- FREE MARKET ANALYSIS
- NATIONWIDE WEBSITE/ADVERTISING
- HELP WITH STAGING
- YEARS OF TOWN REAL ESTATE EXPERIENCE
- LISTING AND SELLING IN DC TOO

### LISTED/SOLD this month:

REDUCED-1 Austin Ct 2BR,1BA updated kit/ba sep DR..\$212,900.  
 SOLD-8433 57<sup>th</sup> Av- 3BR rambler- bank owned \$150,000.  
 SOLD- 6207 Tecumseh PI- 3BR brick rambler-bank owned \$175,000.

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



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# BERWYN HEIGHTS SENIORS CLUB

## “Celebrating 30 Years in Berwyn Heights”

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

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO

February 3	Phillip Waltz
February 8	Frank Baxter
February 9	Mary Smith
February 15	Ronald Luftman
February 22	Agnes Belasco

### FEBRUARY ACTIVITIES

February 3	Bingo	12:30 P.M.
February 4	Wii Bowling	10:30 A.M.
February 5	Pool Night	7:00 P.M.
February 10	Meeting	11:00 A.M.
	Bingo	1:00 P.M.
February 11	Wii Bowling	10:30 A.M.
February 12	Pool Night	7:00 P.M.
February 14	Potluck & Movie	5:00 P.M.
February 17	Bingo	12:30 P.M.
February 18	Wii Bowling	10:30 A.M.
February 19	Pool Night	7:00 P.M.
February 24	Meeting & Potluck	11:00 A.M.
	Bingo	1:00 P.M.
February 25	Wii Bowling	10:30 A.M.
February 26	Pool Night	7:00 P.M.



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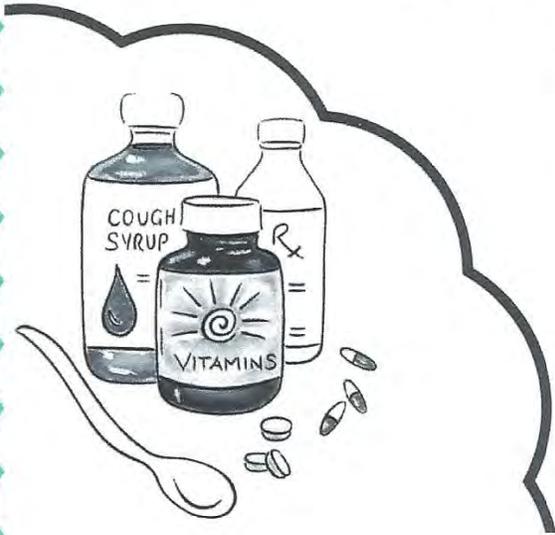
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## Berwyn Heights Playgroup



### For Preschoolers and Younger

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

**Mondays 10:30 am — 12:00 pm**

**Indoors at Town Center if Cold or Rainy**

**Playground Rotation:** 1st & 3rd Monday of month—Indian Creek Playground

2nd & 4th Monday of month—Pop's Park

Please contact Jaime Sampson ([Sampson.jaime@gmail.com](mailto:Sampson.jaime@gmail.com)) for more information and to be added to the group's listserv.



## Free Karate Training!!!!

**Berwyn Heights Town Center**

**5700 Berwyn Rd - 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor**

**Year-Round: Mondays and Fridays, 5-7 pm**

Train with Sensei Leon Swain, 5<sup>th</sup> degree black belt, five-time inductee into the World Professional Martial Arts Hall of Fame & member of Shihan John Roseberry's Sho-Rei-Shobu-Kan Budo Organization. Open to all ages/all levels.

For more information, contact:

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

## BULLETIN BOARD

(Abbreviated because of lack of space in this issue)

**Sewing Assistance Needed:** Looking for someone to make a slipcover for a child's chair. Contact Diane at 301-345-5359.

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

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

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

**Childcare:** Miss Debbie, the Mary Poppins childcare provider of 29 years in B.H. is ISO another family. Will play, read, color, do puzzles but no heavy

housework as your child is more important. Will also watch children on weekends and evenings. Call 301-345-7622.

