

# Berwyn Heights Bulletin

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

**NOVEMBER 2012**

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HAPPY THANKSGIVING

## Veterans' Day Event

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## TOWN-WIDE CLEANUP

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HOLIDAY  
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SCHEDULE

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TREE  
LIGHTING  
FEST





## General Election

**November 6**

**7 am – 8 pm**

**BHES Cafeteria**

### On the Ballot:

- US President
- US Vice President
- US Senator
- US Congressman
- PGC Board of Education Members
- State & County Ballot Questions

For more information go to:

<http://www.elections.state.md.us/elections/2012/>



The Winter Holidays are just around the corner, and with them the Town's Tree Lighting Ceremony, which will take place on Saturday, December 1, at the Berwyn Heights Senior Center.

Please plan to spend a delightful evening with your community friends, singing carols, lighting the town tree, and making holiday ornaments and crafts. Santa will make a special appearance, and apple cider, hot chocolate and desserts will be served.

## STORMWATER MANAGEMENT: NEW REGULATIONS & FEES

The Town of Berwyn Heights, at the October 10 Town meeting, resolved to opt into the Prince George's County Watershed Protection and Storm Water Restoration Program. Effective July 2012, the Maryland State Legislature passed House Bill 987, which mandates counties and municipalities to implement a program to reduce overall stormwater runoff. Counties will be required to reduce storm water runoff by 30% within the next 5 years and municipalities by 20%. While municipalities can opt to implement these regulations by themselves, Berwyn Heights does not have the administrative capabilities to do so.

To pay for the cost of achieving the required stormwater runoff reductions residential and commercial property owners will be asked to pay an additional storm water management fee that takes into account the size of a property's impervious areas. A County commission is working to set up a system of charges to include a stormwater remediation fee and a local watershed protection and restoration fund that is to be implemented by July 2013.



### HOLIDAY TRASH SCHEDULE

#### Veterans Day

NO PICKUP –

Mon., Nov. 12

Whole Town Pickup –

Tue., Nov. 13

Recycling & Yard Waste –

Wed., Nov. 14

#### Thanksgiving

NO PICKUP –

Thu., Nov. 22

NO PICKUP –

Fri., Nov. 23

Normal Pickup –

Nov. 26 – 30

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

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### NEW SOLICITOR'S PERMIT

The Town Council has issued a solicitor's permit to Mike Smith of Hauling and Junk Removal. For your protection, please ask to see permit and photo ID.

# Worksession

September 10, 2012

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 were Town Administrator (TA) Murphy, Clerk Harper, Consultants Lonni Moffet and Charles Happ, and residents Sukumar Sain and Anthony Schreiber.

## 1. Mayor

**Announcements:** Tonight's worksession will be the first to be broadcast with the new audio-video equipment. Residents are requested to give feedback. The traveling garden reward program has been completed. Residents who received one of the books to recognize a beautiful garden are requested to return them to the Town office. The Recreation Council would like to see which gardens were recognized. A resident on Pontiac Street at 63<sup>rd</sup> Avenue erected a red library booth with books at the bus stop in front of her home, which can be perused by waiting bus riders. Boys & Girls Club parents demolished the old club shed on the BHES field to make room for a new one.

**Calendar:** A merit increase discussion was scheduled for the September 24 worksession and a public hearing on sidewalks for the October 10 Town meeting. The legislative delegation dinner was proposed for the week of November 26.

**Minutes:** The Council reviewed the August 20 worksession minutes. As Clerk Harper was absent at the August 20 worksession and no recording was made, the draft minutes were composed based on the background materials prepared for the meeting and notes from CM Kulpa-Eddy. Adoption was postponed to later in the meeting.

**Department reports:** MPT Wilkinson reported that Public Works installed trash cans at several bus stops. More will be installed when funding becomes available. Mayor Calvo commented that he likes the new trash containers, which are affixed to the bus stop posts. They are inexpensive and can be installed elsewhere if needed. Some school bus stops were moved at the beginning of the school year, which tends to result in more trash at the new locations.

Mayor Calvo reported that a brief power outage occurred on September 8, when a severe thunderstorm moved through the area. The deadline for submitting

comments to the Maryland Public Service Commission regarding Pepco's unsatisfactory response to a June 28 "Derecho" storm passed today without the Town submitting its letter. CM Dennison gave an update on upcoming community events.

**Citizen comments:** Mayor Calvo received comments regarding several instances of eggs being thrown at cars. MPT Wilkinson received a comment about a proposed stop sign for the intersection of Villanova Road and Swarthmore Drive.

**Commercial vehicle parking permit** (discussed out of order): Mayor Calvo welcomed Anthony Schreiber of 8309 58<sup>th</sup> Avenue, who requested a temporary permit for parking his commercial vehicle in the street at night. Mr. Schreiber explained that he has his 70 year old mother-in-law living with him and his life partner, who just gave birth. He would like them to be able to park as close to the house as possible so they don't have to walk down his steep driveway to get to their car. However, they cannot do so if he also parks his commercial vehicle in the one-lane driveway. Therefore, he requests a permit to allow him to park his truck on the street overnight until his partner has recovered from giving birth and a new routine can be figured out. The permit is requested for the period of November 1 – December 31, 2012.

CM Almoguera moved and CM Dennison seconded to approve the temporary on-street parking request. CM Almoguera said that she is familiar with the property and agrees that the steeply sloped driveway is difficult to maneuver. MPT Wilkinson asked if a two month permit is long enough. Mr. Schreiber said he didn't know that there was an option to request a longer permit. A permit that is valid for a year would be better. Mayor Calvo said that he supports a six month permit so that Mr. Schreiber does not have request multiple extensions. However, he does not want to set a precedent for future long-term permit requests.

MPT Wilkinson moved and CM Almoguera moved to amend the motion to grant a permit ending on May 1, 2013. The motion to amend was approved 5 to 0. The main motion was approved 5 to 0. Mr. Schreiber was informed that the BHPD will issue the permit, which is to be displayed on the dashboard.

**Sidewalks:** Mayor Calvo said that one aspect of determining where sidewalks will go is funding. The Council needs to know how much money is in the public safety reserve after subtracting expenses for the sidewalk survey and the part-time police officer, who processes speed cam-

era tickets. Further, he would like to know how much money is in the other reserves and the surplus, as well as the cost of outstanding road repairs.

CM Kulpa-Eddy said TA Murphy may also want to include an estimate for installing emergency generators, which would be funded from the public safety reserve. She also asked whether the sidewalk design and engineering costs are included in the cost estimates for constructing priority 1 sidewalks. TA Murphy replied that the design and engineering costs are separate. In addition, the engineers' contingency cost of 15% are on the high side. In response to questions, he said that the Town engineers are working on breaking out the cost for constructing sidewalks in front of the Berwyn Heights Elementary School (BHES) and the Community Center and that the future sidewalks will be ADA compliant.

TA Murphy was asked prepare a memo for the next worksession detailing the status of the Town's reserves and surplus, and a draft notice to residents informing them about a sidewalks hearing to be held at the October 10 Town meeting. The notice should include details about the proposed locations for sidewalks, including the south-west corner of the Pontiac Street/Edmonston Road intersection, and alternate options, as well as a map showing the locations where sidewalks are proposed to be constructed.

**Quebec Street driveway change** (discussed out of order): Mayor Calvo welcomed Sukumar Sain of 8603 Quebec Place, who was present to request the Council's permission to install a pervious driveway on his property. TA Murphy explained that, in 2009, the Town granted a variance to Mr. Sain, whose new addition caused the home to exceed a County lot coverage limit. The Town approved the variance but, as an offset, required the owner to install a pervious driveway to mitigate storm water runoff. A pervious driveway has not been installed because Mr. Sain had exhausted his financial resources in building the addition. In April this year, the Town waived the pervious driveway requirement in lieu of a \$4,000 compensation. Mr. Sain proposed to pay to make storm water improvements elsewhere in the Town. Mr. Sain has returned today to propose installation of a brick driveway, which is partially permeable, and a waiver of the \$4,000 compensation.

Mr. Sain explained that there are two types of brick pavers his contractor has specified: 1) an 80% permeable paver, which would bring driveway construction

costs to \$14,300; and 2) a 40% permeable paver, which would cost \$12,000. He would prefer to install the less expensive pavers.

In deliberations, Mayor Calvo said that no one in Berwyn Heights has yet installed a pervious driveway. He would like to see an example of it. However, the Council did not know how expensive a pervious driveway is when they approved the variance. He is inclined to allow construction of the driveway with the 40% permeable driveway if the project is done before year's end. CM Dennison said that the Council should not reverse its previous decisions. Mr. Sain has asked three times to change the conditions of the variance because he wants to minimize his costs.

CM Almoguera asked if the use of the 40% permeable pavers meets new County storm water runoff regulations. TA Murphy said regulations require that new construction sites must be 20% more pervious than existing sites. He is not sure if it impacts this project. CM Almoguera said that she would approve the proposed 40% pervious driveway, which exceeds the the County requirement by 100%. CM Kulpa-Eddy said that she would prefer a blue stone gravel driveway to the proposed pervious pavers, because it would be the most pervious. MPT Wilkinson said that he would approve the proposed brick driveway. It would look much better than the gravel surface, which is currently installed.

MPT Wilkinson moved and CM Dennison seconded to approve the 40% brick paved driveway. The motion passed 4 to 1, with CM Kulpa Eddy opposed.

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

MML bylaws amendment: TA Murphy explained that the purpose of the proposed amendments, which will be up for adoption at the MML fall conference, is to make the tenure of MML chapter officers and department officers co-terminus with those of the MML board of directors. MPT Wilkinson read an e-mail from MML Research Director Peck explaining the reason for the amendment, which is "to align the beginning and ending dates of said MML officers with that of the Board of Directors. All operations of the local chapters and department would otherwise remain unaffected."

Mayor Calvo said he thinks that the amendments would create confusion because the board of directors terms end and begin on Tuesday nights of the MML convention, which is not a fixed date. This means that chapter officers' terms,

such as those of the Prince George's County Municipal Association (PGCMA), will not necessarily begin when they are elected. PGCMA's board of directors is elected in May. Further, chapter officers would have to take over part-way through the MML convention and preside over the remaining event. He does not think the amendments are necessary and would oppose them. CM Dennison agreed. She did not think the local chapter terms should follow those of the MML Board of Directors. No action was taken.

