

Berwyn Heights Bulletin

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

March 2013



CERT TRAINING WORKSHOP

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RE-ASSESSMENT & TOWN BUDGET

A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR & TOWN COUNCIL

Dear Town Resident:

For the Town Council, February means the start of the town budget process for fiscal year 2014 (the fiscal year that runs from July 1, 2013, to June 30, 2014). Town property owners should have received their property reassessments in the mail around New Year's. Although reports range from declines of 8 percent to 25 percent, residential properties generally declined 17 percent from the last assessment in the fall 2009 (which reported a 33 percent decline in residential assessments from the peak of the housing bubble in the fall 2006). A modest increase in commercial real property assessments means that assessments overall declined about 15 percent, which translates to about a \$220,000 reduction in the Town's largest source of revenue — real property taxes.

This situation certainly presents challenges for the budget process. There are, however, a few positive notes in the budget outlook. First, the real property situation was not unexpected, and we enter the next three years (until properties are reassessed again) in a strong financial situation, debt-free, and with healthy cash reserves and surpluses. Second, rising income tax receipts from new residents and the conversion of several college rentals to families should help close some of the shortfall. Finally, some flexibility in the budget should allow us to eliminate one or two vacant positions with a manageable level of operational impact.

It will not be easy, but I would not trade our situation for most of our neighboring municipalities, which are similarly affected by negative reassessments. The good news is that homes in Town continue to sell, prices are beginning to rise, and we are seeing more homes occupied by families (and many new babies), which bodes well for the Town's future. I am confident that, if we successfully manage this triennial assessment cycle, the Town will have cleared the housing crisis with a bright future ahead.

Residents are encouraged to engage in the budget process, beginning with the Town Administrator presenting his proposed budget on Monday, March 4, and continuing with the Council discussing the budget every Monday until we adopt the budget on May 8, 2013. You are invited to attend the worksessions or watch them on BHTV, and share your thoughts and ideas with us.

Upcoming budget discussions on March 4, 11, 18, and 25 at 7:00 P.M.

TAX TIME IS COMING! REMEMBER YOUR TOWN

Please remember to specify Berwyn Heights as your municipality on your State income tax return. Each year Berwyn Heights loses out on income tax revenues when residents put down the wrong municipality or do not put down



any municipality. Income tax revenues that should come to Berwyn Heights frequently go to College Park because we share the same zip code. To prevent your income taxes going to College Park, or another town, or the County, mark **BERWYN HEIGHTS** as your municipality on your State income tax return.

HOLIDAY TRASH SCHEDULE

Good Friday/Easter

The Town offices will close at 1:00 P.M. on Good Friday.

Please Do NOT Leave Trash at the Curb over Weekend.

See Calendar on Page 27

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

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

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Worksession

January 7, 2013

The meeting was called to order at 7:08 p.m. Present were Mayor Calvo, Mayor Pro Tem (MPT) Wilkinson, Councilmembers Almoguera, Dennison and Kulpa Eddy. Also present was Clerk Harper. Town Administrator (TA) Murphy had an excused absence.

1. Mayor

Announcements: TA Murphy will be absent for several weeks recovering from surgery.

Agenda: A discussion of TA Murphy's absence was added.

Calendar: A correction was made to a January 17 entry to add a meeting of the Prince George's County Municipal Association (PGCMA).

Minutes: On a motion by CM Dennison and second by MPT Wilkinson, the December 17 worksession minutes were approved 5 to 0. The December 12 Town meeting minutes were distributed.

Department reports: Mayor Calvo reported that the Police Department finished 2012 with a record low of 61 Part I offenses. The Department has also improved at resolving crimes. An arrest in a recent burglary case was made within a couple of weeks of its occurrence. Further, Mayor Calvo reported that he has given considerable thought to the upcoming budget and how to address the impending decline in revenues resulting from the recent real property reassessment. TA Murphy's medical leave has also weighed on his mind.

CM Kulpa-Eddy reported that she spoke to Director Solomon about the purchase of a new vehicle. Ms. Solomon will contact dealers in the area to try to negotiate a lower price for the Ford Escape the Council authorized for purchase. MPT Wilkinson reported that the leaf season has ended and that all leaves must now be bagged for disposal. The weekend after Christmas, Public Works pretreated the roads with salt in preparation for a winter storm that turned to rain. CM Dennison announced that a Traveling Garden awards reception will be held on January 12, 2 pm.

Citizen comments: Mayor Calvo and the entire Council received an email from a former councilmember saying that the December 17 worksession was the most interesting meeting in his memory. MPT Wilkinson received a comment on the Safe Routes to School grant.

2. Administration

Town Administrator's absence: Mayor Calvo said that TA Murphy will be absent for at least four weeks to recover from abdominal surgery. Although he plans to work on the budget from home, TA Murphy will not be as available to help department directors prepare their budgets as he has in previous years. This will likely lead to delays in the budget process.

Mayor Calvo said he thinks that the best way to help TA Murphy and keep everything on track is to hire an assistant. This person would make sure that budget materials are turned in on time, budget binders prepared and spreadsheets updated. An assistant would probably be needed on a part time basis for at least the next two months. To pay for his salary Mayor Calvo would like to re-purpose \$2,000 earmarked as a contribution for a joint BHES/ Community Center computer lab in the *public relations* line item of the *Mayor & Council* budget. It does not appear that the school and the community center will be able to implement the joint computer center in the near future.

CM Almoguera said she thinks that an assistant is necessary to keep the budget on track, and offered to check with the University of Maryland to see if there are students with a business or finance background, who might be interested in such a position. MPT Wilkinson suggested that the hired assistant might be assigned easier, more labor intensive tasks, while the treasurer might perform higher level budgeting. Mayor Calvo said the treasurer's workload will already have increased in TA Murphy's absence because she is the 2nd in command. Further, her job is primarily to keep the books and track revenues and expenditures, not budgeting. He thinks paying a student, who is working toward a degree in business or public administration, is the better option. In addition, this person may be in a good position to document the budget process, which TA Murphy planned to do this year, because he would bring a fresh perspective to the endeavor.

CM Kulpa-Eddy asked if TA Murphy will continue to receive his salary working on the budget from home or sick leave. Mayor Calvo replied that he has sufficient sick leave to cover a few weeks of absence, but that his compensation will have to be worked out. With no further comments, CM Almoguera moved, and MPT Wilkinson seconded to re-purpose money earmarked for a BHES computer lab to pay for hiring a budget project manager. The motion passed 5 to 0.

Reassessment impact on the budget:

Mayor Calvo said the Town has been informed that its residential real property values will decline by 17%, while commercial real property values will go up slightly. When the offset is taken into account, all real property tax revenues will go down by approximately 15%. This equals a loss of approximately \$220,000 in the operating budget and approximately \$13,000 in road repair tax receipts. However, there are other variables affecting overall revenues. Public Safety Taxing District (PSTD) revenues are slated to go up by approximately 5%, and have ample funds to pay for one police officer and a vehicle. Income taxes, too, appear to be on track to exceed budgeted amounts, if the November disbursement is an indication. The rise in income taxes continues a trend from the last two years and will offset some of the losses.

Mayor Calvo continued that, even with the increases in commercial and income tax receipts, the Town will have to make cuts between \$110,000 and \$150,000. That probably means eliminating a couple of soon to be vacant positions. In addition, there are yet to be determined expenditures that need to be covered, such as roll up costs from merit increases, cost of living adjustments (COLA), and health insurance increases. The deficit will have to be made up with tax increases, increases in fees and fines, and the surplus. His preference is to take a balanced approach and do all of the above: make cuts, raise revenues and use surplus. Further, any adjustments to budget will need to be sustained for at least 3 years, until the next reassessment. Therefore, the Town Council needs to develop a plan on how to address the shortfall for year one, two and three.

MPT Wilkinson asked if there is an appeals process for municipalities. Mayor Calvo said there is not. However, individual homeowners can appeal. This reassessment has impacted individual homeowners very differently, with drops in assessments ranging between 25% to 8% just among councilmembers properties. If the Town increases its real property tax rate this would mean a net tax increase for some, and a continued tax decline for others.

MPT Wilkinson said that the reassessment also changes how much revenue is produced by a one-cent increase in the real property tax rate. In past years it was \$30,000. He would like to know what the number is now. Mayor Calvo said that TA Murphy will be asked to figure that out. By the next worksession, he

hopes the Council will have had time to think about how it wants to go about adjusting the budget and be able to give TA Murphy specific guidance on where cuts should be made and which revenues should be raised.

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

Sidewalks design proposal: Mayor Calvo said that the Town's engineering consultants, AB Consultants, submitted a proposal of \$44,800 to provide engineering designs, bid specifications, and construction cost estimates based on current market prices for priority 1 sidewalk areas. TA Murphy advised not to make a decision tonight as he would like to get clarification on how easements figure into the plans. Mayor Calvo said he would like to get additional proposals for the design and engineering of sidewalks, as he was not satisfied with consultants' previous service charges.

CM Kulpa-Eddy said she would like to see at least 2 more proposals. Further, she remains concerned about spending all the money on sidewalk plans without having enough funds set aside to pay for construction. She cannot see where the money to build sidewalks would come from, especially if the Town plans to go ahead with getting emergency generators. While the Town has been offered assistance from the State to pay for emergency generators, it would require a match from the Town of approximately \$35,000, based on 2011 estimates of \$70,000-\$80,000 for 2 generators. The bond bills need to be ready by January 22.