**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.

**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.

**Stressed!!!** Are you a Senior, a relative or friend of a Senior? Are you, or are they worried about staying home long term? If you'd like some direction or assistance, without alienating your loved one, I CAN HELP YOU. Sealani Weiner, Geriatric Care Manager. Licensed independent Clinical Social Worker in MD & DC. Certified Care Manager AND Berwyn Heights resident. Call 240-965-7274.

**House Cleaning:** Help with shopping, cooking, etc. Resident of Berwyn Heights for 40+ years. Very reliable and reasonable rates. Call DJ at 301-345-1746

**Meals on Wheels needs your HELP!** For over 35 years, this program has relied on volunteers to help with their daily operations out of a College Park location. Please call 301-474-1002, M-F, 8:30-12:00 if available.

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

**YOU CAN HELP STOP  
CRIME IF, WHEN YOU SEE  
SOMETHING, YOU SAY  
SOMETHING TO THE  
LOCAL POLICE  
DEPARTMENT!**



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



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

**Recent Working Incidents:**

**Dec 14<sup>th</sup>**- Squad 14, Truck 14, Ambo 14, Chief 14A & Utility 14 (18 total volunteers) were first arriving units to Greenbelt Rd/ 62<sup>nd</sup> Ave in Greenbelt for a mass-casualty fatal accident involving a stolen Branchville VFD Ambulance that had overturned after hitting a total of 11 vehicles. Crews from BHVFD split into several teams once on scene, from stabilizing and extricating the suspect from the ambo (which was on its side on top of parked cars) and passing him off to PGPD, as well as triaging and packaging the numerous injured persons.

**Dec 25<sup>th</sup>**- Truck 14 & Ambo 14 were alerted to the 8900 blk of Baltimore Ave in College Park for a fire in a hotel. Units found a small fire in the laundry room.

**Dec 30<sup>th</sup>**- Truck 14 was alerted to the 11300 blk of Somerset Ave in Beltsville to assist Beltsville VFD units on scene with a working building fire. The cause was found to be an auto that caught fire inside the building.

**Jan 3<sup>rd</sup>**- Truck 14 & Chief 14B were alerted to the 7400 blk Dartmouth Ave in College Park for the house fire at 4am. Units arrived to find heavy fire showing from a house. Chief 14B was assigned as division 2 supervisor while the Truck crew's 8 volunteers split into two teams, one as the Rapid Intervention Team and the other pulling a hoseline off College Park VFD's engine and extinguishing the fire. **Working smoke alarms woke the 6 occupants and saved their lives!** During the incident Glenn Dale VFD Squad 18 was transferred to our station to cover.

**Jan 6<sup>th</sup>**- Squad 14 & Ambo 14 responded to BH Elementary School sledding hill for one injured after sledding. The Squad crew packaged the victim and brought them up the icy hill into the waiting ambo.

**Jan 10<sup>th</sup>**- Truck 14, Chief 14A & Chief 14B responded to the 6600 Blk of Chestnut Ave in Riverdale for the house fire, the result of a car fire extending heavily into the house. Chief 14B had Incident Command while C14A supervised units working on the interior. Ambo 14 remained staffed at the firehouse to protect the area.

**Jan 12<sup>th</sup>**- Truck 14 & Chief 14B were first arriving units to the 7200 Block Mathew Street in Lanham to find a chimney fire with extension into the house.

**Pictures and additional info about these incidents and others on our website: [www.BHVFD14.org](http://www.BHVFD14.org) of our Facebook Page!**

## Safety Tips: Space Heaters

**Space heaters are the #3 cause of winter-related fires, can be dangerous if improperly used!**

**Follow these simple tips to make your home safer:**

- Check to make sure your space heater has a thermostat control mechanism that will switch off automatically if it tips over.
- Heaters are not dryers or tables; don't dry clothes or store objects on top of your heater.
- Space heaters need space; keep combustibles at least three feet away from each heater.**
- Always unplug your electric space heater when not in use.
- Turn off at night or whenever you sleep.
- Don't run extension cords under carpets leading to space heaters.