BHTV upgrade outstanding items (discussed out of order): Clerk Harper said that, while the new audio-visual system is now operational, some issues remain to be addressed and will entail additional expenditures. First, the control console located in the Council chamber has a lot of expensive equipment and should be protected with a lockable enclosure. This enclosure would likely have to be custom made. It should have plenty of ventilation and sound insulating materials.

Mayor Calvo asked whether the controls could be placed into another room, which is not open to the public and where the noise from the equipment would not be heard. Clerk Harper said that this would make it more difficult for her or TA Murphy to operate and monitor the equipment during a meeting. Mayor Calvo said that the Town could look for a volunteer, who likes working with the new and more interesting equipment. CM Almoguera said she does not think that the controls belong in the Council chamber and should be moved. MPT Wilkinson said he thinks the equipment is noisy and distracting. However, he would first like to know what it would cost to move the equipment before making a decision. CM Kulpa-Eddy said that a good enclosure could perhaps address the noise and security issues and may be cheaper. She asked how long it would take to move everything.

AV Contractor Lonni Moffet said moving the equipment would cost several thousand dollars. Most of it would be labor costs. TA Murphy said he estimates that the Town has spent close to \$30,000 on the BHTV upgrade so far and does not know exactly how much is left in the Cable TV reserve to spend on other things. Annual revenue in PEG fees comes to approximately \$14,000. Mayor Calvo said that he would like to go ahead with moving the controls and get a cost estimate for the next worksession to make a decision. He thought that other groups could perhaps use the equipment to produce video to be broadcast on Berwyn Heights' public access channel.

Clerk Harper said the other unresolved issues are whether to get a larger LCD monitor for the Council chamber and whether to upgrade the connection to the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Town Center. Mayor Calvo said that cost estimates are needed for these as well to make a decision. The Council agreed to procure new microphone stands with a lower profile.

Bulletin cover (discussed out of order): The following items were approved for the October Bulletin cover: Halloween theme; headlines for Trunk or Treat event and sidewalk hearing; jump for Trick-or-Treat, general election information and BHTV operator ad.

Road safety improvements: TA Murphy said he and Chief Antolik have surveyed the Town's streets to see where safety improvements are needed. The focus has been on intersections where road safety could be improved by establishing 'no parking' zones. In addition Officer Krouse has completed a survey to identify intersections where stop signs and lines need to be adjusted.

Proposed 'no parking' zones: The intersection of Berwyn Road at Charlton Avenue is one of the most dangerous in the Town. Visibility is reduced because of hilly terrain and a curve in the road. In addition, trucks and SUVs are regularly parked close to the intersection. Installing 'no parking' zones would help improve visibility. It is suggested to establish 'no parking' zones between the driveways of 5929 and 5933 Berwyn Road, eastbound; between Charlton Avenue and 6003 Berwyn Road, eastbound; and in front of 5934 Berwyn Road, westbound. The intersection of Berwyn Road, Edmonston Road and 63<sup>rd</sup> Avenue is also problematic because 3 streets come together and visibility is poor due to parked trucks. Therefore a 'no parking' zone might be considered between Berwyn Road and the driveway of 7712 Edmonston Road.

The intersection of Pontiac Street, Edmonston Road and Kenilworth Avenue is one of the busiest in Town, carrying traffic for school buses, Metro buses and The Bus in addition to private vehicles and pedestrians. To increase safety here blinking solar stop signs might be considered for Edmonston Road north and southbound, as well as a sign mounted to the post of the stop sign stating 'cross traffic does not stop.' Other improvements could include rumble strips or a speed bump on Pontiac Street, approaching Edmonston Road to slow down drivers who want to make the Kenilworth Avenue light; and a boxed, cross-hatched intersection to prevent drivers from waiting there for the light to turn

green.

A stop sign has been requested by residents living near the intersection of Villanova Road, eastbound, and Swarthmore Drive. However, TA Murphy and Chief Antolik do not think a stop sign is needed as visibility is good. The intersection of 60<sup>th</sup> Avenue, southbound, at Quebec Place is proposed for a 'no parking' zone at the bend to ensure better visibility. This location is at entrance of the Pop's Park playground and has a lot of pedestrian traffic, including small children. The intersection of 59<sup>th</sup> Avenue, southbound, at Tecumseh Street has a sharp 90% bend and visibility is sometimes obscured by a truck parked close to the bend. A 'no parking' zone between 8900 59<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 5903 Tecumseh Street is a possible solution, as well as installing a sharp bend arrow.

CM Almoguera noted that the resident, who owns the truck, deliberately parks it there to slow traffic down. Mayor Calvo agreed, noting that establishing 'no parking' zones may actually allow cars to go faster. He asked if the fire department has submitted a statement of its preferences for 59<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Tecumseh Street. TA Murphy said that it has not.

Stop sign/line survey: Mayor Calvo reviewed the list of locations where stop signs and stop lines may need to be adjusted to make it easier to see cross traffic coming. The Council approved moving stop signs closer to the intersection at the following locations: 63<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, southbound, at Berwyn Road, Vernon Terrace, eastbound, at Edmonston Road, and Quebec Street, eastbound, at Cunningham Drive (Pops Park). The Council did not approve moving a stop sign on 58<sup>th</sup> Avenue at Ruatan Street and Villanova Road at Swarthmore Drive because visibility is good. All intersections with obliterated stop lines were approved for repainting.

MPT Wilkinson shared road safety concerns and remedies, identified during a walk through the Town with Chief Antolik. At the intersection of 60<sup>th</sup> Avenue at Pontiac Street, across from the school/community center parking lot, drivers have to move beyond the stop line to be able to see around the corner to check for cross traffic. While the stop line complies with regulations, it is recommended to move the line closer to the intersection. On the opposite side of the same intersection, at the entrance to the school/community center parking lot, it is recommended to add a red line for students to wait behind until prompted to cross by a crossing guard. On Pontiac Street at 63<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, it is recommended to add a crosswalk so bus riders getting

on and off at the bus stop can safely cross the street. At the southwest corner of the Pontiac Street/Edmonston Road intersection, a safe spot should be established for pedestrians. On a motion by MPT Wilkinson and second by CM Almoguera, the Council authorized completing all low cost solutions.

Mayor Calvo said that he wants to approve some of the proposed 'no parking' zones tonight, but not all. He favors approving the road safety improvements proposed for Cunningham Drive at Quebec Place, Tecumseh Street at Seminole Street, as well as the cross-hatching of the Edmonston Road/Pontiac Street intersection. More deliberation is needed before implementing the 'no parking' zones on Berwyn Road at Charlton Avenue and at Edmonston Road because it imposes on residents who would no longer be allowed to park in front of their home.

CM Almoguera asked what the next steps are for making the Berwyn Road/Charlton Avenue intersection safer. Mayor Calvo said that he and others may want to have a closer look at these areas. He does not like to tell home owners that they cannot park in front of their homes unless there is a compelling reason. CM Kulpa-Eddy said that a concave mirror, which lets drivers see around a bend, may be a solution. Mayor Calvo said that some visibility problems can probably be alleviated by trimming back overgrown bushes. CM Almoguera noted that there is overgrown vegetation on Cunningham Drive at Goucher Drive as well. CM Almoguera moved and MPT Wilkinson seconded to approve the proposed stop sign/stop line changes and 'no parking' zone for Cunningham Drive/Quebec Place, and to move the stop sign on Vernon Terrace closer to Edmonston Road. The motion passed 5 to 0.

Minutes, resumed: Mayor Calvo offered extensive corrections for the sidewalks discussion, so that the Council's deliberations could be included in the October Bulletin. This information would be useful for residents who want to attend the October 10 sidewalks hearing. MPT Wilkinson and CM Almoguera also offered corrections. On a motion by CM Kulpa-Eddy and second by CM Dennison, the minutes were approved 5 to 0.

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

#### 6. Administration

Quebec Street driveway change, bulletin cover and BHTV upgrade were discussed under Mayor's agenda.

7. Executive Session (10:10 p.m. - 11:22

p.m.)

On a motion by MPT Wilkinson and second by CM Almoguera, the Council went into executive session to discuss the directors' performance evaluations. On a motion by MPT Wilkinson and second by CM Almoguera, the executive session was closed.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:22 p.m.

Kerstin Harper, Town Clerk

## Town Meeting September 12, 2012

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 Town Administrator (TA) Murphy, Officer Ignowski, Treasurer Lape, Clerk Harper, Consultants Lonni Moffet and Charles Happ, and citizens.

Mayor Calvo led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### 1. Minutes

Clerk Harper read a summary of the August 10 Town meeting minutes. On a motion by CM Dennison and second by CM Kulpa-Eddy, the minutes were approved 5 to 0.

### 2. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Lape gave the Treasurer's report for the month of August.

### 3. Mayor's Report

Mayor Calvo said that September is a busy month as schools are back in session and the Town's clubs and committees have resumed their programs. He gave an overview of upcoming events, including a first ever jazz concert at Lake Artemesia on September 22. He encouraged residents to spread the word and invite neighbors and new residents.

Among the issues currently occupying the Council's attention is coming up with a sensible route for sidewalks. Locations for priority 1 sidewalks have been narrowed down to a route of 10 blocks of Town streets, which starts at 60<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Greenbelt Road, and zigzags through the Town along the main traffic arteries to Sports Park and the Indian Creek trail. The Gazette ran an article last week stating that the cost estimates for this project range between \$450,000 - \$520,000, and mistakenly implied that the cost includes sidewalks on both sides of the designated streets. This is not the case. Instead the Council has worked to come up with a plan that puts sidewalks

on only one side of the street, but seeks to make them convenient to use while keeping costs low. Residents are asked to give input on this plan at the upcoming October 10 Town meeting.

Mayor Calvo outlined a breakdown of the estimated costs of the proposed sidewalks route:

1. \$227,000 for 60<sup>th</sup> Avenue/Cunningham Drive, east side, between Greenbelt Road and Pontiac Street;
2. \$117,000 for connecting existing sidewalks on Pontiac Street with the Town Center and Sport Park, excluding the 8600 block of 57<sup>th</sup> Avenue where installing sidewalks would require removing a number of mature trees.
3. \$113,000 for Pontiac Street, north side, in front of the school and community center. The Council has requested a break out of costs of sidewalks in front of the community center, where construction is particularly difficult and expensive because of a steep hill.

Mayor Calvo further noted that, following a conversation with MPT Wilkinson, he walked to Greenbelt Middle School for the first time. This made it clear to him that the 8900 block of 63<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, where most students walk to get to the middle school is a very busy and dangerous stretch of road that should have been included among priority 1 sidewalks. However, this location was not surveyed and is not part of the current plan.