Mayor Calvo said that he thought a previous quote for the generator was around \$34,000. He believes it is sufficient to have a generator for the Town Center, which could accommodate both relocated Town staff and residents. CM Kulpa-Eddy said that TA Murphy and Public Works Acting Director Lockley are in the process of getting fresh proposals for the generators. She plans to ask for a second backup generator for the Town offices so Police and Public Works staff can work there in an emergency. But if the grant covers only one generator, the Town Center could be set up to house staff on one of the two floors.

Mayor Calvo noted that the design and engineering estimate does break out the cost by block. This allows for eliminating blocks if there is not enough money to do all. However, he has questions as to the specific costs for particular blocks and why there is a charge for surveying, which he thought has already been done and paid for. The Council agreed that additional proposals should be obtained.

Council Rule 11: Mayor Calvo explained that a draft Council Rule 11-*Mayor's Duties* includes the revisions the Council approved at the last worksession. It turns the existing list of phrases into complete sentences and adds a provision "authorizing the Mayor or his designee to request or dispatch emergency aid in conformance with the Public Works Aid Agreement for Maryland Municipalities of August 8, 2012, after consulting with the Head of the Public Works Department and the Town Council." Mayor Calvo said he would strike the part that requires the Mayor to consult with the Town Council because it was not part of the policy the Council approved. He thinks consulting with the Town Council defeats the purpose of expedited aid approval.

CM Kulpa-Eddy raised the question whether authorizing the Mayor to approve aid requests without Town Council approval conflicts with the Town Charter, Section 609.1 – *Negotiated Contracts*. That provision authorizes the Mayor to negotiate a purchase or contract without formal bidding procedures in an emergency and with the consent of the Town Council. Mayor Calvo replied that he interprets the Mutual Aid Agreement to be the contract in this case, which has already been negotiated and approved by the Town Council. The Council Rule would authorize the Mayor to make a decision to send aid under that agreement. CM Kulpa-Eddy said that the referenced Charter Section seems to require consent of the Council not only for the negotiation of a contract but also for its execution when procuring supplies or services in an emergency. She can imagine a situation when the Council may want to weigh in on sending equipment to another municipality, for example when the Town needs the equipment itself. She would like a lawyer to give an opinion on the matter.

Mayor Calvo reiterated that he thinks the framework within which the Mayor makes a decision about dispatching aid has already been put in place with the Mutual Aid Agreement. If the Mayor has to get consent from the Council for each instance of dispatching aid, the agreement is useless. Further, he regards it as a waste of money to pay a lawyer to interpret this section of the Charter, which he believes is fairly clear. Approval of the revised Council Rule would simply memorialize a policy the Council adopted with the signing of the Mutual Aid Agreement. The policy would remain in place even if the Council Rule were not adopted.

MPT Wilkinson said that he agrees with

Mayor Calvo's interpretation that dispensing aid is just an execution of a contract or agreement that has already been approved by the Town Council. CM Kulpa-Eddy said Section 609.1 may also require Council consent for the execution of an agreement, i.e. requesting or dispatching aid. To her mind, obtaining a legal opinion from the Town attorney is money well spent. CM Almoguera said, to her mind, Section 609.1 relates to purchasing and does not apply to the situation of loaning equipment and services as defined under the Mutual Aid Agreement.

The Council agreed to postpone approval of the revised Council Rule 11 until more information is made available and the issue clarified.

2. Administration

Bulletin cover: The following items were approved for the cover of the February Bulletin: Presidents' Day theme; announcements for PGC call center presentation and Historical Committee Presidents' Day reception.

Nothing was discussed under **3. Code Compliance**.

4. Parks and Recreation

Greenbelt Middle School sixth grade: Mayor Calvo explained that Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS), as part of the boundary review process, is proposing to move sixth graders from Magnolia Elementary School to Greenbelt Middle School (GMS) this year. He has been informed that the GMS PTA opposes this proposal because it does not move sixth graders from all other feeder schools, including Berwyn Heights, to GMS. The reason for the opposition is that moving just the Magnolia six graders may reduce TAG slots available for students to be moved in the future. In addition, as long as BHES sixth graders remain in place, there is no room to accommodate the school's pre-k students. They would continue to go to Paintbranch Elementary School.

Mayor Calvo asked for a motion to support the GMS PTA in opposing the proposal to move only Magnolia sixth graders to Greenbelt Middle School. MPT Wilkinson so moved. CM Dennison seconded. The motion passed 5 to 0.

Safe Routes to School grant letter of support: MPT Wilkinson explained that he and CM Almoguera have worked with Berwyn Heights Elementary School to complete an application for a Safe Routes to School grant, which must be sent by January 10. The Council is requested to send a letter of support for the application. MPT Wilkinson summarized

that the grant requests funding for 3 infrastructure projects, including 1) a raised cross walk on Pontiac Street at 60th Avenue; 2) a sidewalk on the 8600 block of 62nd Avenue leading to the back entrance of the school; and 3) a sidewalk for the 8900 block of 63rd Avenue leading to Greenbelt Middle School. On the Town's part, the school is pledging to make routes to school safer through educational activities, such as the walk-a-thon, bicycle rodeo and walking to the school bus. In addition, there is a request for a portable stop sign that can be used by the crossing guard at Pontiac Street and 60th Avenue to regulate traffic going in and out of the lower parking lot.

Mayor Calvo said that he would give the sidewalk on the 8900 block of 63rd Avenue top billing because it is the most dangerous location. Next, he would list the raised cross walk on Pontiac Street second followed by the sidewalk on 62nd Avenue. In addition, he has some stylistic changes. CM Almoguera suggested separating the elementary from the middle school request. In this manner, each school can have an associated top priority infrastructure project. Second, volume of students should not be the criterion to prioritize the projects. The *safe routes to school program* works on the assumption of "build it and they will come." CM Kulpa-Eddy suggested using specific numbers to illustrate the potential hazards at a particular intersection or stretch of road.

On a motion by CM Almoguera and second by CM Dennison, the letter of support was approved 5 to 0 pending some stylistic changes by Mayor Calvo.

Branchville Fire Department staffing cuts: CM Dennison said there have been reports that the County wants to remove all professional fire fighters from the Branchville Fire Station, making it difficult for them to cover the daytime service hours. Berwyn Heights may be impacted because Branchville has a pumper truck, which the Berwyn Heights Fire Station lacks. Mayor Calvo said that the County has removed Branchville's professional staff on previous occasions but then re-instated them. He believes the County wants to eventually eliminate Branchville because College Park has another, newer fire station that could cover the area. However, the Berwyn Heights Fire Station will be impacted by service reductions or closure of the Branchville Fire Station as it will be asked to respond more often to that area. The issue will likely be discussed at the next Four Cities meeting in College Park.

CM Dennison moved to take a position to oppose the Branchville Fire Station

staffing cuts. CM Kulpa-Eddy seconded. The motion passed 5 to 0.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:41 p.m.

Kerstin Harper, Town Clerk

Town Meeting

January 9, 2013

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

Mayor Calvo led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Minutes

Clerk Harper read a summary of the December 12, 2012 Town meeting minutes. On a motion by CM Dennison and second by MPT Wilkinson, the minutes were approved 5 to 0.

2. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Lape gave the Treasurer's report for the month of December 2012.

3. Mayor's Report

Mayor Calvo reported on the state of the Town. He said, in his 9 years as Mayor of Berwyn Heights, he has learned that there are many things a small Town must deal with that are beyond its control. The role of municipal government is mostly to provide a measure of stability to be able to confront adversity. The housing market crash of 2008 resulted in a 27% decline of home values in Berwyn Heights, followed by a loss of Highway User Revenues (HUR) in 2009 that almost equaled the lost tax revenues. The Town was able to weather the economic downturn better than most jurisdictions, however, because it had not overextended itself during the boom years and stuck to fiscally conservative policies. It was able to fund vehicles, infrastructure and other capital improvements with money set aside in reserves and a healthy surplus. But in 2010, a 3 cent road tax was adopted to compensate for the loss of HUR so as to be able to meet future road repair needs.

Mayor Calvo had hoped that the 2009 adjustment in the housing market would complete the downturn. However, this year's reassessment brought another 17% loss in home values. On the other hand, commercial property tax revenues

went up slightly, almost all of it due to a reassessment of the PG Scrap property. With this offset, the overall decline in real property tax receipts was only about 15%. However, there are also cost increases from salary adjustments and other inflationary adjustments. When taken together, it opens up an operating shortfall of approximately \$250,000.

Mayor Calvo proposed some guidelines for balancing the FY 2014 budget:

1. Taking a balanced approach, this includes

- Making cuts in the payroll, preferably by eliminating vacant positions;
- Increasing revenues from other-sources, such as fees and fines;
- Increasing revenues, including raising the real property tax rate; and
- Using surplus

2. Making changes with a longer view in mind, at least until the next reassessment;

3. Refraining from instituting furloughs and salary freezes, which would lower employee salaries and morale;

4. Leaving in place programs supporting the community largely funded through the Parks & Recreation budget.

Mayor Calvo said that he remains optimistic about Berwyn Heights' future despite the fiscal challenges. He sees young families moving into Town and buying up properties. They come here because there are good schools and recreational opportunities and a great sense of community. For that reason, he wants to continue to work on adding new sidewalks and other amenities and programs that make the Town an attractive place to live.