**Reminder:** Have a fire hydrant on your property? Please make sure it is clear of snow and ice so that it is visible and easily accessible to firefighters in case of an emergency! *Thank You!*



Station 14 Total Call Volume 2014		BHVFD 2014 Year in Review	Station 14 Call Volume: Dec 2014	
Rescue Squads:	1751	2014 proved to be another busy and exciting year for our Vol. Fire Department. Our members ensured that every piece of apparatus was fully staffed on every call. This year BHVFD volunteers operated on 42 working structure fires, extricated people from 34 serious cars crashes, and handled 9 difficult specialty-rescues, including the Six Flags rescue, as well as placing our Paramedic Ambulance in-service. Our volunteers also attended over 15 community events to educate the public on fire safety, recruit new members and to pass out smoke detectors. We were able to purchase a much needed new Ambulance and a Chief's unit thanks to another successfully fund drive, as well as a \$9,000 increase in the Town of Berwyn Height's annual contribution! <i>Thank you!</i>	Rescue Squads:	146
Ladder Truck:	755		Ladder Truck:	58
Technical Rescue Support Unit:	84		Technical Rescue Support Unit:	2
Ambulance & Paramedic Ambulance	1959		Ambulance & Paramedic Ambulance	178
<b>Total Station Runs for 2014</b>	<b>4592</b>		<b>Total Station Runs for Dec</b>	<b>384</b>



## Neighborhood Watch/Emergency Preparedness Committee



### ***Fires, flooding, tornadoes, hurricanes - disasters can strike any time.***

That's why now is a good time to make sure your insurance needs are in order.

**Store** your policy information (including agent/company contact details) and home inventory of valuable items so that these records can be easily retrieved in the event of a loss:

- in a waterproof, fireproof safe, or
- off-site, such as in a safe deposit box, or
- scan and save to a flash drive that you keep in an emergency kit

**Review** your insurance policies NOW to verify that they meet your needs. Make sure you know your policy limits, deductibles, exclusions and policyholder claims notification requirements, before a disaster strikes.

#### **Homeowners/Renter's Insurance**

Your homeowner's policy only insures the buildings on your property and the contents. It does not cover the land. Make sure you have the appropriate amount of coverage to rebuild your home and replace the contents of your home.

If you rent, your personal belongings will not be protected against loss or damage unless you have a renter's insurance policy. Renter's insurance policies can cover everything from electronics to clothing to household appliances. It can also provide you with liability insurance, in the event someone sues you for injury to others or property damage to property of others.

#### **Losses due to flooding are not covered under a regular homeowners or renter's insurance policy.**

Talk with your insurance agent or company about a flood policy through the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). Remember, there is a *30-day waiting period* before a flood policy goes into effect. If you already have a flood policy, remember that it needs to be renewed each year.

**Visit [www.floodsmart.gov](http://www.floodsmart.gov) to find more information about flood insurance.**

#### **Auto Insurance**

In addition to liability insurance required by law, consider:

- Comprehensive Coverage- pays for damage to your car resulting from causes other than an accident, such as vandalism or theft.
- Collision Coverage- pays to repair your vehicle or pays you what your vehicle was worth right before an accident occurred.

#### **Life Insurance**

The need for life insurance varies greatly depending on age and family responsibilities. Learn about the differences between term, universal, and whole life insurance before making a decision.

#### **Looking for more information?**

Check out the Maryland Insurance Administration's website:

<http://www.mdinsurance.state.md.us/sa/consumer/index.html> and

"An Insurance Preparedness Guide for Natural Disasters":

<http://www.mdinsurance.state.md.us/sa/docs/documents/consumer/publications/consumerguidetonaturaldisasters.pdf>.



## Berwyn Heights Day Vendor/Information Booth Application Saturday, May 2, 2015

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

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

**The Recreation Council must approve ALL items for distribution.** Please be descriptive of any food items you plan on selling. We are unable to approve any foods that would compete with our on-site food vendors. Please **do not** plan on selling or providing:

- Ready to eat food/drinks, such as individual cupcakes, beverages, etc. (canned/jarred items, loaves of bread, etc. are acceptable )
- Also silly string and colored hair spray are not permitted to be sold or distributed.