Mayor Calvo also had the opportunity to tour the new Greenbelt Middle School after the ribbon-cutting on August 20. The new facility is amazing and has attracted many new students. As a result, the school opened about 15% over its rated capacity of 970. The volume of students will, however, bring additional resources, such as a 3<sup>rd</sup> assistant principal. He has confidence in the schools new leadership to manage the transition. Berwyn Heights Police has increased its presence around Berwyn Heights Elementary School to make it safe for the returning students.

At the last worksession, the Council completed the performance evaluations for its department directors, and will discuss merit increases at the upcoming worksession. This will be an open session and residents are welcome to comment.

Mayor Calvo continued that the State of Maryland during the last session enacted a new state-wide Storm Water Manage-

ment Restoration Program. It requires counties to reduce storm water runoff by 30% and municipalities by 20% by 2017. The goal is to reduce the damage done to Chesapeake Bay tributaries by increasing volumes of storm water runoff. To pay for the program, counties will be setting a new fee that will appear on the tax bill of homeowners and businesses next year. Municipalities have the option to implement their own storm water mitigation program or join with the County by the end of this year. As Berwyn Heights does not have the administrative infrastructure to implement this program, it plans to opt into the County program.

Mayor Calvo commented that in the November 6 general election, voters will get to vote on a series of controversial ballot initiatives. This includes Question 5, which is the Congressional redistricting plan for Maryland. He finds the district lines drawn by the State legislature to be an egregious example of gerrymandering, which violates the principles of democratic government. Congressional District 3 is particularly disjointed and cuts across 5 counties in a strained and contorted manner in order to achieve a political objective. He hopes citizens take a closer look at the map and take advantage of the opportunity to vote it down.

#### 4. Department Reports

**Administration:** CM Almoguera said that those watching this meeting on TV will notice the improved quality of the broadcast. The new audio-video equipment that was recently installed has a lot more capabilities than the old, such as zooming in on the redistricting map Mayor Calvo just showed to a point where it can be clearly seen at home. The Town will be looking for people interested and able to operate the controls and help with production of municipal access TV broadcasts.

CM Almoguera reported that new roofs are being installed at the Administration Building and the Public Works Building, the Town Center hose tower has been dry-locked and the back stairs to the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor repaired and repainted. She also reminded residents to please return any copies of the book "The Curious Garden" by Peter Brown to the Town office. The book was circulated by the Recreation Council as part of a Traveling Garden Award to recognize beautiful gardens in the Town. Lastly, the Berwyn Heights Playgroup will host its 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Family BBQ Potluck on Saturday, September 29 at Pop's Park. All families are invited.

**Code Compliance:** CM Kulpa-Eddy reported that the top violation for August was for high grass and overgrown vegetation with 116 occurrences. This in-

cludes door hangers and warning notices as well as citations. The Code Department has also started to check intersections for clear sight lines and residents may have been told to cut back shrubs and trees to improve visibility. New residents and students are advised that a new motor vehicle law will take effect starting October 1. All mopeds and motor scooters will be required to be titled and insured. All mopeds will have to display a title decal in the rear, and operators will be required to wear helmets and eye protection and must either possess a valid Maryland driver's license or moped operator's permit.

**Parks and Recreation, Education and Civic Affairs:** CM Dennison reminded residents to drive carefully with schools back in session, and called for volunteers to serve on the Education Advisory Committee (EAC) to advocate for Berwyn Heights schools. She then announced upcoming events, including an Ice Cream Social, Boys & Girls Camp-out and Movies at the Park, Lake Artemesia Jazz Concert, cleanup of the Berwyn Heights Elementary School gardens and Family BBQ at Pops Park.

**Public Health and Safety:** Officer Ignowski gave the police activities report for August as Chief Antolik could not come due to a personal matter. There were only 2 Part I offenses in August, which is well below the 5 year average of 10.4. The year to date total is 41, which is also below the 5 year average of 64.4. A total of 191 citations were issued and 2 arrests made. Speed camera citations numbered 252 of which 117 have been paid. Unpaid citations numbered 135 and 8 appeals have been filed. Officer Ignowski thanked the NW/EP for participating in the patrols on September 11, which passed without an incident.

Mayor Calvo thanked Officer Ignowski for assisting his wife in rescuing a little dog that was running loose on Edmonston Road after the owner had been taken to a nursing home. He called Animal Control, which brought the dog to a shelter, where he was examined and treated for fleas and then placed for adoption with Lab Rescue.

**Public Works:** MPT Wilkinson commented that the redistricting plan for Maryland is problematic. However, gerrymandering is a nation-wide problem. California has looked at taking redistricting out of the hand of legislators and appoint a private panel of experts to handle this. While he does not know what became of the initiative, he thinks it may be a better model.

MPT Wilkinson announced that early voting will begin a week before the general election on October 27. The closest early voting site is the College Park Community Center. Further, he received a response from Superintendent Hite reassuring him that needed improvements to the pedestrian footpath that leads through the bus depot to the new Greenbelt Middle School will be undertaken within the next few weeks. At BHES, Principal Singer passed out a *Safe Routes to School* survey that seeks to find out how each student gets to school. One hundred fifty have already been returned. This will help support a *Safe Routes to School* grant application. MPT Wilkinson attended a back to school night at Greenbelt Middle School, which convinced him that, academically, the school is on the right path. While there have been some issues with the new building since the opening, he came away impressed with the teaching staff.

MPT Wilkinson reported that one of his neighbors erected a little free library on her property near the UMD shuttle stop. It contains books anybody can take out to read and hopefully return when they are done. Public Works was busy spraying for poison ivy around the school, upgraded the 60<sup>th</sup> Avenue footpath and cleaned up the adjoining dead-end street. Acting Director Lockley also spoke with residents about moving their vehicles and trucks to make room for the street sweeper.

Mayor Calvo commented that the grass around the school basketball and tennis court has again grown very tall. The Town needs to engage with Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) to get them to take better care of their property.

## 5. Committee Reports

**Education Advisory Committee:** No report.

**Historical Committee:** No report.

**Neighborhood Watch/Emergency Preparedness:** CM Kulpa-Eddy said that September is National Preparedness Month. This is a good time for families to think about making emergency plans and putting together an emergency kit that would allow the family to shelter in place for a few days. The NW/EP was happy to help the police supervise the 9/11 observance at BHES and will gladly help out on similar occasions.

On September 29, another CPR/First Aid course will be held in Landover. Interested persons can contact her or the NW/EP co-chairs to make reservations.

**Recreation Council:** No report.

## 6. Unfinished Business

There was none.

## 7. New Business

There was none.

## 8. Citizens Discussion

Ray Smith, Seminole Place, said that a number of vehicles were vandalized in the College Park Metro parking garage on September 1. Many people, including himself, park there when they attend a University of Maryland football match and use the shuttle to get to the stadium. One neighbor, who called Metro Police to complain about her vehicle being vandalized, was told that they cannot do anything about it because it is not their jurisdiction. Apparently, there are no security cameras in the garage and no patrols. If this is the case, the subject could perhaps be raised at a Four Cities Coalition meeting.

Mayor Calvo replied that the Metro Police actually attended the last Four Cities meeting in July and discussed security at area Metro stations. Metro police is responsible for patrolling parking garages and does so. However, they might not patrol on weekends, when UMD football games take place. At the Four Cities meeting, Metro representatives said that they have increased security and brought crime down at the Greenbelt, College Park, and New Carrollton Metro stations. However, when it was suggested that Metro needs additional cameras, particularly in the stairwells of garages, where urination is a big problem, they were unresponsive. Their focus is on crimes to persons more than on crimes to property. The Four Cities plan to follow up with Metro on these concerns.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

Kerstin Harper, Town Clerk

# Worksession September 24, 2012

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. Present were Mayor Calvo, Mayor Pro Tem (MPT) Wilkinson, Councilmembers Almoguera, Dennison and Kulpa-Eddy. CM Almoguera arrived 5 minutes late due to an out-of-town trip. Also present were Town Administrator (TA) Murphy, and Clerk Harper.

## 1. Mayor

**Announcements:** There were none.

**Calendar:** CM Kulpa-Eddy will not be

able to attend the October 1 worksession. The sidewalks hearing scheduled for October 10, will be held in the council chamber to make use of the new audiovisual equipment. A slide show presentation could be used to illustrate the proposed sidewalk locations.

The next PGCMA meeting on October 18 was added to the calendar. County Executive Baker will announce his new neighborhood initiative. Legislators have been contacted regarding a date for the annual legislative dinner, tentatively scheduled for November 27. December 7 and 14 were considered for the employee holiday lunch.

**Minutes:** On a motion by MPT Wilkinson and second by CM Kulpa-Eddy, the September 10 worksession minutes were approved 5 to 0.

**Department reports:** Mayor Calvo reported that Berwyn Heights hosted last week's Prince George's County Municipal Association (PGCMA) meeting. Several County economic development officials were in attendance as well as the County's Deputy Chief Administrative Officer. There are plans to split the Department of Environmental Resources (DER) and create a new environmental agency that will be more consumer oriented. Also present was David Harrington, who is the new president of the Prince George's Chamber of Commerce. He talked about issues that are currently in front of the Chamber. Lastly, there was a storm water management session which dealt with new County regulations aimed at reducing storm water run-off. New PGCMA President Denise Mitchell has been taking the lead in changing the Association's format. Lead presentations are planned for each meeting to motivate more people to attend. A new schedule of meetings will also be published and locations communicated with sufficient notice. No legislative recommendations will be made this year because there is no system to generate a meaningful legislative agenda.

MPT Wilkinson reported that, in conjunction with the Code Department, the Public Works Department performed a clean-out of a foreclosed home on Osage Street last week. The Boys & Girls Club movie at the park and camp-out last weekend turned out great. About 100 people came to watch the movie. Thanks go to Orthodontist Dr. Rad for sponsoring the event. CM Dennison reported that the Susan Jones Quartet concert at Lake Artemesia was a big success, with beautiful weather and approximately 100 people attending. Mayor Calvo noted that the concert drew some people who don't usually attend Town

events, including many passersby. Park & Planning was helpful in the end and appreciated the effort. He hopes this will become a regular event. CM Almoguera announced that the Family Potluck BBQ at Pop's Park will take place on next weekend. Councilmembers are invited as are all families in Town.

