Landings

A Monthly Newsletter from the Town of Upper Marlboro — November, 2015 vol. 10 no. 10

Municipal Government Works!

It's Municipal Government Works! month, and as a participant in this state-wide program to promote citizens' awareness and interest in their community government, the Town flies the MGW flag during the month of November, and in the Spring, gives a presentation on Municipal Government at an area school. Our activities during MGW month, and our participation in other events and programs sponsored by the Maryland Municipal League (MML), enables the Town to earn the designation as a Maryland "Banner Town"—an honor that the Town has enjoyed now for the last 3 years in a row.

The Town's new Deputy Clerk, Kyle Snyder, hoists the MGW flag up the flagpole to signal residents that their town government is working for them.

Another popular MML program invites 4th grade students throughout Maryland to participate in an essay contest entitled: **"If I Were Mayor, I Would. . ."** Every year, 11 essays are selected from thousands as the

continued next page—see ***'MGW'***

Town Hall
Upper Marlboro, Maryland

Board of Town Commissioners

Steve Sonnett – *President*
Larissa Ferrer, Jim Storey

Office Hours

Monday–Friday: 9 am – 5 pm

Contact Town Hall

(office) 301-627-6905
(fax) 301-627-2080
(e-mail) **info@uppermarlboromd.gov**
(cable channel) **Verizon 19**

OR VISIT US ONLINE AT:
www.uppermarlboromd.gov

TOWN ELECTION
MONDAY • JANUARY 4, 2016

3 Commissioners to be elected to a 2-year term
deadline to submit your name as a candidate: December 14, 2015

POLLS OPEN 1:00–8:00 PM
VOTE AT TOWN HALL

DEADLINE TO REGISTER TO VOTE: DECEMBER 4, 2015

If you are already registered to vote with the County, you are already registered to vote in the Town Election

If you prefer not to be registered to vote in the County, you can still vote in the Town Election by registering at Town Hall

Residents who are registered out-of-state (i.e.; military, etc.) and are at least 18, can register to vote in the Town

Questions? . . . call the Town Hall at 301-627-6905

ON THE AGENDA

The November Board of Commissioners Town Meeting will be held Tuesday the 10th at Town Hall starting at 7:30 p.m.

The Fiscal Year 2015 audit has been finalized and was filed with the State prior to the November 1 deadline. The audit went smoothly resulting in an unqualified audit. The Board will be voting to adopt the audit report. The Town ended Fiscal Year 2015 with an operational surplus.

The other actionable item on the agenda is a proclamation to declare November as "Municipal government Works!" month in the Town. During this meeting, we will have an open discussion of the current structure of our government: the good, the bad, and the various options for improvement. If you don't normally attend the monthly Town Meetings, please make a special effort to attend this meeting as we want this to be a community effort and we need input.

As usual, there will be staff and committee reports, project updates and discussion of Town happenings.

'MGW' *(continued from page 1)*

best essays from their region. Last year's winners received: $100 cash, a Governor's Citation, and, a boat cruise of Annapolis! Essay winners are honored at the State House at a special ceremony with their family and teacher, along with the Mayors and local dignitaries that represent them.

After receiving a Governor's Citation from Governor Hogan at the State House in Annapolis, 2015 "If I Were Mayor... I Would" Essay Contest winner from Barack Obama Elementary School, Antonia Carr, poses with her teacher Ms. Logan, her mother Renee Peace-Carr and her closest friends.

"like" us on facebook

The Town of Upper Marlboro is on Social Media!

Be sure to follow us on Twitter and "Like" the Town's page on Facebook to get up-to-date alerts & information and to see what's happening!

@TownUMarlboro

Follow Us On twitter

Town Hall-iday Party!

Sunday, December 13 at 5:00 p.m. at Town Hall

The Town of Upper Marlboro Historical Committee

NEXT TUMHC MEETING DATE . . .

Archiving & Planning Session

Saturday, **November 21** *starting at 10:00 a.m.*

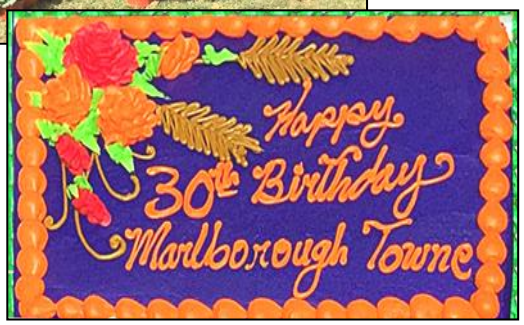
Residents of the Town and surrounding area are encouraged to bring items of historical interest (such as letters, drawings and photos) to be scanned for the Town's Archives. Contributors receive free copies.