Mayor Calvo noted that TA Murphy has been absent since Christmas recovering from surgery. He will likely be out for a few more weeks but is working from home to keep things moving and help with budget preparations. CM Almoguera is looking into finding a budget assistant to help TA Murphy with the budget. The budget process remains open to the public and residents are encouraged to attend. The January 22 worksession will feature a discussion of budget goals, followed by department directors presenting their budget requests on February 4 and 19.

4. Department Reports

Administration: CM Almoguera said that she has contacted several professors and department chairs at the University of Maryland to help her identify students that would be suitable budget

assistants and are interested in learning about municipal budgeting. She also welcomed any recommendations from residents.

Code Compliance: CM Kulpa-Eddy wished everyone a Happy New Year on behalf of the Code Compliance Department. If residents made a resolution to de-clutter their homes, a Portable On-Demand Storage unit, or PODS, is a convenient way to store and transfer such belongings. The containers can be delivered to one's property and loaded at leisure, then transferred to another location for unloading, indefinite storage or disposal. However, PODS require a permit from the Town. The fee is \$50 for 30 days, with a \$15 late fee if the unit is on the property before a permit is obtained, and a \$25, penalty fee, if the unit is placed in a street or Town right-of-way. Applications are available at the Town office or can be downloaded from <http://www.berwynheightscodecompliance.com>.

Parks and Recreation, Education and Civic Affairs: CM Dennison announced the winners of the holiday decorating contest. The winners were best house 8905 58th Avenue; best yard 8601 Osage Street; and best overall 8711 58th Avenue. CM Dennison also announced upcoming events, and noted that the Berwyn Heights Education Advisory Committee (BHEAC) is continuing to look for a new chair.

Public Health and Safety: Chief Antolik gave a power point presentation on police activity for 2012 in comparison with prior years. He said that serious crimes (Part I offenses), which have to be reported to the FBI continues to go down, making Berwyn Heights one of the safest communities in Prince George's County. Part I offenses for December 2012 numbered 3, considerably below the 5 year average of 8.8. Total Part I offenses for 2012 numbered 61, also far below the 5 year average of 98, representing a decline of 38%. The decline from the 10 year average of 116 is still more pronounced at 47%. The most prevalent crime in Berwyn Heights is theft, in particular theft from cars. Here too, the decline has been substantial.

Chief Antolik attributed the drop in the crime rate mainly to officers being visible. They patrol the Town on a 24-hour basis, and maintain good relations with residents, who freely report suspicious activity. Officers will also stop suspicious persons at all hours of the day and night and talk to them about what they are doing and if they need help. This helps discourage potential crime.

Chief Antolik continued, in 2012, a total of 2392 speed camera citations were issued, with 1847 paid, and 545 outstanding. Forty five are being reviewed in court. Mayor Calvo pointed out that this statistic shows that 3/4 of all speed camera tickets get paid, a better result than monthly tabulations would indicate. Chief Antolik further reported that revenues from speed camera citations came to \$91,700. When late payment, flagging and fees for returned checks are added, the total comes to almost \$107,000. Another \$46,900 remains to be collected.

Chief Antolik said that Berwyn Heights police also made 2 arrests of men who were responsible for several burglaries in Town. He commended Detective Unger and Officer Krouse for canvassing the neighborhood to track them down. Mayor Calvo congratulated Chief Antolik on a banner year.

CM Kulpa-Eddy reminded everyone that representatives from the Prince George's County Call Center, which is the dispatch for emergency and non-emergency calls, will attend the February Town meeting. Residents with concerns about the police dispatch system should plan to attend.

Public Works: MPT Wilkinson reported that he was at a public safety meeting at BHES prior to this meeting, which was attended by Berwyn Heights police, PTA officers and a number of parents. Principal Singer and Vice Principal Cropper reviewed the school's safety policies in light of the recent shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary School. He was impressed by the strict procedures in place for controlling access to the school with locked doors, and admitting visitors during school hours. Dr. Singer emphasized, however, that BHES is a community school. The admission procedures are designed to ensure a safe learning environment without having a full-time armed guard on staff.

MPT Wilkinson also spoke with school staff about the *Safe Routes to School* grant, which will be submitted tomorrow. If awarded, this federal grant administered by the State Highway Administration (SHA) would fully fund 3 infrastructure projects making the approaches to BHES and Greenbelt Middle safer for students. It includes a raised crosswalk at Pontiac Street and 60th Avenue, a sidewalk on the 8700 block of 62nd Avenue leading to the back entrance of BHES, and a sidewalk on the busy 8900 block of 63rd Avenue leading to the Greenbelt Road traffic light that students use to get to Greenbelt Middle School.

MPT Wilkinson further reported that Public Works continues to pick up leaves, which must now be bagged. Christmas

trees are picked up on regular yard waste collection days. If there is a snow event, residents are reminded not to shovel snow into the street or onto sidewalks. So far, Public Works only had one winter storm to prepare for, which turned out to be rain. Residents were reminded that they can recycle their old electronics and block Styrofoam on January 26 at the Greenbelt Public Works yard between 9 a.m. and 12 p.m.

5. Committee Reports

Education Advisory Committee: Reported under Department Reports.

Green Team: Mayor Calvo reported that the Green Team held its first organizational meeting in December. Future meetings will be announced in the Bulletin. Interested residents can meet some of the members at the upcoming Traveling Garden awards reception.

Historical Committee: Reported under Department Reports.

Neighborhood Watch/Emergency Preparedness: CM Kulpa-Eddy reported that the NW/EP is working on its FY 2014 budget, which will be presented to the Council at the February 19 worksession. Also in February, a CPR training class will be held in Bowie. Interested residents should attend the February 6 NW/EP meeting. At that meeting, next year's officers will be elected, and March 9-10, a CERT training workshop will be held at the Town Center.

Recreation Council: Reported under Department Reports.

6. Unfinished Business

There was none.

7. New Business

There was none.

8. Citizens Discussion

Phil Ventura, 57th Avenue, commended Berwyn Heights police for the excellent service. He feels that the police now work closely with the community to provide protection where needed. However, he is not happy about the new "Stop for Pedestrians in Crosswalk" signs that have been installed at several intersections. He believes that they are hazards for drivers and reduce their ability to maneuver. On the Indian Creek Bridge, he can no longer give pedestrians a wide berth because of the sign posted in the middle of road. At the Pontiac Street and Edmonston Road intersection, the signs do little to improve safety, and prevent drivers from passing a waiting car to make a right turn onto Kenilworth Avenue. He thinks fixing the sink hole on Pontiac Street at 63rd Avenue is a more urgent problem.

MPT Wilkinson said that WSSC has been slow to address the problem because they already made major repairs after the water main broke last year. Unfortunately, the repairs were inadequate. The Town is aware of the problem and is pushing for further repairs.

MPT Wilkinson continued that he believes the pedestrian signs have improved traffic flow at the intersection of Pontiac Street and Edmonston Road. Pedestrians now cross where they should and he finds the intersection more orderly. Edmonston Road also has a new sign alerting drivers that cross traffic on Pontiac Street does not stop and has the right of way.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:18 p.m.

Kerstin Harper, Town Clerk

Worksession

January 22, 2013

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

1. Mayor

Announcements: A march for gun control will take place downtown on January 26, 10 a.m., starting at Union Square and 3rd Street.

Calendar: A mock student council meeting was tentatively scheduled for April 22. Green Team meetings have been added for the 3rd Thursdays of the month.

Minutes: On a motion by MPT Wilkinson and second by CM Dennison, the January 7 worksession minutes were approved 5 to 0.

Department reports: Mayor Calvo reported that he, CMs Dennison and Kulpa-Eddy attended a very informative State legislative reception of the District 22 delegation in Annapolis on January 21. The reception drew many officials and constituents of the 22nd legislative district, including a number of Berwyn Heights residents. Senators Paul Pinsky and Brian Frosh, as well as Chair of the Prince George's Chamber of Commerce, David Harrington, addressed the assembled. They spoke about repeal of the death penalty and gun control, which will be top legislative items in the upcoming

session. The delegates announced their committee assignments: Delegate Gaines will continue to serve on the House Appropriations Committee and chair the Appropriations Sub Committee on Transportation and the Environment, in addition to serving on the Capital Budget Subcommittee and the Joint Committee on Children, Youth, and Families; Delegate Ann Healey was appointed as Chairwoman of the Rules Committee; and Alonzo Washington will serve on the Revenues Subcommittee of the Ways & Means Committee, which will take up legislation on gas taxes.

CM Almoguera reported that about 35 people turned out for the Traveling Garden awards reception and had a good time. A lively discussion of gardening issues followed a presentation from Berwyn Heights resident and master gardener Sarah Urdaneta. CM Almoguera also reported that the governor's proposed budget has a 15% increase in Department of Natural Resources budget, which bodes well for funding of community parks & playgrounds grants. The Town will hear whether it has been awarded a grant for Pop's Park on April 24. Further, CM Almoguera asked various University of Maryland departments to post the budget assistant position ad. She hopes to receive responses when the University is back in session. CM Dennison announced that the Historical Committee's February 16 Presidents' Day reception features a presentation by Hugh Taft Morales, great grandson of President Taft, and his wife Maureen.

MPT Wilkinson was contacted by a Westchester Park resident, who is interested in donating money to help purchase more trash cans or, alternately, recycling containers for Berwyn Heights. Mayor Calvo advised that the Town can issue a receipt for a possible tax deduction. MPT Wilkinson plans to attend a Park & Planning meeting on January 24 where preliminary plans to extend the Little Paint Branch Trail will be presented. He thinks the trail will be an asset for Berwyn Heights residents and would like the Town to support it. The item was added to the agenda under Parks & Recreation.