**Citizen comments:** MPT Wilkinson received many comments on the mangy fox that still roams the Town. He has spoken to a trapper, who told him that using snares is problematic because pets might get caught in them. The cage traps usually don't work, as foxes tend not to go in them unless they are placed right on top of their den. Mayor Calvo said he thinks there is more than one fox, which is to be expected in a neighborhood that is bordered by parks. He thinks there is no need for alarm unless the foxes become aggressive or show signs of rabies. Mayor Calvo received comments on bamboo spreading and trees leaning into neighboring yards.

**Sidewalks hearing:** Mayor Calvo asked Councilmembers to review a letter TA Murphy has drafted, which will inform residents about the October 10 sidewalk hearing and what the Council is seeking input on. MPT Wilkinson said that the map showing the proposed and existing sidewalks, incorrectly shows an existing sidewalk in front of Berwyn Heights Elementary School and the Community Center. The legend also needs to clearly separate the solid line for proposed sidewalks and the dotted line for existing sidewalks. CM Kulpa-Eddy asked that a sentence be added that tells residents where to send their written comments if they cannot come to the hearing. The Council agreed to make changes.

**Road safety improvements:** Mayor Calvo recalled that, at the previous work-session, it was agreed to authorize all low-cost road safety improvements, such as repainting stop lines and adding cross-walks. The main issue not decided was what to do at the intersection of Berwyn Road at Charlton Avenue. He has since looked at this intersection and finds the sight lines to be impeded but not obstructed. He talked to one of the residents who lives there. As this resident has no objection to making the curb in front of his circular driveway 'no parking,' Mayor Calvo suggested to do so. The adjoining property, which frequently has a truck parked near the intersection, appears to have no room for it in the driveway. Hence, his curb should not be marked. Another solution might be to put a stop sign on Berwyn Road, eastbound, at Charlton Avenue, which would require the owner of the truck to park further

away from the intersection. Installing a stop sign would require a longer review process.

CM Almoguera said that she has trouble seeing oncoming or cross traffic at this intersection. She thinks that a stop sign would be the best solution. But short of that, a different sign, such as 'blind curve ahead' could perhaps be installed to slow traffic down. MPT Wilkinson thought a stop sign is needed at the intersection in both directions. Mayor Calvo said that Public Works should be asked to research if there is a sign that would warn drivers of the bad visibility. He would prefer to batch the installation of a stop sign at this location with others sometime in the future. MPT Wilkinson moved and CM Almoguera seconded to approve a 'no parking' zone in front of the home with the circular driveway. The motion passed 5 to 0.

Mayor Calvo continued that he has been asked by a long-time resident of Quebec Street across from Pop's Park whether the blue handicapped parking stretch on the park side, can be extended. This would help her back out of her driveway. CM Almoguera said that park users like to park there because it is close to a park entrance and there is less traffic. But she will look at the street to see if this would negatively impact park users. MPT Wilkinson suggested moving the handicapped parking space to accommodate both the resident and disabled visitors.

TA Murphy was asked to make a list of the agreed-upon changes so that the Council can approve them all at the same time. Then the Public Works Department can proceed. CM Kulpa-Eddy asked to add locations to the list where vegetation needs to be trimmed to improve sight-lines.

**Storm Water Restoration Program:** Mayor Calvo explained that the Maryland Assembly passed a bill during the last session mandating that counties and municipalities implement a stricter storm water management regime. Counties will be required to reduce storm water runoff by 30% within the next 5 years and municipalities by 20%. To pay for the substantial cost of achieving these reductions residential and commercial property owners will be asked to pay an additional storm water management fee. A County commission is working to come up with a fee structure that takes into account the size of a property's impervious areas. While municipalities can opt to implement these regulations by themselves, Berwyn Heights does not have the administrative capabilities to do so. The Council therefore has to make a deci-

sion by October 22 to opt into the County system, or must do so on its own by default.

Mayor Calvo said the money raised through the fees will be used for projects that offset or mitigate storm water runoff. Personally, he prefers the money be used for projects that have the most impact rather than for projects located in Berwyn Heights. He thinks it is more important to reduce storm water runoff in Laurel, where a lot of new development is occurring, to improve the water quality and erosion controls of Indian Creek.

CM Almoguera asked if pervious sidewalks would qualify for funding with this money. Mayor Calvo replied he does not think so. It will likely be used for creating more storm water management ponds, water treatment facilities and rain gardens. CM Kulpa-Eddy asked which agency will be charged with implementing the regulations. Mayor Calvo replied that a County committee has been established to come up with a framework. In addition, there are affiliated working groups on which municipalities have representation. The implementation of a fee structure is likely going to be the most challenging aspect. So far, the County has been reluctant to release a cost analysis. Montgomery County has a cost estimate of around \$380,000 for implementing the program. He calculates that it may cost taxpayers an additional \$100 in taxes per year. The Council agreed to opt into the Prince George's County program. A resolution to that effect will be adopted at the October 10 Town meeting.

**Pepco Community Advisory Group:** Mayor Calvo explained that, following an invitation by the Four Cities Coalition, Pepco sent representatives to attend a meeting, and followed up with offering a seat to a Four Cities representative on a new Community Advisory Group. The Advisory Group is charged with evaluating Pepco's communications with customers. The first of three annual meetings will be on October 22, at 8:00 a.m. Topics for the meetings are likely to include Pepco's reliability enhancement plan, the power restoration process and Smart Grid and conservation program. The Council agreed to let the larger cities of Greenbelt or College Park designate a representative to serve on the panel.

**Minutes (continued):** Mayor Calvo said the corrections to the minutes did not include a closing time for the September 10 meeting, which ended with an executive session. CM Dennison moved and MPT Wilkinson seconded to reconsider the minutes and add a closing and ad-

jourment time of 11:22 p.m. MPT Wilkinson asked to also change a sentence under *Stop sign/stop line survey* to read "... it is recommended to add a red line [at the entrance to the community center parking lot] for students to wait behind until prompted to cross by a crossing guard." Mayor Calvo said this requires a motion amend the motion to reconsider. MPT Wilkinson so moved. CM Kulpa-Eddy seconded. The motion to amend passed 5 to 0. The motion to reconsider the minutes passed 5 to 0.

Nothing was discussed under **2. Parks and Recreation.**

### 3. Administration

**BHTV upgrade add-ons:** Clerk Harper provided cost estimates for a number of add-ons and changes the Council may want to approve to complete the BHTV upgrade. TA Murphy provided a set of revised, higher estimates:

- \$4,500 (\$7,500) for moving the control console from the Council chamber to the back office;
- \$1,600 (\$2,500) for installing a new connection to the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Town Center; and
- \$3,000 (\$4,500) for new furniture in the Council chamber.

Total costs for these add-ons is \$9,100 (\$14,500), which would leave a remaining \$15,000 (\$10,179) in this year's cable TV reserve, not including new FY 2013 PEG revenues. Mayor Calvo said another possible expense is a stipend for someone to operate the AV system during Town meetings. He would prefer a volunteer do this but he is not opposed to pay someone a small stipend to operate the cameras and microphones if needed. Clerk Harper said that she is concerned that it may take time for someone to learn this new complex system, and hopes to find someone who will be able to do this job on a long-term basis.

CM Dennison moved and MPT Wilkinson seconded to approve up to \$14,500 to spend on the outstanding BHTV upgrades. CM Kulpa-Eddy asked if the Council wants to make a decision on getting a larger LCD HDTV monitor for the Council chamber. The Council agreed to keep the current model. The motion passed 5 to 0.

At 8:20 pm, the Council took a 5 minute break.

**Greenbelt Metro Area Sector Plan:** CM Kulpa-Eddy explained that she will attend the Planning Board's October 2 joint public hearing on the preliminary sector plan, and would like to hear what the Council wishes to communicate to the planners.

She then summarized the sector plan recommendations relevant to Berwyn Heights:

- Corridor node on Route 193 at 60<sup>th</sup> Avenue/ Cherrywood Lane. The node would provide for a public transportation hub, pedestrian accommodations and high density, multistory development close to the street.
- Gateway on Route 193 at 60<sup>th</sup> Avenue/ Cherrywood Lane, Cunningham Drive and 62<sup>nd</sup> Avenue. A gateway is a focal point for development, similar to a node but on a smaller scale.
- Widening of Route 193 to an 8 lane highway between 62<sup>nd</sup> Avenue and Walker Drive to construct a *diverging diamond* intersection at Route 201 (Kenilworth Avenue). MPT Wilkinson noted that west of Kenilworth Avenue Route 193 is already 8 lanes wide, if turning lanes are counted. He asked if there are plans for a median strip where pedestrians could wait when crossing the road. CM Kulpa replied that diverging diamond intersections are designed with a median.
- Retain and revitalize mixed-use commercial development along Route 193, with buildings in Berwyn Heights limited to 3 stories and buildings in Beltway Plaza to 6 stories. The plan supports the consolidation of properties for re-development where possible.
- Discourage fast food, drive through establishments as part of a larger goal to make Berwyn Heights and neighboring areas a *wellness opportunity district*.
- Explore opportunities for relocating the Berwyn Heights Volunteer Fire Department, as well as the Town Office, Police and Public Works Department to the Route 193 corridor. It is hoped this would help create a focal point for the community along Route 193.
- Retain industrial uses along Ballew Avenue in the short to medium term, while exploring opportunities for attracting business incubators with the University of Maryland, NASA

Goddard and Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC).

- Retain a mix of industrial and commercial uses along Branchville Road in the short to medium term, while encouraging low to medium density office and retail uses for the medium to long term.
- Retain industrial activity at PG Scrap site in the short to medium term with enhanced buffers to adjacent future residential development. Explore opportunities to relocate PG Scrap over medium to long term and replace with office and retail uses as well as open space.
- Add sidewalks and street trees along Ballew Avenue and Branchville Road to enhance the gateway to Lake Artemesia. CM Kulpa-Eddy said that sidewalks already exist on the west side of Ballew Avenue. Sidewalks on the east side may not be necessary.

Mayor Calvo asked if there are specific recommendations in the plan regarding the connector road leading into the Greenbelt Station development and the redevelopment of Beltway Plaza. CM Kulpa-Eddy said that the preliminary plan has very little information about the connector road and endorses the redevelopment plan proposed by the owners of Beltway Plaza, which calls for creating additional residential units in the back of the mall as well as new retail.