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

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

**Event time: 11:00am – 4:00pm**

**Check ONE:**

\_\_\_\_\_ \$10 Residents/Non-Profits

\_\_\_\_\_ \$20 Non-Residents/For-Profits (\$15 if payment received by 4/1/2015)

Table/Chairs: Will you need a table YES \_\_\_ NO \_\_\_ ;Chairs? (Supply is limited): \_\_\_ 1 or 2

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

Mail or drop-off registration form at Town Center with cash/check (made out to Berwyn Heights Recreation Council) by **April 17, 2015**. Address is 5700 Berwyn Road, Berwyn Heights, MD 20740

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

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

**AMOUNT PAID \_\_\_\_\_**



# February 2015

## Town of Berwyn Heights Monthly Calendar of Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	 <b>2</b>  Worksession DPW, Code Budget Req. 7:00 P.M. Town Office Televised on Ch 71, FiOS 12	 <b>3</b> 	 <b>4</b> NW/EP Meeting 7:30 P.M. Town Office	 <b>5</b> Rec. Council Meeting 7:00 P.M. Town Office	 <b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b>	 <b>9</b> 	 <b>10</b> 	 <b>11</b> Town Mtg. 8:00 P.M. Town Office Hearing on Clean Lot Ordinances Amendments Televised on Ch 71, FiOS	 <b>12</b>	 <b>13</b>	<b>14</b>  Valentine's Day
<b>15</b> BHC Presidents' Day Reception 2:00 P.M. Town Center	<b>16</b> <b>PRESIDENTS' DAY</b> Town Offices Closed No Trash Removal 	 <b>17</b>    Worksession Police, PRECA Budget Req. 7:00 P.M. Town Office Televised on Ch 71, FiOS 12	 <b>18</b> 	 <b>19</b> Green Team Meeting 7:00 P.M. Town Office	 <b>20</b>	<b>21</b> Community Potluck Dinner 5:00 P.M. Town Ctr.  
<b>22</b>	 <b>23</b> 	 <b>24</b>  BHC Meeting 7:30 P.M. Town Office	 <b>25</b>	 <b>26</b>	 <b>27</b>	<b>28</b>

THE STREET SWEEPER WILL NOT VISIT BERWYN HEIGHTS DURING FEBRUARY. PLEASE DON'T LITTER!

Yard Waste  

  
 North South

Bulk Pick-up  

  
 North South

Recycling Collection  
  
 Street Sweeper

Refuse Collection  

  
 North South



# BERWYN HEIGHTS BULLETIN

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

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

## POSTAL CUSTOMER BERWYN HEIGHTS, MARYLAND

**Dated Material — Do Not Delay!**

### TOWN INFORMATION

#### Town of Berwyn Heights Phone Nos.

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

#### Mayor and Council

Cheye Calvo (301) 474-6350 [ccalvo@town.berwyn-heights.md.us](mailto:ccalvo@town.berwyn-heights.md.us)  
 Mayor — Public Safety and Health  
 Jodie Kulpa-Eddy (301) 345-1516 [jkulpaeddy@town.berwyn-heights.md.us](mailto:jkulpaeddy@town.berwyn-heights.md.us)  
 Mayor Pro Tem — Administration  
 Patti Dennison (301) 404-2759 [pdennison@town.berwyn-heights.md.us](mailto:pdennison@town.berwyn-heights.md.us)  
 Councilmember — Parks and Recreation, Education and Civic Affairs  
 Christopher Rasmussen (612) 432-0710 [crasmussen@town.berwyn-heights.md.us](mailto:crasmussen@town.berwyn-heights.md.us)  
 Councilmember — Code Compliance  
 Anthony Schreiber (301) 466-1807 [aschreiber@town.berwyn-heights.md.us](mailto:aschreiber@town.berwyn-heights.md.us)  
 Councilmember — Public Works

#### Regular Trash Collection Schedule

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

#### Heavy Trash Day:

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

#### Recycling Schedule:

Wednesdays for the entire Town.

#### Town Helpline

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

#### Watch Council Meetings



**On Comcast channel 71  
 FIOS channel 12**

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

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