MPT Wilkinson further reported that the Berwyn Presbyterian Church provided a letter of support for the Town's *safe routes to school grant*, which proposes to build a sidewalk alongside the church property. He submitted the letter, which came in late, after the deadline. He has not heard back whether it will be considered. He also read in the newspaper that Montgomery County was considering

mounting an appeal to the property reassessment. He wondered whether there is a way for the Town to appeal after all. Mayor Calvo said Montgomery County may have led an appeal from individual homeowners. However, an appeal would require hiring attorneys and be very expensive. It may be worth doing if a major development or business is undervalued.

CM Kulpa-Eddy reported that the new Code car is now in service. Director Solomon was able to get the Ford Escape for \$20,000. CM Almoguera noted that the Mothers & Infants Playgroup has scheduled a regular meeting for Sundays at 3 p.m. Mayor Calvo remarked that a family with a new baby just moved into house on Bucknell Terrace, converting what was a disruptive student rental into a single family home.

Citizen comments: MPT Wilkinson received an inquiry if there have been any more sighting of the mangy fox. None of the Councilmembers have heard about it of late. He also received a complaint about trash cans being left in the street after emptying. He will talk with his staff about it.

Budget preparation guidance: Mayor Calvo said that the Council agreed at the last worksession to give TA Murphy some guidance on how to balance the FY 2014 budget in light of the real property tax revenue losses following the recent reassessment. He asked the Council for input.

MPT Wilkinson said that he would like to keep staff intact and avoid furloughs and salary freezes. He would look at cutting vacant positions for savings. CM Kulpa-Eddy said the Code Director believes that they will be able to manage with a 10% budget cut by leaving part-time positions vacant and/or reducing hours. However, leaving positions unfilled in the Police and Public Works Department may be problematic because it will likely curtail their ability to provide the same level of service and burn employees out.

CM Almoguera said that she agrees with most of the suggestions Mayor Calvo made at the last meeting on where to make meaningful cuts. She would not ignore smaller cuts, however, because they can add up. CM Dennison asked how she can get advice on cutting her budget with TA Murphy being absent. Mayor Calvo said that TA Murphy can be consulted by email and the President of the Recreation Council can help her as well. A good place to cut the Recreation budget may be reducing the number of bands hired for Berwyn Heights Day.

Mayor Calvo said the most meaningful savings can be achieved by reducing staff positions and reducing staff hours. The Police and Public Works Department each have an employee who is planning to leave. Not filling those positions would produce large savings. Another option is to cut the hours of part-time employees. He hopes to achieve around \$120,000 in savings through cuts to help close a budget gap of approximately \$220,000. Although he does not support this, the same amount of savings could be obtained by raising the Town's real property tax rate by 18% to generate as much revenue as is currently available. One penny increase in the tax rate would generate around \$25,000 in revenues with the new assessments. TA Murphy said that the Town will not have an accurate number until the State publishes its constant yield tax rates.

Mayor Calvo agreed with CM Kulpa-Eddy that cutting full time positions would put a strain on staff and produce gaps in service. However, the Police Department could alleviate the problem by asking the part-time officer hired to administer the speed camera program to work additional hours. Similarly, Public Works could supplement their staff with temporary labor when the workload gets too heavy, such as for trash collection after a holiday. Thus if some of the savings from cutting full time positions were given back to the departments for adding staff as needed, gaps could be closed. CM Kulpa-Eddy said that she would first like to hear from department directors whether this works for them.

Mayor Calvo said this is only a starting point for budget discussions. He prefers to begin with a sober budget that has painful cuts, which can later be restored if additional revenue materializes. This could be more income tax revenue and/or more Highway User Revenues (HUR) and police aid, which are in Governor O'Malley's proposed budget. Raising taxes is the easy way to close a budget gap. But it makes taxpayers unhappy. Mayor Calvo would also like employee benefits to be considered up front. He thinks employees are due a Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA), as well as merit increases to make up for recent years when salaries have lost ground in relation to cost of living and increased pension and social security contributions.

The Council agreed that additional revenues could be raised by increasing fees and fines in the Code and Police Departments. Other options proposed included lengthening hours of operation for the speed camera on Pontiac Street, encouraging residents to recycle more, and

performing vehicle maintenance in-house. CM Kulpa-Eddy suggested that borrowing money might be considered instead of raising taxes since interest rates are at an all-time low. Mayor Calvo said that the Town has no need to borrow money because it has enough cash reserves. He favors leveraging the surplus to pay for some operating expenses in the next 3 years, but wants to be deliberate so as not to create a structural problem. He believes that the next reassessment will see an upward correction in property values and thus an increase in revenue.

TA Murphy was asked to come up with balanced budget based on the options outlined in the discussion.

FBI relocation letter of support: Mayor Calvo said that the FBI plans to move its headquarters from its current downtown location to a larger more accessible suburban site. Greenbelt Station is being considered as a possible location as it meets all the standards the FBI has laid out. The relocation represents a unique opportunity for Prince George's County and this area, and hopes that Senator Mikulski, who is chair of the Appropriations Committee this year, can help secure the project. CM Kulpa-Eddy said that there are 2 sites in Virginia that also meet the standards for the relocation and that the Town should make as strong a case for Greenbelt Station as possible.

Mayor Calvo said at the upcoming Four Cities Coalition meeting Garth Beall, who represents the owners of the Greenbelt Station development, will make a presentation and the Four Cities will discuss a joint letter of support for the Greenbelt Station site. The Town ought to write its own letter of support after the Four Cities discussion. He asked for a motion to support the relocation. MPT Wilkinson so moved. CM Kulpa-Eddy seconded. The motion passed 5 to 0.

Four Cities agenda: The Council agreed to add "Pepco tree cutting cooperation" to the next Four Cities agenda.

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

Sidewalks design proposal: TA Murphy explained that he asked the Town's engineering firm AB Consultants to provide an updated proposal for the design & engineering of priority I sidewalks to specify the side of the street for the sidewalk locations. The proposed cost is \$44,800 or 10.4% of estimated construction costs, which is a good price. The proposal also shows where the Town right of way boundary is in relation to the

curb and provides construction plans for contractors to follow to deal with obstacles such as utility poles, trees and driveways, as well as for retaining walls and intersection ramps.

However, the proposal does not provide for metes and bounds of easements that will be required where sidewalks encroach on private property. TA Murphy deems the price of \$1,500 per property quoted by AB Consultants for providing easement metes and bounds as too high. He is working with Town Attorney Shay on finding a more economical solution. Until the attorney has an answer, he advises not to approve the proposal. As for obtaining other design & engineering proposals, he does not think that they would be less expensive than AB Consultants' because other engineers would have to backtrack and redo work already performed by the Town engineers.

Mayor Calvo said that during its site visit the Council had been told that easements would be needed for driveways. Especially on properties with a slope, rebuilding a driveway with the proper grade that is level with the sidewalk would be more difficult and impact the adjacent yard. TA Murphy said he believes driveway reconstruction is covered by the construction plans. No driveway easements were needed with the Seminole/ Ruatan Street project. TA Murphy will seek to get clarification and a count of properties where easements are needed.

CM Kulpa-Eddy wondered why the 8600 block of 57th Avenue was included in the proposal. She thought the Council had agreed not build a sidewalk there because of trees and utility poles. Mayor Calvo said that it is worth paying for the design to see what it would look like. It does not commit the Town to building the sidewalk. MPT Wilkinson said the proposal also does not include the sidewalk in front of the school, which the Council did approve. He also proposed to drop green strips wherever it avoids having to obtain an easement. CM Almoquera thought that the consultants have not listened well to the Town's concerns and provided solutions that did not always conform to its goals.

Mayor Calvo asked why this proposal has added charges for surveying since the survey has been completed and already paid for. He summed up that the sidewalk planning process has had its shortcomings. AB Consultants' have not always provided complete or correct answers to the Councils' questions. He asked TA Murphy to request AB Consultants to clarify the remaining ques-

tions about this proposal, and to get a couple of alternate proposals. He believes that a fresh look at the problems posed by the sidewalks route may produce better solutions.

2. Code Compliance

Emergency generators bond bill: CM Kulpa-Eddy said that the request for a bond bill to help pay for the installation of emergency generators at the Town Center is only the first step in the process. However, she would like to get a confirmation that the Town is willing to come up with a match if the bond bill is passed.

Mayor Calvo said that submitting the request now does not commit the Town. Final approval for a match can be given when the State legislature has approved the bond bill. The proposal for installing generators at the Town Center obtained by TA Murphy is \$59,000, plus \$14,000 for a smaller generator at the Town Office, for a total cost of \$73,000. That would bring the Town's contribution to \$37,000. He is fine with requesting money for both generators, and the Town contributing half of the cost. Senator Pinsky and Delegate Gaines have already agreed to sponsor the bill.

CM Kulpa-Eddy noted that the Town Office generator is less expensive because it would not provide for air conditioning. It is designed to power the server and WIFI router so that the office can function as an emergency communication center for the Police and Public Works. There were no objections to submitting the request.

Greenbelt Metro Area sector plan update: CM Kulpa-Eddy reported that the Prince George's Planning Board voted unanimously on December 13 to approve the Greenbelt Metro Area sector plan and endorse the sectional zoning map amendments. Two changes to the zoning map requested by the Town of Berwyn Heights were not adopted: 1) reducing the lanes on Greenbelt Road east of 62nd Avenue; and 2) not singling out PG Scrap with a separate zoning designation.