Mayor Calvo asked for input on the proposed gateways on Route 193. He thinks that gateways make more sense at 60<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 62<sup>nd</sup> Avenue because they provide access to Beltway Plaza and the Metro station. CM Kulpa-Eddy said that the Cunningham Drive intersection is likely to become more important if an access road is built through the middle of Beltway Plaza to Breezewood Lane, as proposed in most recent Beltway Plaza conceptual site plan. She explained that the preliminary plan envisions a transformation of the Route 193 corridor into a more urban environment. Gateways would allow for multistory buildings close to the road, public plazas, landmark structures and signage, and parking hidden in the rear of the buildings. She thinks Cunningham Drive is a plausible location for a gateway, in part because there not many residences on the 8900 block of Cunningham Drive. Mayor Calvo said that the Cunningham Drive intersection is in

the center of Berwyn Heights' commercial district and has the most pedestrian-friendly crossing. It could become more of a community gateway, as envisioned in the Community Legacy Grant proposal put forth under Mayor Jewitt, and the 62 Avenue intersection a more commercial gateway.

Mayor Calvo highlighted other points on which the Town may disagree with the recommendations of the sector plan. He would support relocating the VFD to Route 193, but not the Town Office, Police and Public Works Department. He agrees with retaining light industrial zoning along Ballew Avenue but would like to explore possibilities for retail and office uses on 55<sup>th</sup> Avenue at the entrance to Lake Artemesia park. He agrees with CM Kulpa-Eddy that additional sidewalks are not needed for the east side of Ballew Avenue. However, he would not object to the County installing them along Branchville Road. CM Kulpa-Eddy noted that the plan proposed to add *share the road with bicycles* markings on the 8900 blocks of 57<sup>th</sup> - 62<sup>nd</sup> Avenue. MPT Wilkinson said that bike riders should be encouraged to use the Indian Creek bike trail instead, which leads to the 58<sup>th</sup> Avenue light.

Mayor Calvo continued that the Council supported the mixed-use, transportation (MXT) zoning on Branchville Avenue, which focuses on development with access to transportation. In the preliminary plan, PG Scrap and the adjoining commercial properties along Greenbelt Road and Cherrywood Lane are zoned for medium to light density commercial retail or office uses, which is appropriate. However, PG Scrap is also designated as a future recreational site and woodland bank. He disagrees with singling out this property located in Berwyn Heights for recreational use by a Greenbelt development. If recreational facilities are needed, they could be provided within the City of Greenbelt, for example as part of the Beltway Plaza redevelopment. Mayor Calvo suggested the plan include language that future development along Branchville should be considered comprehensively and not single out one property.

CM Kulpa-Eddy noted that the only zoning change in Berwyn Heights, proper, re-designates the entire ReMax property as commercial shopping. Mayor Calvo noted that while the Town agreed to support this zoning change in negotiations with the late Mr. Jarboe, it would eliminate any leverage the Town has to induce the owners to make the property's parking lot more environmentally

	Class II	Class III	Costs	Costs
<b>Merit Pay Increase Option 1</b>	1%	2%	\$9,480	\$14,160
<b>Merit Pay Increase Option 2</b>	1.25%	2.5%	\$11,860	\$17,700
<b>Merit Pay Increase Option 3</b>	1.5%	2.5%	\$12,730	\$19,000

friendly.

MPT Wilkinson proposed to include a pedestrian overpass at 63<sup>rd</sup> Avenue in the long term plan to service students attending Greenbelt Middle School and users of the athletic fields. Since a bridge would be on State Highway Property (SHA) it would have to be included in a SHA capital improvement plan. CM Kulpa-Eddy said the sector plan calls for moving the Greenbelt bus depot. Mayor Calvo said that he participated on a task force that looked at improving pedestrian safety at this intersection after a student was killed there. The task force concluded that it is not economically or technically feasible because of the terrain. He thinks this will never happen and that it is more productive for the Town to support other safety measures for the intersection.

MPT Wilkinson said that he has already pushed for a number of other safety improvements such as a traffic light countdown timer, ADA accessible curbs and a pedestrian landing in the median. CM Kulpa-Eddy said pedestrian safety is a consideration that pervades the entire sector plan. For this section of Greenbelt Road, it is proposed to reduce the speed limit to 30 mph, reduce travel lanes to 6 and install a wider median. CM Kulpa-Eddy will communicate this and other Berwyn Heights' concerns about the sector plan at the upcoming hearing.

**Merit increases:** Mayor Calvo explained that in previous years the Council considered several options for distributing merit increases to employees based on ranked performance evaluations. Performance evaluations were sorted into several merit classes generating a bell curve, with most employees clustering in middle, and a few employees in the top and bottom ranks. Lowest ranked employees do not meet expectations and get no merit increases. This year most employees received performance scores between 3.2 – 4.3. Half of those rank below 3.75 and half above 3.9.

Mayor Calvo proposed to establish the following 2 merit classes: Class I comprises employees with performance scores of 3.0 - 3.75; and Class II comprises employees with performance scores of 3.76 – 5.0. This classification scheme seeks to give a raise to as

many employees as possible, in part because the Town has not given any cost of living adjustments (COLA) in recent years, and most employees have had less take-home pay as pension and health insurance deductions have increased.

Mayor Calvo then proposed the following merit pay increase options based on the above classifications, with FICA, workers compensation and pension costs additional:

CM Almoguera asked why Mayor Calvo's merit classes do not reflect the formal rating scale applied by directors when evaluating employees, which is: 5 - Outstanding, 4 - Exceeds Expectations, 3 - Meets Expectations, 2 - Needs Improvement, 1 - Unacceptable. She believes that the proposed classification does not provide enough incentives to excel. Employees with a 3.75 rating will not try to improve performance if they already receive the top pay increase available. She would add another cutoff point at 4.0 for employees exceeding expectations, and give them a higher increase.

Mayor Calvo said, over the past years, the Council made an effort to even out the different rating approaches across departments, but habits persist. He thinks that the rating of two employees, who scored just under 4.0, reflect the rating style of the department director under whom they work. He believes it is fairer to include them in the higher performing group. To some extent, the rating scale must rely on human judgment to be fair. CM Almoguera replied that merit pay is the principal means to reward high performing employees and motivate others. To her mind, the rating scale should be fixed. No consideration should be given to how many employees fall into one class or another, nor an attempt made to create a bell curve.

MPT Wilkinson said he thinks that Town employees are underpaid compared to their colleagues in neighboring cities. He knows a number of people who have received 2% or 3% COLAs this year. His objective is to get as many employees as possible the higher pay increase. CM Almoguera said that she fundamentally disagrees with combining COLAs and merit pay because it sends a mixed

message.

CM Kulpa-Eddy said she believes that evaluations are not as good as they could be because the forms are not specific to the mission and tasks performed by a department. It is difficult for a director to rate employees using the categories provided on the evaluation form. Mayor Calvo agreed that the forms could be improved, as a could the evaluation process. But that should be done before another evaluation process starts. MPT Wilkinson proposed to establish a cutoff point of 3.9 between Class I and Class II. He moved to approve Option 3 with the 3.9 score cutoff for a 2.5% merit increase. CM Dennison seconded. The motion passed 4 to 1, with CM Almo-guera opposed.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:44 p.m.

Kerstin Harper, Town Clerk



## BERWYN HEIGHTS POLICE BEAT



"Police Beat" includes crimes and accidents that occurred during the month of September 2012. 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.

09/01/12 at 11:55 pm, Pfc. Roberson impounded an Intl. Truck at the location of 8400 block of Ballew Avenue. The truck was left abandoned and completely blocking the road.

09/01/12 at 7:55 pm, Pfc. Thompson confiscated a Maryland vehicle tags from a 2007 Jeep at the location of 8700 block of Cunningham Drive. The tags had a MSP pick-up order for insurance violations.

09/03/12 at 8:30 am, Cpl. Bennett responded to the 6200 block of Quebec Street for a report of vandalism to a 2009 Acura. The driver's rear window was broken.

09/03/12 at 10:25 am, Pfc. Krouse responded to the Xtra Fuel Mart for a report of a damage to property. Unknown vehicle drove off with the gas nozzle attached.

09/04/12 at 8:30am, Cpl. Bennett responded to the 6200 block of Quebec Street for a report of theft from a 2008 Ford. Various tools were taken from the truck.

09/04/12 at 5:25 pm, Pfc. Ignowski responded to the 8600 block of 57th Avenue for a report of an injured person. A 46 y/o, w/f, with mental disability had bruises on her person.

09/07/12 at 11:42 pm, Pfc. Roberson, and Pfc. Ignowski responded to the 8600 block of 60th Avenue for a report of a domestic dispute assault between roommates. On scene officers identified a 28 y/o, b/m and a 48 y/o, b/m suffering from laceration and contusion to the face and head of both persons. Both males were transported to the hospital for treatment to their injuries. Alcohol appears to be the catalyst of the dispute and investigation continues to determine the initial aggressor.

09/12/12 at 12:55 am, Sgt. Moroney responded to the 8900 block of 59th Avenue for a report of a missing 15 y/o, Latino female juvenile who climbed out of her bedroom window during the night. She was recovered without any incident.

09/12/12 at 5:10 pm, a resident from the 6000 block of Berwyn Road came to the BHPD and alleges that a local process server prepared a fake court process document. Investigation continues.

09/13/12 at 6:00 pm, Pfc. Ignowski responded to the 8500 block of Edmonston Road for a burglary report. Unknown person entered through the unsecured window and removed various items from the house.

09/15/12 at 2:50 pm, Pfc. Krouse responded to the 5800 block of Bucknell Terrace for a report of vandalism to a 2001 Volvo. Unknown person(s) scratched the said vehicle with an unknown object.

09/21/12 at 10:12 am, Pfc. Ignowski responded to the 8800 block of 62nd Avenue for a report of damaged property. A Staples truck ran over a curb and damaged a bicycle that was secured to a sign post.

09/22/12 at 9:40 am, Pfc. Ignowski impounded a 1999 GMC truck at the location of 8800 block of Edmonston Road. The driver was not license.

09/24/12 at 1:30 pm, Pfc. Ignowski investigated a theft at the Xtra Fuel gas station. Former employee of the business claims that his employer refused to pay him while he was employed. Case is under investigation.

09/24/12 at 6:30 pm, Pfc. Roberson responded to the 8500 block of Cunningham Drive for a report of damaged property. An unknown vehicle or apparatus struck the legally parked vehicle.

09/29/12 at 3:32 am, Pfc. Thompson responded to the 5600 block of Berwyn Road for a report of an accident. Investigation revealed that Fernando Nunez a 20 Y/O, L/M, resident of Capitol Heights was under the influence while driving. He was arrested by Pfc. Thompson.