The TUMHC is always looking for new members and volunteers to help out with events, research and archiving our Town's rich history.

You don't have to be a researcher or a historian to join in on the fun!
—Just an ordinary citizen who wants to give back to their community—

Visit their website at: **www.tumhc.com/**

My, how time flies! On Saturday, October 17th, 2015, residents of **Marlborough Towne** celebrated the **30th Anniversary** of the birth of their neighborhood. With perfect weather, everyone enjoyed grilled hotdogs and turkey hamburgers, homemade dishes and a delicious birthday cake made especially for the occasion. The Home Owners Association provided gorgeous fall decorations, and a crafts table where the kids could decorate the Harvest Pumpkins for display. The HOA's bylaws require Marlborough Towne's covenant be reviewed and updated every 30 years. Let's hope it's not that long until the next GREAT neighborhood party!



Marlborough Towne residents came and went throughout the day's event sharing homemade dishes they prepared for the community potluck. Residents that have been living there for more than 20 years enjoyed the opportunity to get to know those who were new residents. Some came with their children and extended families—even some dogs brought their live-in humans.

It's Snowtime!

The Town is asking for your cooperation by not parking your car(s) on the street when it snows. Also, when shoveling out your vehicle, driveway or sidewalk, it is important **not** to put the snow into the street. Please keep the snow piled on your property—this will ensure proper snow removal and maximize street safety for both our Public Works crew and residents alike.

If you or someone you know in Town has special circumstances, such as: senior care, medical or life support equipment, please let us know so that we can be of better assistance in the event of extreme weather.

We will make every effort to keep you informed of weather events through the Town's website: *uppermarlboromd.gov*. If you sign up through the RSS Feed, Twitter or Facebook from our website—you will be notified each time we post important news items on our Homepage.

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

NOVEMBER TOWN MEETING: Tuesday, November 10th, 7:30 p.m. at the Town Hall. Meeting is open to public participation.

VETERANS' DAY: Wednesday, November 11th. Town offices will be closed and will reopen on Thursday, November 12th at 9:00 am.

MID ATLANTIC EQUITATION CHAMPIONSHIPS HORSE SHOW & FESTIVAL: Friday-Sunday, November 13-15, 2015 at 8 a.m. Prince George's Equestrian Center (indoors) Free for spectators. Call 301-952-7900; TTY 301-952-7998 for more information. The Show Place Arena 14900 Pennsylvania Avenue, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772.

AT THE LIBRARY (UPPER MARLBORO BRANCH): "STEM-tastic!" —Saturday, November 14th, 2–3:00 p.m. Become a mad scientist by conducting hands-on, fun science experiments using basic scientific principles. Ages 5-12 yrs. Upper Marlboro Branch Library–14730 Main Street. Call the branch for more details at: (301) 627-9330, or visit online: *www.pgcmls.info/*

CONTESTANTS NEEDED: For the Gingerbread house Contest & Show at Darnall's Chance House Museum —3 Divisions to chose from! (Family, Adult & Child). Hundreds in cash awards! Download entry form: history.pgparks.com , or call 301-952-8010 for more info. **REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Nov. 14**. Entry fee: $5 per entry. Deliver entries on Nov. 22 between 12 noon and 4:00 pm.

HISTORICAL COMMITTEE– ARCHIVING & PLANNING SESSION: Saturday, November 21, at 10:00 a.m. Town Hall. Meeting is open to the public.

POLICE

Report 2015 OCTOBER

Town Citations: 40 • State Citations: 22

In-Town Incidents:	Out-of-Town Incidents:
1 Identity theft	1 Assault
1 Impound	1 Burglary
1 Misc. Report	13 Larceny
1 Theft	1 Stolen Vehicle
	1 Robbery

All in-Town incidents were in the downtown area and not in the residential areas—unless indicated with an *

Town Police Offer House Checks . . .

. . for Town residents who are on vacation or away for the weekend or special occasions.