CM Kulpa-Eddy continued that the reason given for not narrowing Greenbelt Road was that the intersection at 62nd Avenue is already reaching capacity and would not be able to support the existing traffic volume with fewer lanes. However, Greenbelt Road would remain within the current right-of-way and would not be widened. The PG Scrap property is proposed to keep its industrial zoning designation for now, but be moved to a different location in the long term. The plans also call for adding a woodland bank in the rear of the property to shield adjoin-

ing developments and the Indian Creek stream valley. All other recommendations by the Town were included in the plan.

Mayor Calvo and MPT Wilkinson were concerned that the amended map does not seem to provide for a pedestrian landing at the Greenbelt Road/ 63rd Avenue intersection, which would make it much safer for students to cross. This is an issue on which the Town may want to take a formal position. CM Kulpa-Eddy said it is her understanding that a green median with a pedestrian landing is part of the plans to build a diverging diamond intersection. She agreed to ask for clarification on this point and inform the Council.

3. Parks and Recreation

Little Paint Branch Trail (added item): MPT Wilkinson explained that he will attend a January 24 presentation on extending the Little Paint Branch Trail and would like to speak in favor of the plan on behalf of the Town. The proposed new section of the trail will pick up at Cherry Hill Road where the current trail ends, follow Cherry Hill Road across the Beltway, then turn onto Sellman Road to reach the Beltsville Community Center, where it will connect to the existing trail. MPT Wilkinson said, although Berwyn Heights land is not affected, Berwyn Heights residents will benefit from the additional recreational opportunities. CM Almoguera moved and CM Dennison seconded to support the trail extension. The motion passed 5 to 0.

Nothing was discussed under **4. Public Safety** and **5. Public Works**.

6. Administration

Budget assistant position: CM Almoguera said that so far no applications for the position have been received from UMD students. She hopes this will change with the start of the spring semester. She will contact departments again to ask that the announcement be put back in their listings. In addition, the position could be advertised on the Town website. The Council agreed to advertise the position on the Town website.

MML convention: Four efficiencies will be reserved at the Princess Bayside.

MMA convention: Mayor Calvo asked to be registered for the Maryland Mayor's Association convention.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:26 p.m.

Kerstin Harper, Town Clerk



IMPORTANT PEPCO TELEPHONE NUMBERS



English Speaking Customers

**CALL (202) 872-3432 TO REPORT
Downed Wires, Burning Wires, Struck
Poles or Life Threatening Electrical
System Situations**

**CALL (877) 737-2662 TO REPORT
Power Outages**

**CALL (877) 737-2662 TO REPORT
Report Street Light Out
(Need Pepco Pole Number and
house number of nearest house)**

Hard of Hearing Customers

TTY (202) 872-2369

Spanish Speaking Customers

**CALL (202) 872-4641 por
Servicio en Espanol**

**Languages other than English or
Spanish**

CALL (202) 833-7500

**Customers with Emergency Medical
or Life Support Equipment or Special
Needs**

**CALL (202) 833-7500 FOR
Registration to be on Priority List**

Thomas A. Gentile Attorney

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



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Home Visits
to Berwyn Heights Residents

Blossom Kite Festival - National Mall

Date: March 30, 2013

Time: 10:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Place: Smithsonian Metro Station

- ✿ Kite flying competition
- ✿ Special demonstrations
- ✿ Kite making for children

This year's theme is *100 years of friendship*, encompassing 100 years of US-Japan friendship and springtime blossoms, in Washington, DC.

The Japan Kite Association, represented by President Masaaki Modegi and Yoshizo Sakuraba will demonstrate Japanese woodblock printing and painting, and the art of Tsugaru kite flying.



The kite festival is part of the annual Cherry Blossom Festival, which opens March 23 at the Warner Theater, and lasts until mid-April. It features hundreds of special activities and events, from the well-known Cherry Blossom Parade to Waterfront Fireworks to a Japanese Street Festival.

For a calendar of events please visit http://dc.about.com/cs/familyactivities/a/CherryBlossom_2.htm



BHHC TOUR UMD SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

The Berwyn Heights Historical Committee has arranged a tour of the University of Maryland's Special Collections on March 24, at 3 pm. Please contact Kerstin Harper at kharper@town.berwyn-heights.md.us if you would like to participate.

The Special Collections includes the gallery at Hornbake Library, which currently, features the life and vision of inspirational fire-brand William Morris (1834-1896).

For more information visit <http://www.lib.umd.edu/special/home>



CERT TRAINING WORKSHOP

March 9 & 10 — 8 AM to 4 PM

TOWN HALL

Are you interested in the upcoming CERT training or know someone that would like to register?

This class is part of a national program to train people how to prepare, mitigate and respond to natural and manmade disasters. CERT is about readiness, people helping people, rescuer safety, and doing the greatest good for the greatest number. CERT is a positive and realistic approach to emergency and disaster situations where citizens will be initially on their own and their actions can make a difference. Through training, citizens can manage utilities and put out small fires; treat the three killers by opening airways, controlling bleeding, and treating for shock; provide basic medical aid; search for and rescue victims safely; and organize themselves and spontaneous volunteers to be effective.

Our class will be from 8 am to 4 pm Saturday and Sunday, March 9th and 10th, at the Berwyn Heights Town Hall. 5700 Berwyn Road, Berwyn Heights, MD 20740.
Please wear comfortable clothing and hard soled shoes.

There is no cost for this class as it is sponsored by Prince George's County and the Town of Berwyn Heights CERT. Your attendance signifies your acceptance of this training and that you accept all liability and risks associated with it and that you will hold harmless all instructors, trainers, and the respective governments involved. Prince George's County will provide you with a training manual, helmet, backpack, and assorted safety and response equipment.

For an explanation of the program and history please visit:
<http://www.citizencorps.gov/cert/about.shtm>

For more information about the CERT program and activities in Prince George's County please visit: <http://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/Government/AgencyIndex/OHS/OEM/cert.asp>

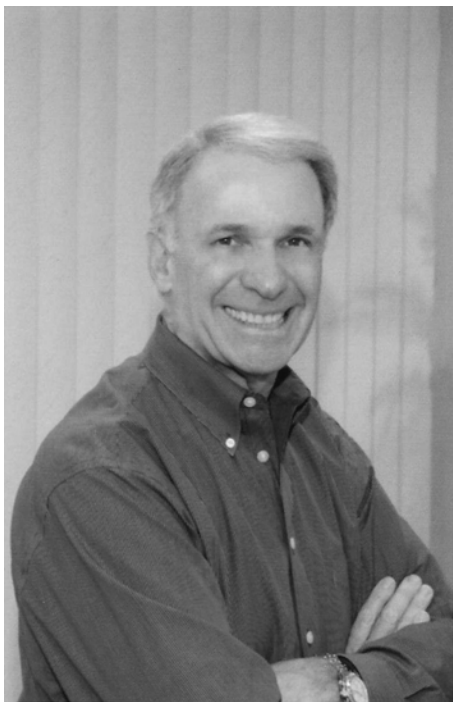
Please contact me with any questions –
ron.shane@hotmail.com

Sincerely,
Ron Shane, Co-chair
Berwyn Heights Emergency Preparedness Cmte.
Berwyn Heights CERT
301-674-4919



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you and your loved one get a better
night's sleep.



Berwyn Heights Elementary PTA Newsletter

March 2013

Berwyn Heights, MD

ANNUAL PTA SKATE NIGHT COME ICESKATING WITH US!

WHEN: Friday, March 15, 2013

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

TIMES: Dinner 6:00-?, Skating 7:00-8:30

Come early and get dinner as the 6th graders will be selling pizza to help fund their trip to North Bay.

Mark Your Calendars

Mar 6 – Market Day Pick Up
Mar 15 - Skate Party - Wells Ice Rink
Mar 27 – End of Third Quarter
Mar 28 - No School - Teacher Planning
Mar 29 – Easter Holiday



Fun Facts

Come give Mrs. Wolfinger a fun fact answer on March 14th or 15th and get prize

Name a President of the United States who was born in March.

When did Woman's History Month start?
The theme this year is *Women Inspiring Innovation Through Imagination: Celebrating Women in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics*

Tell me about a woman in one of the above fields who inspires you.

Market Day

March is Dessert Month! Visit MarketDay.com. School Code 29888

We love the pepperoni pizza, the wild Alaskan salmon, the stuffed chicken breast, the pork tenderloins and chickensteaks – Kim G.

The Sweet Corn Casserole is a big hit in our home, we have it every other week. The kids like to prepare the French Toast Sticks for breakfast. The Deep Dish Apple pie was fantastic! – The Wolfinger family

We LOVE the stuffed flounder and cheesy garlic

bread. - The Papanikolas family

We second the stuffed flounder. Very tasty. - Vickie

**The more desserts ordered
the more money we earn!**

Check out our BHES PTA Website! BHESPTA.org Contact us at: Officers@BHESPTA.org

LENT: Masses & Spiritual Exercises

Come join us this year!

Ash Wednesday Masses,

February 13, 2013:

7:30 a.m., 12:10 p.m., 7:30 p.m.

Ashes distributed after the homily at the Masses

Weekend Masses:

Saturday, 5:00 p.m.;

Sunday, 8:00 a.m.,
10:00 a.m., 12:00 noon

Daily Masses:

Weekdays, 7:30 p.m.

Saturdays, 8:30 a.m.

Presidents Day, 10:00 a.m.

Stations of the Cross:

Fridays, 7:30 p.m.