09/29/12 at 1:30 pm, Pfc. Ignowski impounded a 1997 Pontiac Grand AM at the location of 6200 block of Greenbelt Road. The driver was driving the vehicle with a modified exhaust and a suspended license.

09/29/12 at 2:30 pm, Pfc. Ignowski responded to the 7-11 located on Greenbelt Road for a report of a theft of a wallet. Victim claims that an unknown person removed her wallet from the counter the night before while she was shopping at the 7-11.

09/29/12 at 4:55 pm, Pfc. Ignowski responded to the 8900 block of 56th Avenue for a domestic disturbance. The male half was later transported to the Prince George's Hospital for an emergency evaluation.

09/30/12 at 7:45 am, Pfc. Ignowski responded to the 5700 block of Ruatan Street for a report of a theft from a 2006 Dodge van. Unknown person smashed the driver's side window and removed a computer case.

09/30/12 at 8:17 am, Pfc. Ignowski responded to the 8900 block of 56th Avenue for a report of a theft from a 2006 Nissan. Unknown person smashed the window and removed various tools.

### NON-EMERGENCY POLICE DISPATCH PHONE NUMBER

**301-352-1200**

Here is the Procedure for getting Berwyn Heights police officer response for non-emergency police service or assistance:

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 that you want the on-duty Berwyn Heights police officer to contact you or to respond.
4. **In an emergency,** Call 911.

# Holiday Safety Tips



From the NW/EP Committee

(Meeting at 7:30 pm

on the first Wednesday of the month)



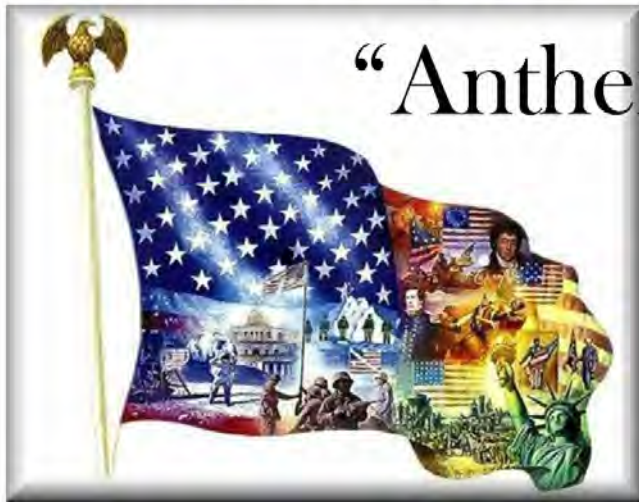
- **Turkey Basics:**
  - Safe Thawing: Thawing turkeys must be kept at a safe temperature. There are three safe ways to thaw food: in the refrigerator, in cold water, and in a microwave oven.
  - Safe Preparation: After working with raw poultry, always wash your hands, utensils, and work surfaces to remove bacteria, before you touch other foods.
  - Safe Stuffing: For optimal safety and uniform doneness, cook the stuffing outside the turkey in a casserole dish. However, if you place stuffing inside the turkey, do so just before cooking, and use a food thermometer. Make sure the center of the stuffing reaches a safe minimum internal temperature of **165°F**.
  - Safe Cooking: Check the internal temperature at the center of the stuffing and meaty portion of the breast, thigh, and wing joint using a food thermometer. Cooking times will vary. The food thermometer must reach a safe minimum internal temperature of **165°F**.

If you are using a turkey deep fryer, use it **outdoors** at a safe distance—a minimum of 3 feet away from buildings and any other flammable materials. Never let children or pets near the fryer even if it is not in use. The oil inside the cooking pot can remain dangerously hot hours after use.

- **Never** leave cooking foods unattended.
- Have an **all-purpose** fire extinguisher available not more than 10 feet away from where you are cooking. Make sure that you know how to use your fire extinguisher.
- Keep holiday decorations and kitchen clutter away from sources of direct heat.
- If candles are part of your holiday decorations:
  - Make sure all candles are out before going to bed or leaving the house.
  - Place out of children's reach and where guests will not accidentally brush against them.
  - Place candles in a sturdy fireproof candleholder where they cannot be knocked over.
- Keep smoke detectors on every level of the house, in every bedroom and in the halls adjacent to the bedrooms. Test smoke detectors monthly and replace batteries at least twice a year. Daylight Saving Time ends **Sunday, November 4, 2012, 2:00am**. Move your clocks back 1 hour ("Spring forward, fall back"). Smoke alarms do not last forever. If the alarm is more than ten years old, it should be replaced. Any resident may request a smoke alarm installed in their home by calling the Prince George's County Fire/EMS Department "Safety First" Hotline at 301-864-SAFE (7233).



# Berwyn Heights Historical Committee



## “Anthem”

Saturday, November 3rd  
2:30—3:30 p.m.

Hyattsville Public Library • 6530 Adelphi Road  
(301) 887-0777

**G**et a FREE sneak peek screening of this new documentary (premiering soon on MPT) that explores the musical story behind our “Star Spangled Banner” produced and directed by local filmmaker, Mark Hildebrand. Stick around for a discussion of the film and the filmmaking process.

Come join us as we honor those who serve, and who have served, in our United States Armed Forces

## VETERAN’S DAY WINE & CHEESE RECEPTION

Sunday, November 11th • 2:00 p.m.  
at the Town Center (upstairs)

DOOR PRIZES • EXHIBITS • MUSIC  
REFRESHMENTS AND CAMARADERIE!

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 November 27th.**



## ABOUT FIREPLACES...

It's time to prepare your fireplace for the winter season. Be sure the flue is clean, and the damper is working properly before you light your first fire of the season, and have a good supply of logs on hand, because forecasters say this will be a cold winter.

Be sure that the fireplace is totally cooled before putting fireplace ashes in with refuse/trash, and placing a lid on the can. The hot ashes smolder and, when the Public Works employee lifts the lid, allowing oxygen in, the employee is unexpectedly met with a burst of flame in his face.

Past fires in garbage/refuse trucks forced the Town to dump the complete load and reload by hand every thing that had been soaked by the Fire Department. This is very costly and time consuming.



## 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



## DO YOU HAVE AN OUTSTANDING SPEED CAMERA TICKET ???



Please note, if you have an unpaid speed camera ticket from the last 6 months, you are subject to an additional late fee and having your vehicle registration flagged.

- **\$40.00** late fee applies if a speed camera ticket remains unpaid for more than 45 days from the date of issuance;
- **\$40.00** flagging fee to re-register a flagged vehicle if a speed camera ticket remains unpaid for more than 60 days from the date of issuance.
- **Late fee and Flagging fee** are in addition to any processing fees charged by the MVA.

## Pepco Smart Meter Installation



Pepco sub-contractor Scope Services, Inc. is installing smart meters in Berwyn Heights through the end of 2012.

This is part of a long-term investment to upgrade the power grid. Scope Services workers wear blue shirts, khaki pants and photo ID, and drive white vans marked with Pepco and Scope Services logos.

During the meter exchange, there may be a brief power interruption of 5 minutes or less. If you or a member of your household is currently registered in Pepco's Emergency Medical Program for customers with special medical needs, the meter installer will make personal contact prior to exchanging the meter. Or you can call Scope Services at (888) 226-8761 to make an appointment. If you wish to register for the program, call Pepco at (202) 833-7500.

If you have general questions about the installation, please call Pepco's customer care center at (202) 833-7500, or visit the "Smart Grid" section on Pepco.com under "Our Energy Future."

## Thomas A. Gentile Attorney

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



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Home Visits  
to Berwyn Heights Residents

## Recreation Council News and Events

**BERWYN HEIGHTS CLEAN UP DAY**

**BEAUTIFY OUR TOWN**

**HELP THE ENVIRONMENT**

**Saturday, November 10, 2012**



Volunteers Needed (It's a great way for students to earn community service hours)

### Seven Reasons to Join Us:

1. It's enjoyable. (It is a great excuse to get out in the fresh air, get some exercise and do something for our Town).
2. You'll make a BIG difference.
3. You'll feel good. (Litter picking is surprisingly rewarding. It's very satisfying to look back on a clean, rubbish free road or area and know it is due to your efforts.)
4. You'll help prevent further littering (Studies have shown that people are less likely to drop litter in areas which are litter free. By helping keeping somewhere clean, you'll be helping to discourage littering.)
5. Your town needs you! (We live in a small town. We do not have so much open space and countryside that we can afford to trash it with litter. Today's litter is very long lived; it does not rot or degrade in a hurry. A drink can takes 100 years to degrade and plastic bottle more than a thousand. If we don't pick this stuff up it will still be there for our great great grandchildren.)
6. It's great exercise.
7. You'll make new friends.

### Event Details:

The Berwyn Heights Recreation Council is looking for volunteers to help clean up litter on Saturday, November 10<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 am – 12:30 pm. Registration will begin at 10:00 am at the Town Center. Participants should wear slacks and long sleeve shirts. We will provide instructions and distribute clean up supplies, including safety vests, rubber gloves, trash bags, and pickers. **Free pizza/drinks will be provided to all volunteers!** Rain Date is Saturday, November 17<sup>th</sup>. For more information, contact the event coordinator, Tara Lewis, at (301) 974-2389 or [taralewis20740@live.com](mailto:taralewis20740@live.com).

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR** – Annual Holiday Party and Tree-Lighting Ceremony on December 1, 2012. Santa Claus will be making a special appearance.

**TRAVELING GARDEN AWARD** – Did you receive The Curious Garden by Peter Brown on your door step this summer? If so, you are the recipient of the Traveling Garden Award. We will be honoring the recipients at a special reception in January. If you still have the book, please drop off at the Town Center. We need to identify the recipients and will be donating the books to the Berwyn Heights Elementary School.

**Next Meeting:** Thursday, November 1<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 pm (Town Office). All are welcome!