Just fill out a House Check form at Town Hall and our police will stop by your house periodically while you're away to make sure it's safe and secure. Town Hall Office hours are Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. except holidays.

BOARD of Commissioners WORK SESSION: Tuesday, November 24th, 9:15 a.m. at the Town Hall. Agenda consists of current business items up for Board discussion. Work Sessions are open to the public, however, public participation is at the Board's discretion.

THANKSGIVING DAY WEEKEND: Town Offices will be closed Thursday and Friday (26th & 27th) and will reopen on Monday, November 30th at 9:00 am.

NO RECYCLE PICK-UP ALL THANKSGIVING WEEK: The next recycle pick-up will be on Thursday, December 3, 2015.

GINGERBREAD HOUSE CONTEST & SHOW: Friday–Sunday: Nov 27–29; Dec 4–6; & Dec 11–13. 12 noon–5:00 pm at Darnall's Chance House Museum, 14800 Governor Oden Bowie Dr. For a sweet treat, come and view an amazing display of edible gingerbread houses. No nibbling allowed! Visitors have the opportunity to vote for their favorite entries in the Viewer's Choice Award Competition—3 Divisions (Family, Adult & Child). Hundreds in cash awards! Fee: $1/ person. Call 301-952-8010 for more info.

ST. MARY OF THE ASSUMPTION SCHOOL CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR: Saturday, December 5th, 10 a.m.–4:00 p.m. at 4610 Largo Road, Upper Marlboro MD. Call 301-627-4170 for more info.

TOWN HALL–IDAY PARTY: Sunday, December 13th, 5:00–8:00 p.m. at Town Hall. Santa arrives for the Tree Lighting at dusk. Caroling with Santa, Great Food, Refreshments, Holiday Music & Fun!

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY UPDATE

New Sidewalks & Crosswalks To Increase Pedestrian Walkability & Safety
Now Under Construction—Expect Traffic Delays for the Next Couple of Months

A MESSAGE FROM...

SHA State Highway Administration

The Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA) Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) Compliance Program

We're bringing improvements to pedestrian facilities in your community!

Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr., *Governor*

Boyd K. Rutherford, *Lt. Governor*

Pete K. Rahn, *Acting Secretary*

Melinda B. Peters, *SHA Administrator*

What: Sidewalk Improvements
Curb and Gutter Improvements
Ramp/Entrance Improvements

Sidewalk Improvements

Where: MD 725 – Spring Branch Dr. to Elm St.

When: Fall to Winter 2015

Pedestrian Crossing

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact:

Ken Gast (Project Engineer)
443-745-0480

Please visit the SHA ADA page at *www.marylandroads.com*

ECO-FRIENDLY WAYS TO SAVE

TURN DOWN THE HEAT
TURN UP THE SAVINGS

According to the U.S. Department of Energy, water heating is the second largest expense in a home and accounts for 14-18 percent of utility bills. The average household uses 64 gallons of water every day and spends $400-600 per year heating water. Here are a few tips that may help you conserve water in your home and save money on your energy bill:

- Wash your clothes in cold water;
- Set your hot water heater thermostat to 120 degrees or lower;
- Fix leaks: a leak of one drip per second can cost a $1 a month; and
- Wrap your water heater in an insulating blanket. It can help save 4-9 percent in water heating cost.

Source:www.energy.gov/articles/new-infographic-and-projects-keep-your-energy-bills-out-hot-water

Rushern L. Baker, III
County Executive

Prince George's County Second Nature is an initiative of the Department of the Environment, Redevelopment Authority, and Office of Central Services to promote cost savings and sustainability in our everyday behavior.

ENVIRONMENT
Adam Ortiz Director

WINTERIZE YOUR RAIN BARREL

As winter approaches, these tips may help you prepare your rain barrel for the cold months and save you the hassle (and expense) of replacing parts or even the barrel.

- Disconnect your rain barrel from the feeder gutter downspout and connect a temporary downspout extension to the feeder gutter to direct rain water away from the house or structure;
- Use or drain any water in the barrel as water left in the unit could freeze and crack the barrel;
- Open the barrel spigot to avoid hardware damage and remove attached hoses;
- Remove any debris in the barrel and the barrel's filter screen; and
- If possible, store your barrel indoors in a garage or basement during the winter months.