Confessions:

Wednesdays, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Saturdays, 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Sundays, 9:15-9:45 a.m.

Morning Prayer:

Weekdays, 7:00 a.m.

Saturdays, 8:00 a.m.

Evening Prayer:

Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m.



Adoration

of the Most

Blessed

Sacrament:

Saturdays,
9:00-10:00 a.m.

Bible Study:

Women of the Old Testament
Thursdays, February 21 to March
14, 7:30-9:30 p.m.

HOLY REDEEMER CATHOLIC CHURCH

**4902 Berwyn Road
College Park, MD 20740**

**301-474-3920
parish@holy-redeemer.org**

Route 1 South, Left on Berwyn Road. Church is on the third block on the right side. Parking lot is located past the church.



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MHIC 51073

Mobile
Bob 301-646-0825
Danny 301-535-4594

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The Bugle – March 2013

The Berwyn Heights Boys and Girls Club

2012 Special Recognition Awards

Each year the Berwyn Heights Boys and Girls Club recognizes one man, woman, boy, and girl who contributes beyond the call of duty in our community, within the club, and for the boy and girl, in school.

Man of the Year – Jeff Osmond – Over the past few years, Coach Jeff has been extremely instrumental with our children coaching, track and soccer. His love for coaching and teaching extends beyond the field and his dedication to the children is unparalleled. His passion for the game is influential and will even motivate first time players to play with passion and show great sportsmanship. We salute Coach Jeff and thank him for his efforts.

Woman of the Year – Kathy Schuster – The BHBGC has been lucky to have Kathy Schuster not only as a coach with softball but also to take on the major responsibility of registrar for the past couple of years. Whenever the club needs volunteers to help at an event, Kathy Schuster, is always willing to lend a hand. She is always excited to meet new club parents and children and continues to guide us in the right direction.

Boy of the Year – Tyler Compton – Ty has not only been a leader on the soccer and baseball field but a leader in our community and school as well. Ty helped the BHBGC baseball team come in first place last year! He volunteers to help out whenever needed and is an example to our younger members in the club.

Girl of the Year – Megan Conover – Megan is not only being nominated for her contributions in softball but she has set a great example of volunteering with the club. Megan went out of her way to help the club during Berwyn Heights Day with the concession stand and is a great example to younger members on how be positive and to help out when needed.

Spring Sports

Soccer, Tee Ball, Baseball, and Softball will be starting soon. Practices will start in March and those who have registered will receive an email from the coach of your team. Games will end approximately at the end of June.

Registration

IF YOU MISSED OUR TWO REGISTRATION DAYS BUT WOULD STILL LIKE YOUR CHILD TO PARTICIPATE, PLEASE SEND AN EMAIL TO Leslie Wolfinger at: leswolfinger@gmail.com.

Volunteer

If you have a little time in your schedule to either coach a team or volunteer to assist with our youth, we would be happy to meet you! Our next meeting will be held on Friday, March 2, 2013 at 7:00PM at the Berwyn Heights Town Center. If you would like to help out but are unsure and want to speak with someone, please contact Shinita Hemby at (202) 531-6066 or by email at hembygirl@yahoo.com.

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



Show off your talent

at the Berwyn Heights Recreation Council

Annual Hollywood Talent Showcase



Friday, April 19, 2013

Show Starts at 7:00 pm

Berwyn Heights Elementary School – Multipurpose Room

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

A dress rehearsal will be held on Thursday, April 18 at 6:30 pm

Interested in performing? Fill out the form below and return it to the Berwyn Heights Community Center, Town Center, or Elementary School or contact Kristen Buker (KristenBuker@aol.com, 443-623-0013) for more information. **Permission slips are due by Thursday, April 11. If your performance will be accompanied by music, a copy of that music is due with your permission slip.**

Performer's Name: _____ Age: _____

Teacher's Name: _____

Talent: _____ Group Name, if applicable: _____

Will you be performing to music? _____ Do you have any special requirements for your performance (for example, a table or chair)? _____

I give permission for my child _____

to participate in the Berwyn Heights Talent Show.

Date: _____

Performer's Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian Phone Number _____ E-mail Address: _____

RECREATION COUNCIL NEWS AND EVENTS

Next Meeting: Thursday, March 7 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Center. We will be planning Berwyn Heights Day. Whether you have ideas for the day or a few hours to volunteer, we need your help! Come to our next meeting or contact us for more information.

Be Part of Berwyn Heights Day: The Recreation Council is looking for volunteers to help with the pancake breakfast, games, ticket sales, and Fun Run. It's a great way to meet your neighbors and give back to your community. Students can earn community service hours.

Recreation Council Contacts:

Trinity Tomsic – 301-474-6350, trinity.tomsic@gmail.com

Kristen Buker – 443-623-0013, KristenBuker@aol.com

Upcoming Events:

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

April 19 at Berwyn Heights Elementary School (see Registration Form in bulletin)

Berwyn Heights Day Preview – Saturday, May 4

- ❖ **Fun Run** 8:30 a.m. (8:00 a.m. registration, Town Center) – All participants get a free t-shirt designed by resident David Williams!
- ❖ **Seniors' Bake Sale** 8:30 a.m. – late afternoon at Senior Center
- ❖ **Pancake Breakfast** 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. at Town Center, 2nd Floor (\$5.00 adults, \$3.00 children under 12)
- ❖ **Craft Vendors** 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. at Sports Park (See Application Below)
- ❖ **Parade, Performances, and Award Presentation** – 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.
- ❖ **Food and Drinks** – 12:00 p.m. at Sports Park
- ❖ **Games and More Games** – 1:00 pm – 4:30 p.m. at Sports Park
- ❖ **Afternoon Concert** and much more!

Craft Vendor/Information Booth Application

Contact Person: _____

Business: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number and Cell Number: _____

E-mail: _____

Items for Sale/Distribution: _____

The Recreation Council must approve ALL items for sale. Please do not sell or provide food/drinks, silly string, or colored hair spray. All vendors will be located at Sports Park (corner of 57th Ave and Berwyn Road).

Set-Up Time: 9:30 am – 10:30 am; Event time: 11:00 am – 4:00 pm

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

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

Drop-off registration form at Town Center with cash/check (made out to Berwyn Heights Recreation Council) by **April 19, 2013**. For additional information, contact Kristen Buker at 443-623-0013, KristenBuker@aol.com

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COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

Boys & Girls Club

President: Shinita Hemby 202-531-6066
 Soccer Commissioner: Jason Papanikolas
 Baseball Commissioner: Ronnie Compton 301-345-2661
 Tee Ball Commissioner: Jim Hudson 301-982-2052
 Basketball Commissioner: Kristen Buker 240-965-7055
 Cheerleading Commissioner: Kristen Buker 240-965-7055
 Ball Hockey Commissioner: Kevin Conover 301-441-1569
 Track Commissioner: Jeff Osmond 301-474-2737

Neighborhood Watch/Emergency Preparedness/CERT

Co-Chair Ron Shane 240-965-7022
 Co-Chair Joan Hayden 301-474-5037

Historical Committee

Sharmila Bhatia 301-446-6920

Men's League

Jim McGinnis 301-345-1223

Playgroup

Rose Almoguera 301-974-1777

Quilter's Club

Lois Williams 301-345-6214

Recreation Council

Trinity Tomsic 301-474-6350

Seniors Club

Jean McConnell 301-345-6373

Green Team

Therese Forbes 301-982-7115

BULLETIN BOARD

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Adjustable Bed FOR SALE: Electric bed adjusts at both head & feet for total comfort while sleeping, watching TV, reading, or just relaxing. Selling (1) FULL size and (1) TWIN size. Call Sue - 443-226-6628

BH Republican Club meets once a month, usually on the last Monday, at the Senior Center and welcomes all residents to participate. For more information, check out the Berwyn Heights Republicans Webpage:

www.npgcrc.com/pages/BHR.html

Or email: gottv12@yahoo.com

Berwyn Heights published author seeks part time service of computer-savvy person/student to help to add Paypal account to his website, mail marketing, etc. Please contact suvomoi-tro@gmail.com

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

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

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





Free Karate Training!!!!

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

**Berwyn Heights Town Center-5700 Berwyn Rd-2nd Fl.
Year-Round: Mondays and Fridays 5-7 pm**

2013 Martial Arts Hall of Fame Inductees

In January, three club members were inducted into Great Grandmaster Aaron Banks' World Professional Martial Arts Hall of Fame in NYC.

(Fr left-Great Grandmaster Aaron Banks, Abby Reznick, Cynthia Roseberry-Andrews, Sensei Leon Swain)



**For more information, contact Theresa Beck at 301-237-2829
(beck_theresa@yahoo.com) or Sensei Leon Swain at 301-728-2881**

BERWYN HEIGHTS POLICE BEAT



"Police Beat" includes crimes and accidents that occurred during the month of January 2013. It is not a complete listing of every crime and/or accident that occurred in

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

01/03/2013 at 10:30 am, Pfc. Roberson impounded a 2001 Hyundai from the location of 6300 block of Pontiac Street. The vehicle was displaying a tag to another vehicle.

01/03/2013 at 12:45 pm, Chief Antolik and Detective Unger noticed two suspicious males walking around the 6200

block of Quebec Street. They were later approached by Pfc. Roberson, identified, interviewed and sent on way.

01/03/2012 at 3:00 pm, Pfc. Roberson impounded a 2009 Nissan from the location of 8800 block of Cunningham Drive. The driver was driving on suspended license.