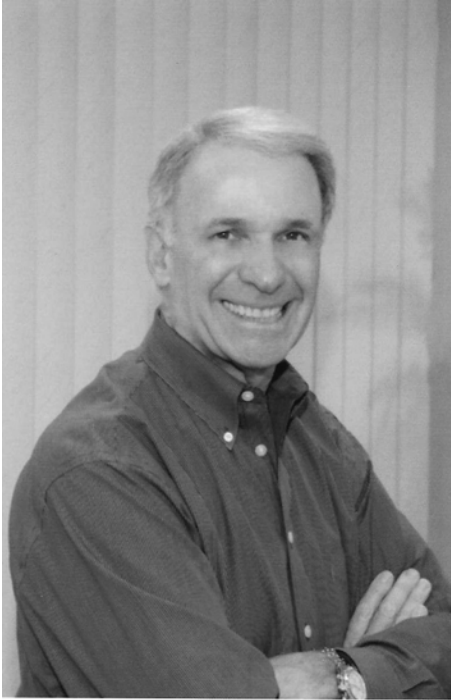
Recreation Council Contacts:

Trinity Tomsic – 301-474-6350, [trinity.tomsic@gmail.com](mailto:trinity.tomsic@gmail.com)

Kristen Buker – 443-623-0013, [KristenBuker@aol.com](mailto:KristenBuker@aol.com)

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

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**Berwyn Heights, MD 20740**

**301-441-2550**

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night's sleep.



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301.474.7866

### ***In Case of Emergency Call 911***

**BHVFD Fund Drive 2012:** The Berwyn Heights Volunteer Fire Department would like to remind its neighbors that the 2012 Fund Drive is in full swing. Each household and business in Berwyn Heights should have received a Fund Drive mailer in early October that includes instructions on how to donate to support the BHVFD. This fund drive goes directly towards supporting the BHVFD's mission of providing the best fire and emergency medical services to the residents and visitors of Berwyn Heights. If you have not received a mailer or have questions about how to donate to help us better serve you, please call 301-474-7886 or stop by the firehouse and we will be happy to assist you in any way possible.

**Christmas Tree Sales Begin November 26<sup>th</sup>!!!** :Several types and sizes available to suit everyone's needs! Stop by and support your local Fire Department!

**M-Fri: 5pm to 9pm, Sat and Sun: 11am to 9PM**



**Practice Kitchen Fire-Safety This Thanksgiving:** "Most fires in the home start in the kitchen. For older adults, fires that begin while they are cooking are the third leading cause of fire death. The kitchen is a high danger zone for fire, so be extra cautious when cooking. Remember not to leave cooking food unattended. Don't wear loose clothing when cooking. Keep towels and pot holders away from the range. And, never use the range or oven to heat your home." -United States Fire Administration (USFA)

### **CHANGE YOUR CLOCK**



### **Change Your Clock, Change Your Battery:**

The Berwyn Heights VFD encourages all residents to **CHANGE** the batteries in their smoke alarms when they set their clocks back one-hour on November 4<sup>th</sup>. After replacing the old battery with a new one, **CHECK** your detector to ensure it is working by pressing the safety test button. Next, **COUNT** the smoke alarms in your home. In Prince George's County, you are required by law to have at least one working smoke alarm in the hallway directly adjacent to sleeping areas. Finally, **CLEAN** your smoke alarm by using a vacuum cleaner once a month to ensure the smoke alarm remains sensitive. If your smoke alarm has been painted over or is 10 years or older, replace the smoke alarm.

Visit us online at <http://www.bhvfd14.org/> or "Like" us on Facebook!

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#### COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

##### Boys & Girls Club

Soccer Commissioner: Tino Menjivar  
 301-614-8933  
 Softball Commissioner (acting): Dave  
 Carter 301-441-2263  
 Baseball Commissioner: Ronnie  
 Compton 301-345-2661  
 Tee Ball Commissioner: Jim Hudson  
 301-982-2052  
 Basketball Commissioner (acting):  
 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

M. David Williams 301-345-6214

##### 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

## 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.

**Catholic Homeschoolers:** Surely we aren't the only Catholic home school family in Berwyn Heights! Call us and let's get together. Eric and Wendy, 301} 345-8077.

**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.

**Need Help with Grass Cutting, Yard Work or Pet Sitting?** Call Jeremy (16 yrs) or Shawn (15 yrs) at 301-474-2002.

**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.npgcra.com/pages/BHR.html](http://www.npgcra.com/pages/BHR.html)

Or email: [gotv12@yahoo.com](mailto:gotv12@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](mailto: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.



# BERWYN HEIGHTS SENIORS CLUB

## “Celebrating 25 Years in Town”

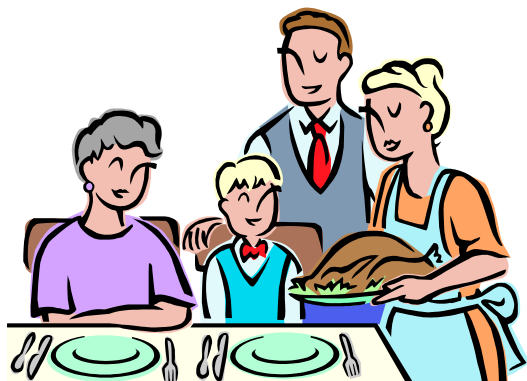
The Senior Center is open from 10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M., Monday through Friday. Drop in and meet your neighbors. Also check the boards for special activities. Drop in to the Center, or attend the meeting, and find out what's going on. There is always something to do even if it is just getting together.

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO

Nov. 2	Gayle Hillery
	Jean McConnell
Nov. 4	Evelyn Manili
Nov. 5	Marilyn Dillon
Nov. 11	Laura Strobel
Nov. 12	Jack Carlson
Nov. 13	Jeffrey Gourley
	Zymie Eley
Nov. 14	Ray Smith
Nov. 16	Jane Chick
Nov. 19	Charles Curley
	J. David Morris
Nov. 22	Marlene Jackson
Nov. 25	Hannah Carlson
Nov. 26	Judith Gardner
Nov. 29	Thomas Williams
Nov. 30	Charles Hall

### NOVEMBER ACTIVITIES

Nov. 1	Pool Night	7:00 P.M.
Nov. 6	Bingo	12:30 P.M.
Nov. 7	Wii Bowling	10:30 A.M.
Nov. 8	Pool Night	7:00 P.M.
Nov. 10	Potluck & Movie	5:00 P.M.
Nov. 13	Meeting	11:00 A.M.
	Bingo	1:00 P.M.
Nov. 14	Wii Bowling	10:30 A.M.
Nov. 15	Pool Night	7:00 P.M.
Nov. 17	Game Day	2:00 P.M.
Nov. 20	Bingo	12:30 P.M.
Nov. 21	Wii Bowling	10.30 A.M.
Nov. 22 & 23	Thanksgiving	Center Closed
Nov. 24	Movie	2:00 P.M.
Nov. 27	Meeting & Potluck	11:00 A.M.
	Bingo	1:00 P.M.
Nov. 28	Wii Bowling	10:30 A.M.
Nov. 29	Pool Night	7:00 P.M.



## SENIORS TRIPS

Sunday, December 9 — Mystery Trip  
For more information, call Margritt Vause,  
301-356-5566



## Berwyn Heights Playgroup

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

**Thursdays 10:30am-12:00pm**

**Rotation of Playgrounds: 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays of the month at Indian Creek Playground and 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> 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.

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



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6100 Westchester Park, College Park, MD

**Sold**

6221 Seminole Place, Berwyn Heights, MD

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Much Your Home Would  
Actually Sell For in Today's  
Active Real Estate Market!**

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Change Can Be a Bit Scary, But With the Right Real Estate Agent You Can Feel Secure! My Goal is to Help You Understand Your Options and Each Step of the Process So You Feel Confident You Are Making The Right Move! Call Me When You Are in Need Of Real Estate Assistance - I Would Love to Help!



Each Office is Independently Owned & Operated.



# Berwyn Heights Elementary PTA Newsletter

November 2012

Berwyn Heights, MD

## Walk-a-thon

A huge thank you to Kristen Buker for chairing the Walk-A-Thon event.

We would also like to thank the chaperones for their valuable time and all of the teachers and staff members for their support of our major fundraiser. Also the Berwyn Heights Police department for their assistance on the walk.

## Mark Your Calendars

Nov 6 - 7pm PTA Meeting/Anti-Bullying

Nov 8 - 6:30pm Family Book Club

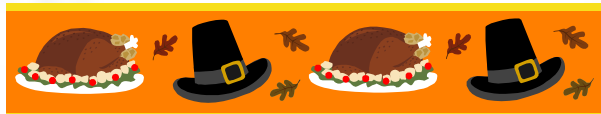
Nov 12 - No School - Parent/Teacher Conferences

Nov 21-23 - School Closed - Thanksgiving

## Special Events

**Jeans Day** – Thank you students and teachers for making the first Jeans Day successful. We raised over \$200.00 for the Transportation fund and...Dr. Singer approved a 2<sup>nd</sup> Jeans Day since everyone played by the rules. Watch the newsletter for the next date. Rules for Jeans Day: Students pay \$1.00 for the privilege to wear jeans and their school uniform polo or school logo t-shirt.

**Book Club** – sponsored by Target and BHES PTA. Attention All Families! Please mark your calendar and plan to join us on Nov. 8th from 6:30-8:00 for our 1st Family Book Club of the year! Our theme this fall is "AUTHORS", and each student will be receive a theme related book to keep! At our book club meeting, we will discuss our books and have fun exploring art and how it is used in our books! More information will be coming home soon. Hope to see you there!



## Thanksgiving Fun Fact!

Thanksgiving has been an annual tradition in the United States by presidential proclamation since 1863

## Membership Corner

It's never too late to join! Membership is currently \$12.00/person or \$20.00/family. When the parent/guardian of the student joins the PTA the family is eligible to participate in the PTA events for free.

Why is important the read the newsletter? There will be fewer reminder papers coming home with the children. How many missed the Jeans Day notice in the September newsletter? On November 13<sup>th</sup> between 9:05 and 9:10 the first 24 students who meet Mrs. Wolfinger outside the office with November's fun fact will receive a special pencil. Hope to see you there!

## Market Day

Starting in 2013 the PTA will be making Market Day – an online fundraising food purchasing program available to the parents of BHES. Please watch for further information coming out later this month or early December. We appreciate all the support.

## Gardening

Thank you to all who helped with the garden clean up. A special thanks to Raulins Bakery for their baked goods donation!

Come be a part of the gardening team. All ages are welcome. No garden experience needed! Sign up at: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/BHESgardens/>. If you have any questions, please email Therese Forbes at [fundraising@bhespta.org](mailto:fundraising@bhespta.org).



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### "Price it right"

First impressions are everything, when selling your home. Studies show, and I can tell you that the first two weeks on market are crucial to success! During these initial days your home will be exposed to the very active buyer market. They are savvy, qualified buyers, who know what they want...If your price is perceived as too high, you will quickly loose those most important and ready to buy buyers. Once you loose that initial audience, you'll find yourself relying on the "trickle down"/not ready to buy buyers and



potential investors, price adjustments.

Markets are dynamic and prices have expiration dates! You have that one chance to grab attention!! Make sure the price, condition and how it shows are spot on!! That's what I do, call me in today to discuss just that right price. I know this market! Call me to show you how to get started, to prepare, to stage, to discuss rental vs. selling options...

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

SOLD - 5612 Ruatan St - 3 BR short sale rambler	\$160,000.
SOLD - 6201 Seminole St - 3 BR, 2 BA, rambler, FP, screened porch	..... sold in days!.....\$229,900.
SOLD - 7614 Edmonston Rd - 4BR, 2 BA lg rambler, country kitchen, deck	..... sold in days! \$269,900.
SOLD - 5976 Westchester Park Dr - 1BR terr lvl condo, new carpet, upstd kit	..... \$75,000.
Available- 5807 Bucknell Terr- Lg 5 BR, 3 Ba cape cod, FP, deck, Hdwd flrs	..... \$299,900.

*Need more listings, buyers looking! Need rentals too, with property management services if needed!*

*Can't sell right now due to mortgage balance? Talk to me about renting, HARP and HAMP loans....*

Working hard to cover all of your real estate needs. Commitment, town resident, vast real estate knowledge, seller discounts, professionalism, reliability and I have been in the business for over 15 years. This is part of my marketing plan for you! Call or e-mail me today for a market analysis of your home.



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



# COOKES



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## 301-580-1264



# The Bugle

## Berwyn Heights Boys & Girls Club

November 2012

### CHECK IT OUT!!!!

**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING** with light refreshments:

**When:** Friday, November 2, 2012

**Time:** 7:00 p.m.

**Where:** Town Hall (upstairs)



**We are in dire need of parents to step up and help!**

Are you interested in getting more involved in the Boys and Girls Club, but not sure how?

We will have a General Meeting on Friday, November 2, 2012 at 7pm at the Town Hall with light refreshments. This meeting is for the whole membership and interested persons of the Boys and Girls Club. We will be going over the budget for the upcoming year and nominations for officers. If we don't have people to step up, there's a good chance our club will fold.

Volunteers are desperately needed to fill many vacancies that will be coming up in January. The people who are currently holding these positions are not all leaving the club, but they have served their term in their positions. The current vacancies for the Club as of January 1, 2013 are as follows:

<b>-President</b>	<b>-Vice-President</b>	<b>-Secretary</b>	<b>-Registrar</b>
<b>-Soccer Commissioner</b>	<b>-Softball Commissioner</b>	<b>-Basketball Commissioner</b>	

If you don't want to run for an office or be part of the board, that is okay too. We still want to hear from you and encourage you to come out to the meeting.

### Annual Sports Banquet Update

Even though there was damp and chilly weather outside, it didn't dampen the spirit, great dinner and conversations at the Town Hall for our Annual Sports Banquet that was held in the beginning of October. Congratulations to all of our participants for a fun and exciting year! Thank you to the children, the parents, the coaches and other Board members who helped make the banquet and this past year a success. Special thanks go out to those who set-up, served and cleaned-up the event as we couldn't have done it without you!

### Fall Soccer

Fall soccer has started. We have 4 teams that are playing strong and having fun. For information or to be a soccer volunteer, please contact Tino Menjivar at (301)614-8933.

### Basketball

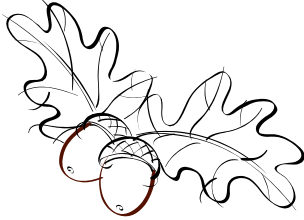
Basketball will be starting the first week in December. We still need coaches. Look for more info soon.

### Cheerleading

Cheerleading has started and is at Town Center on Wednesdays from 6:30pm to 7:30pm. For information contact Kristen Buker at (443)623-0013.

**Our next meeting will be held on Friday, November 2 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Center.**

Check out our website at [www.bhbhc.org](http://www.bhbhc.org) for more information.



## BULLETIN ADVERTISING RATES

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

# Call-a-BUS



This transportation service is especially designed for senior citizens and handicapped persons to get to medical appointments, grocery and personal shopping, etc. The service is available to locations within 5 miles of Town, Monday—Friday, 9 am – 3 pm. Please schedule an appointment 24 hours in advance by calling 301-474-5000. Cost is \$3.00 each way.

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Office 301 - 854 - 1519	MHIC 51073	Mobile Bob 301 - 646 - 0825 Danny 301 - 535 - 4594
----------------------------	------------	--

**HOLY REDEEMER**  
Catholic Church

**Weekend Masses:**  
Saturday Vigil 5:00 p.m.  
Sunday 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 12:00 n.  
Sacrament of Reconciliation - Saturday 3:30 p.m.

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

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- Custom Fabricated Duct Work
- Humidification
- Indoor Air Quality
- Air Filtration Systems
- Water Heaters
- Boilers

Now accepting Bi-Annual Maintenance Agreements to keep you and your family comfortable all year round!  
\*References gladly supplied upon request

Sheet Metal, Mike Jr.: (301) 466-4617  
Office/Fax: (301) 931-3595  
E-mail: [mike@asyoulikeitheatingandair.com](mailto:mike@asyoulikeitheatingandair.com)  
Check out our new website:

Licensed

[www.asyoulikeitheatingandair.com](http://www.asyoulikeitheatingandair.com)

Insured

## MAINTENANCE OF ABANDONED OR VACANT RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY

Town Council has instituted a program to address the growing concern of maintenance of abandoned or vacant property.

**Enforcement:** When the Town determines that a property has been vacant for 15 consecutive days and the owner of record is unknown or the owner of record's whereabouts is unknown, the Town, after making every effort to identify, locate and notify the owner of the maintenance violations, is authorized to enter upon the property to abate any and all violations, such as accumulation of garbage, litter or rubbish, high grass, overgrown bushes, shrubs and weeds, etc.

Residents are urged to notify the Code Compliance Department at 301-513-0331 or the Office of the Town Administrator at 301-474-5000 of properties believe to be abandoned or vacant needing maintenance.

A best first impression sells buyers on a house they would like to buy and in a Town they would like to live in. Help us help you.

## Town of Berwyn Heights Seeks



## BHTV Operator for Town Meetings

The Town recently completed an upgrade of the broadcasting equipment for its local access channel (Comcast Channel 71, FiOS Channel 12), which broadcasts Council meetings and a community information slide show. We are looking for someone to operate the cameras and other production controls during Town meetings, which take place on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of every month.

If you are interested and:

***Have some experience using audio-video equipment; or***

***Want hands-on experience with producing TV broadcasts.***

Please contact Town Administrator Ed Murphy or Town Clerk Kerstin Harper at 301-474-5000 to apply.



# Free Karate Training!!!!

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

**Open to All Ages/ All Levels:**

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

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

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



## Leaf Collection

Annually, starting on November 1<sup>st</sup>, the Town provides daily leaf vacuum services. This year the service will continue through December 28, 2012 excluding observed holidays unless otherwise noted in future publications.

During the leaf vacuum season, bagged leaves will be collected from in front of your house on your scheduled yard waste collection day.

### *Reminders . . .*

- 🍂 Rake your leaves to the curb or to the sidewalk, if one exists. Public Works crews will not vacuum leaves from private property. Please be advised that the leaf crew cannot return until the following week if your leaves are not out in advance and in the proper format.
- 🍂 Remove all cans, bottles, sticks, toys and debris from your piles of leaves. These items can cause very expensive damage to the Town's equipment.
- 🍂 Please remove parked cars from the path of the leaf vacuum. It is very difficult to collect piles of leaves from between parked cars.

There will be no leaf vacuum services provided on the following holidays:

<b>Monday, November 12, 2012</b>	Veteran's Day (observed)
<b>Thursday, November 22, 2012</b>	Thanksgiving Day
<b>Friday, November 23, 2012</b>	Day after Thanksgiving
<b>Monday, December 24, 2012</b>	Christmas Eve
<b>Tuesday, December 25, 2012</b>	Christmas Day
<b>Monday, December 31, 2012</b>	New Year's Eve

### *Questions or Comments . . .*

Due to the fact that there is only one leaf collection machine and operating crew a collection schedule would not be feasible. Residents that would like to know which side of Town the leaf machine is operating on may contact the Department of Public Works at 301-474-6897 Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. or via e-mail at [publicworks@town.berwyn-heights.md.us](mailto:publicworks@town.berwyn-heights.md.us)



# November 2012

## Town of Berwyn Heights Monthly Calendar of Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Recycling Collection Street Sweeping Yard Waste North South		Refuse Collection North South Bulk Pick-up North South		1  N Recreation Council Meeting Town Office 7:00 P.M.	2  S	3
4	5 Worksession 7:00 P.M. Town Office Televised on Ch 71, FiOS 12	6 GENERAL ELECTION 7:00 A.M. To 8:00 P.M. BHES Cafeteria See Page 2	7 NW/EP 7:30 P.M. Town Office	8  N	9  S	10 TOWN-WIDE CLEANUP DAY 10:00 A.M. See Page 15
11 BHHC Veterans' Day Event 2:00 See Page 13	12 VETERANS' DAY Observed All Town Offices Closed No Trash Pickup	13  S	14 Town Meeting 8:00 P.M. Town Office Televised on Ch 71, FiOS 12	15  N	16  S	17
18	19 Worksession 7:00 P.M. Town Office Televised on Ch 71, FiOS 12	20	21	22 THANKS-GIVING DAY All Town Offices Closed No Trash Pickup	23 THANKS-GIVING HOLIDAY All Town Offices Closed No Trash Pickup	24
25 	26	27 BHHC Meeting 7:30 P.M. Town Office	28	29  N	30  S	DEC. 1 Treelighting Ceremony Seniors Ctr. 

Please try not to park in the street wherever possible when the street sweeper comes to B.H.

# BERWYN HEIGHTS BULLETIN

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

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

## POSTAL CUSTOMER BERWYN HEIGHTS, MARYLAND

**Dated Material — Do Not Delay!**

### TOWN INFORMATION

#### Town of Berwyn Heights Phone Nos.

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

#### Mayor and Council

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

#### Regular Trash Collection Schedule

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

#### Town Helpline

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

#### Watch Council Meetings



**On Comcast channel 71**  
**FIOS channel 12**

Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays  
 at 11:30 a.m.  
 or call the Town Office  
 to request a 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](mailto:emurphy@town.berwyn-heights.md.us)  
**Submission deadline is the 15th of the month by 12:00 noon!**  
**Helen Van Doren, Design & Layout**