01/07/2013 at 10:16 am, Pfc. Thompson responded to the 8300 block of Cunningham Drive for a report of a theft of a rear Maryland registration plate from a 2001 Toyota.

01/07/2013 at 12:20 pm, Pvt. Duck responded to the 7600 block of Charlton Avenue for a report of damages to a 2006 Chevy.

01/09/2013 at 2:55 pm, Pfc. Ignowski, Pfc. Thompson, Det. Unger and the Chief of Police responded to the 8500 block of 58th Avenue for a report of a burglary. Unknown person climbed through a basement window. Once inside, the suspect removed various items. No one was at home during the aforementioned incident.

01/10/2013 at 9:52 am, Det. Unger, Pfc. Krouse and the Chief of Police responded to the 6200 block of Tecumseh Place for a report of a burglary. Unknown person kicked through a basement window. Once inside, the suspect (s) fled after hearing an alarm. Nothing of value was taken. No one was at home during the aforementioned incident.

01/29/13 Thomas Lee Posey a 57 Y/O man pled guilty to first-degree murder and two counts of first-degree rape dating to 1990. He was sentenced to life in prison. Victim was Ms. Margaret Perkins 22 Y/O, w/f from Texas studying to be an astronaut. Her body was found under the Berwyn Bridge back in June 1990.

01/30/13 at 4:48 pm, Pfc. Ignowski responded to the 5600 block of Ruatan Street for a 911 call. Investigation revealed that the caller a 52 Y/O, w/f repeatedly made 911 calls while she was intoxicated.

01/31/13 at 7:54 pm, Pfc. Ignowski responded to the 8904 62nd Avenue at T-Mobile for report of theft of several cellular phones.



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6401 Golden Triangle Drive Greenbelt, MD 20770

BOB NERI

(301) 441-1100

(240) 460-4722



Notary Public

Licensed in MD & D.C. Especially For You!
YOUR TOWN RESIDENT REALTOR

Your Town Update...

Sold	5608 Berwyn Road - 4 Bdrm, 2 Bath	\$154,900
Sold	5722 Nevada Street - 3 Bdrm, 2 Bath	\$245,000
Sold	8501 58th Avenue - 3 Bdrm, 2 Bath	\$224,500
Sold	4700 Block Tecumseh Street - Bldg Lot	\$55,000
Active	6214 Ruatan Street - 4 Bdrm, 2 Bath	\$315,000
Contract	8419 57th Avenue - 3 Bdrm, 2 Bath	\$190,000
Contract	8512 58th Avenue - 5 Bdrm, 4 Bath	\$350,000

Let Me Sell Your Home!

Not All Properties Shown are Listed/Sold
By This Agent or Company,
But All Information is Deemed to be Reliable
From the Realtor MRIS 2013 System.
Each Office is Independently Owned & Operated.



BULLETIN ADVERTISING RATES

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

BERWYN HEIGHTS SENIORS CLUB

“Celebrating 25 Years in Town”

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO

Mar. 4	Bruce Hockman
Mar. 6	Thomas Louie
Mar. 12	Libby Hand
Mar. 13	Theodore Erickson
Mar. 15	Frances Day
Mar. 16	Grace O'Connor
Mar. 19	Mia Rojas
Mar. 20	Victoria Padua
Mar. 21	Norma Wines
Mar. 22	Pat Agee
	Nae-shiang Chiou
Mar. 25	Peggy Gannon
	Peggy Smith
Mar. 26	Gail Anzulavic
Mar. 27	Roland Heath
Mar. 30	Joan Shotland

MARCH ACTIVITIES

Mar. 5	Bingo	12:30 P.M.
Mar. 6	Wii Bowling	10:30 A.M.
Mar. 7	Pool Night	7:00 P.M.
Mar. 9	Potluck & Movie	5:00 P.M.
Mar. 12	Meeting	11:00 A.M.
	Bingo	1:00 P.M.
Mar. 13	Wii Bowling	10:30 A.M.
Mar. 14	Pool Night	7:00 P.M.
Mar. 19	Bingo	12:30 P.M.
Mar. 20	Wii Bowling	10:30 A.M.
Mar. 21	Pool Night	7:00 P.M.
Mar. 26	Meeting & Potluck	11:00 A.M.
	Bingo	1:00 P.M.
Mar. 27	Wii Bowling	10:30 A.M.
Mar. 28	Pool Night	7:00 P.M.

SENIORS TRIPS

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

May 18 — Mystery Trip

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



MD Senatorial / House of Delegates Scholarships

Each representative from our State legislative district (District 22) offers a scholarship for students residing in the district. Selection is based on financial need and/or academic achievement. The application process is a little different for each, but it is well worth applying for all three:

Senator Paul G. Pinsky: Go to www.senatorpinsky.org, click on *Scholarship Application* and complete and submit application on-line **by April 4, 2013.**

Delegate Tawanna P. Gaines: Go to www.tawannagaines.org, click *Scholarship Information*, and download Scholarship Application. Complete application. Mail application and a 300 word essay to Delegate Gaines **by April 1, 2013.**

Delegate Anne Healey: Go to www.delegatehealey.com, click *Scholarship Information*, and download application. Complete application, and mail completed application to Delegate Anne Healey, Maryland House of Delegates, 6 Bladen Street, Room 350, Annapolis, MD 21401, ATTN: Scholarship by **April 15, 2013.**

For all scholarships, you must:

Live in District 22 (which includes Berwyn Heights)

Be a full or part time student

Attend an eligible Maryland institution of higher education or private career school during 2013-2014 academic year

Be enrolled in an undergraduate, graduate, post secondary career, vocational or professional studies program, and Submit a free application for *Federal Student Aid* (see www.fafsa.ed.gov) by March 1, 2013



Code News

Junked Vehicles

It is a violation of State law and Town ordinances to park a junked, wrecked or abandoned vehicle on the street or on your property. A vehicle is considered junked if 1) it has expired or no license tags or is not registered in Maryland; 2) it is inoperable or in disrepair; or 3) it has been parked in the same location for more than 72 hours without having been moved. This mostly applies to cars that show signs of neglect, such as accumulated dirt and debris on and around the car.

While any of the above violations can result in a fine or in the vehicle being towed, the Town much prefers to work with residents to resolve these issues. Please call the Code Compliance Department (301-513-9331) or the Police Department (301-474-5000) if you need an extension to repair or register your car, or want to sell or donate it.



Code Activity for January 2013:

Top code violations: High Grass/ Overgrown Vegetation = 0; Trash/ Litter = 27; Vehicle Violations = 1; 2 Yard Waste = 4; Miscellaneous Violations = 13; Abatements = 2.

Other activities: New Rental Properties = 1; Rental Inspections and Re-inspections = 16; Rental Investigations = 6; Building Permits = 5; POD Permits = 1; Roll-off Permits = 1.

Receipts: Permits = \$964; Fines and Late Fees = \$1,175; Liens = \$100; Code Fines, Cleanouts, Abatement Receipts, including liens mailed to the County = \$665.

Berwyn Heights Historical Committee

President Taft's Great Grandson Tells His Story

Hugh Taft-Morales, the great-grandson of our 27th President, William Howard Taft, spoke at the Berwyn Heights Historical Committee's 3rd Annual President's Day Reception on February 16th. Both Hugh and his wife, Maureen, discussed the legacy and little known facts about the president and his wife Nellie.

Nellie Taft was responsible for obtaining from Japan the many cherry trees planted along the D.C. Tidal Basin. She also established the tradition of the First Lady accompanying her husband on his inaugural parade walk. Taft; was the only president to serve as a U.S. Supreme Court Justice; was our heaviest (330 lbs) president; and the only president to be a member of the Unitarian Church.



Over three dozen guests enjoy a wonderful afternoon of great conversation, good music and delicious food and drink. (left) Guest of honor, Hugh Taft-Morales and his wife share stories of his famous great grandfather, William Howard Taft.

After leaving office, Taft spent his time in academia, arbitration, and the search for world peace through his self-founded League to Enforce Peace. In 1921, after the First World War, President Warren G. Harding appointed Taft Chief Justice of the United States. Taft served in this capacity until shortly before his death in 1930.

For more fascinating stories about Taft and several other past presidents, check out Andrew Clark's April 17 *Washington Post Magazine* article "Hail to the Chiefs!" at: <http://www.washingtonpost.com>

Did you know . . .

The 1st Berwyn Heights election was held in May 1897?

Find out more fun facts on our new BHHC website where we share the work of the Committee plus a current digest of events, projects, and activities.

Visitors are welcome to comment and share information about our Town's past and the people who lived here.

Visit us today . . .

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

The BHHC welcomes new members and volunteers who are interested in working on events and projects that highlight our Town's history. The BHHC meets at the Town Office on the fourth Tuesday each month at 7:30 p.m.

Our next meeting will be on March 26th.

A screenshot of the Berwyn Heights Historical Committee (BHHC) website. The website has a blue and white color scheme with a decorative border. The header includes the name "Berwyn Heights Historical Committee" and the tagline "Uncovering The Past". Below the header is a navigation menu with links: HOME, ABOUT US, HISTORIC MARKERS, MUSEUM, CONTACT US, and LINKS. The main content area features a large black and white photograph of a historic building. To the right of the photograph is a search bar. Below the photograph, there is a text box that reads: "The Berwyn Heights Historical Committee (BHHC) was established in March 2003 with the mission to preserve and make known the history of the Town of Berwyn Heights." Below this text box is another text box that reads: "Here we share some of the work of the Committee, and a digest of current activity (see blog). We hope readers find this interesting and provide feedback that sheds more light on our past." To the right of the text boxes is a section titled "BHHC MEETINGS & EVENTS" which lists two meetings: "February 16, 2013, 2:00 - 5:00 pm: Presidents' Day Wine & Cheese Reception" and "February 26, 2013, 7:30 pm: BHHC meeting". At the bottom right, there is a link to "FOLLOW BLOG VIA EMAIL".




Berwyn Heights Volunteer Fire Department & Rescue Squad, Inc. • 8811 60th Avenue • Berwyn Heights, MD 20740
Station Telephone: (301) 474-7866

In Case of Emergency Call 911!

Technical Rescue Support Unit Awarded Citation:

On February 4th 2013, several BHVFD volunteers were presented a Unit Citation by Prince Georges County Fire Chief Mark Bashoor for their efforts in rescuing a male from a mulch dye machine in Laurel on April 12th 2012. BHVFD responded with our Technical Rescue Support Unit, Rescue Squad, and Assistant Chief. The following were recognized:

- Vol. Deputy Fire Chief Chase Fabrizio
- Vol. Captain Ryan Wagner
- Vol. Fire Fighter Scott Pierce
- Vol. Fire Fighter Nathan Collins
- Vol. Fire Fighter Mark Grant

Does your house have an escape plan?	Run Statistics-January 2013	
<p>In the event of a fire, remember - time is the biggest enemy and every second counts! Escape plans help you get out of your home quickly. Practice escape plans every month. The best plans <u>have two ways to get out of each room</u>. If the primary way is blocked by fire or smoke, you will need a second way out.</p> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <div style="margin-left: 10px;"> <p>Home Fire Escape Plan</p> </div> </div>	Rescue Squads:	143
	Technical Rescue Support Unit:	3
	Ladder Truck:	68
	Ambulances:	180
	Total Station Runs for January:	391
	Working Fires	3
	Car Extractions	4



Visit us online at <http://www.BHVFD14.org/> for more information and to see working incidents we have run!

Twitter: @BHVFD14





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





DAVID HARDING
Assistant Service Manager



CAPITAL CADILLAC
 6500 Capitol Drive
 Greenbelt, MD 20770

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

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

Berwyn Heights Green Team



Welcome to the **GreenBee**, your monthly guide to tips and resources from the Green Team! As part of our efforts to build a greener Berwyn Heights, we'll provide some helpful information on a range of topics each month in the Bulletin. If you'd like to contact us to share your ideas, please email us at bgreen.berwynheights@gmail.com, or contact Therese Forbes, outreach coordinator, at 301-982-7115.



Update on Green Team activities: In February's bulletin, the Green Team included a community survey to help prioritize our areas of focus—thanks to everyone who participated in the survey. We value your input, and will share the results next month. Our next meeting is March 21st at 7:00 pm (Town Office).

Starting a Vegetable Garden: Although some days may still feel wintry, March is the month when many people begin thinking about green things—not only because of St. Patrick's Day, but because green buds on plants hint at spring approaching. Now is a great time to plan a vegetable garden that will provide your family homegrown fresh greens throughout the growing season.

Gardening First Steps: Choose a site with light exposure and level ground. Plan to protect your harvest from critters with a barrier such as fencing. With a little more up-front work, a raised bed can be a good option—the soil drains well, warms quickly, is less susceptible to weeds, and can produce greater yields. Regardless of the type of garden you choose, 6-12 inches of rich topsoil is critical. Consider testing your soil regularly and adding lots of organic matter—such as compost and shredded leaves!

Vegetable Options. If you're new to gardening, here are seven of the most popular plants for a simple, rewarding crop: Lettuce, Kale (leafy greens), Tomatoes, Peppers, Cucumbers, Summer Squash, Bush Beans. If your garden isn't in full-sun, here are some vegetables that do well in part-shade: Asian Greens, Lettuce, Arugula, Swiss Chard, Kale, and Some Herbs (Cilantro, Chives, Mint).

Planting Seeds. If you're starting a garden from seed, this is a perfect time to sprout a few vegetables inside first, so they'll be ready for planting in the Spring. To view indoor/outdoor planting times for each vegetable, check out this great planting calendar for Maryland: http://www.growit.umd.edu/GE007_Vegetable_Planting_Calendar_for_Central_MD.pdf

Great Resources.

Grow it! Eat it! (www.growit.umd.edu) - Access to valuable and practical gardening tips and information.

Home and Garden Information Center (www.hgic.umd.edu) - Can answer your gardening questions...call the "hotline" Mon-Fri, 8am-1pm (1-800-342-2507)

Community Supported Agriculture (CSA): If gardening is not for you but you'd still like to obtain fresh, local foods, you may be interested in a *Community Supported Agriculture* (CSA) group, which lets consumers purchase shares of a local farm's harvest. For information about local farms offering CSA shares, take a look at this new interactive map developed by the Washington Post: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-srv/special/food/csa-community-supported-agriculture-interactive-map/>



Berwyn Heights Playgroup

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

New Infants Playgroup Meeting Weekends!

**Sundays at 3:00pm at the Town Center - meet parents and
Berwyn Heights' youngest residents!**

Weekday Playdate (preschoolers and younger)

Thursdays 10:30am-12:00pm

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

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



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sharonsells@lnf.com • www.sharonmccraney.com



Welcome to Spring!! Spring forward on Mar 11 (2am) to daylight savings time!

Simple, quick, low cost Spring "Makeovers" for your home:

1. Paint! I can't stress enough how a fresh coat of paint, a nice earth tone can change a room.
2. Paint brown (luan)doors white to brighten hallways. Add all matching door knobs in brushed nickel or burnished brass.
3. Change out dated light fixtures in bedrooms, hallways, dining room (match to doorknobs). Replace fluorescent kitchen lighting fixtures.
4. Remove old and dated carpet, clean and shine hardwood floors.
5. Replace all old "venetian" style blinds with updated wood type 2" blinds, roman shades or plantation shutters.



LISTED/SOLD this month by Sharon:

SOLD-6014 Westchester Park Dr...2BR, 1BA condo w/balcony...\$95,000.
RENTED-6215 Quebec Pl...3BR, 2BA rambler w/updt kit.....\$1700.
AVAILABLE-5820 Quebec St...6BR,3+ BA farmhouse...updt kit, 3 balconies, 2 zone HVAC, HDWD flrs, sep DR.....\$389,000.
UNDER CONTRACT-5710 Berwyn Rd...4+BR, 2BA rambler w/complete update to Kit, Baths, family room, large yard, deck, etc.....\$264,900.
NEW LISTING-8824 Edmonston Rd...2BR, 2BA storybook cottage, open floor plan, FP, granite counters, lush landscaped yd and more.....\$244,900.



March 2013

Town of Berwyn Heights Monthly Calendar of Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 <p>PLEASE DO NOT PARK ON THE STREET WHEREVER POSSIBLE WHEN THE STREET SWEEPER IS IN TOWN.</p> <p>The street sweeper symbol appears in the Sunday cell (see below) of the week when streets will be swept in Berwyn Heights.</p>			 Recycling Collection  Street Sweep-  Yard Waste  North South	 Refuse Collection  North South  Bulk Pick-up  North South	 1 	2
3	 4  Worksession 7:00 P.M. Town Office Televised on Ch 71, FiOS 12	 5 	 6	 7  Recreation Council Meeting Town Office 7:00 P.M.	 8 	9 CERT Training Workshop
10 CERT Training Workshop	 11  Budget Worksession 7:00 P.M. Town Office Televised on Ch 71, FiOS 12	 12 	 13 Town Meeting 8:00 P.M. Town Office Televised on Ch 71, FiOS 12	 14 	 15 	16
17	 18  Worksession 7:00 P.M. Town Office Televised on Ch 71, FiOS 12	 19 	 20 Green Team 7:00 P.M. Town Office	 21 	 22 	23
24	 25  Budget Worksession 7:00 P.M. Town Office Televised on Ch 71, FiOS 12	 26  BHHHC Meeting Town Office 7:30 P.M.	 27	 28 	 29  GOOD FRIDAY Town Offices Will close At 1:00 P.M.	30
31 EASTER SUNDAY						

BERWYN HEIGHTS BULLETIN

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

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

POSTAL CUSTOMER BERWYN HEIGHTS, MARYLAND

Dated Material — Do Not Delay!

TOWN INFORMATION

Town of Berwyn Heights Phone Nos.

Emergency - Fire Rescue 9-1-1
 Police (Non-Emergency) (301) 352-1200
 Police Administrative Office (301) 474-6554
 Code Compliance Department (301) 513-9331
 Public Works Department (301) 474-6897
 Email: publicworks@town.berwyn-heights.md.us
 Fire Department (301) 474-7866
 Senior Center (301) 474-0018
 Community Center (Gym) (301) 345-2808
 Town Office (301) 474-5000
 Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
 Call-A-Bus Reservations (301) 474-5000
 Maryland Relay Service (TTY)..... 1(800) 735-2258

Mayor and Council

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

Regular Trash Collection Schedule

North of Pontiac..... Mondays & Thursdays
 South of Pontiac..... Tuesdays & Fridays
Heavy Trash Day:
 Weekly on Thursday for North of Pontiac
 Weekly on Friday for South of Pontiac
Recycling Schedule:
 Wednesdays for the entire Town.

Town Helpline

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

Watch Council Meetings



On Comcast channel 71
FIOS channel 12

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

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