

University Park Newsletter

TOWN OF UNIVERSITY PARK, MARYLAND

DECEMBER 2010

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

VOL. XXXV, NO. 11

TOWN MEETINGS AND SPECIAL DATES

DEC 1 - NEWSLETTER Deadline for the
January 2011 issue, 12 NOON

DEC 6 - COUNCIL MEETING

DEC 20 - COUNCIL MEETING

DEC 24 - Christmas Eve and

DEC 31 - New Year's Eve are UP holidays
(Town Hall closed; no bus service)

JAN. 5 - NEWSLETTER Deadline for the
February 2011 issue, 12 NOON

Town meetings begin at 7:30 PM at University Park Elementary School. All interested residents are encouraged to attend. Interpreting services can be provided with a request made ten days in advance. **Agenda for Council Meetings will be posted on the Town's website as well as on the bulletin board outside the Town Hall on the Friday before each Meeting.**

FROM THE MAYOR

JOHN ROGARD TABORI

As I write this column, Old Man Winter, the holiday season, and 2011 are approaching too fast! University Park has had much to celebrate in 2010. In spite of the financial maelstrom that has whirled about us for the past few years, and thanks

to the extraordinary hard work and efficiency of Town staff, we have been able to finish our **FOURTH CONSECUTIVE BUDGET YEAR WITH A SMALL SURPLUS**, allowing us to maintain our strong reserves and keep Town services intact.

INFRASTRUCTURE REPAIR PROJECTS -

Something welcome and important to many of us, WSSC finally is approaching the end of its water and sewer main replacement projects here in Town. Although there might be some minor work remaining, the Town will be able to take a well deserved respite from the clang-bang of heavy machinery digging up our streets during the upcoming holiday period. The State Highway Administration should be finished with all its work along Baltimore Avenue with the minor exception of the sidewalk from Town Hall to Queens Chapel Road. The County has finished paving sections of Clagett Road which will give those of us who travel there regularly a much smoother ride and a nicer "vista."

Two projects on the periphery of Town remain. One is the reconfiguration of the Queens Chapel Road/Adelphi Road/East-West Highway intersection, which probably will not be finished until spring. (Generally, roads cannot be resurfaced when ground surface temperatures drop below 50 degrees.) The other is the County's project to replant the Adelphi Road median strip (from East-West Highway to Belcrest Road) with new tree stock. The Town is discussing with the County the idea of putting additional plantings on the east side of

Adelphi Road. No completion date is available from the County yet for the median-strip plantings.

Thanks to the Town's strong financial standing, we are in a position to contemplate a major renewal of our street, sidewalk, and footbridge infrastructure. On November 1st, we submitted a draft for a **STREET RENEWAL PLAN** that would be implemented over the next three calendar years. A revised Plan with a funding strategy will be submitted on December 5th after we have integrated early comments from the Council and others. The Plan will lay fallow until January 2011, when **the Council will hold a public hearing on the Street Renewal Plan at its January 3rd Council Meeting**. Hopefully, the final Plan will be adopted at the January 17th Council Meeting and an RFP for the work will be released thereafter. The Plan must balance the immediacy of street repair needs, logistics, timing, and financing. We also need to fold in infrastructure repairs to our Town-maintained bridges (the footbridges in the Park). Since street surfaces impact storm-water management, we also want to contemplate introducing new design features and using more environmentally friendly materials when renewing our street infrastructure. I urge all residents to be involved in this discussion.

On another positive note, the detailed **SITE PLAN FOR THE LANDY PROJECT WAS ADOPTED** by the County District Council on October 26th, retaining all the conditions that the Town had negotiated with the developer. As part of the final order, Marvin Blumberg (the developer) agreed to consider managing the site's storm water runoff via Nine-Ponds. Significant negotiations and planning still must occur before our storm-water management concerns are resolved (like issues at Prince George's Plaza that affect our Town and our fellow municipalities, Hyattsville and Riverdale Park). However, now, there is the real possibility that this might occur. The model that we have created for negotiating our differences around storm-water management also may be applied to

other issues that have plagued and prevented quality development at the Plaza. **I WOULD LIKE TO THANK** all the residents of University Park who have willingly given of their talent, knowledge, ideas, and support as we negotiated with the Plaza developers over the years.

Congratulations are due the many talented individuals who pursued and won office here in Maryland and Prince George's County. **A SPECIAL TIP OF THE HAT** must go to our current Town resident, **Senator Paul Pinsky**, who was returned to the State Senate, and to former Town resident **Delegate Justin Ross**, who grew up in University Park, attended school at UPES, and now resides in College Heights Estates. The re-election of Eric Olson to a second term on the County Council also should be noted. Councilman Olson has been a strong champion of the interests of University Park and the other municipalities that are in his district. And finally, we congratulate Amber Waller, who won re-election to the School Board. As a friend of UPES and a supporter of the University Park Community Solar LLC, Ms. Waller will be an important "go-to" person on the Board, both for our community and for Prince George's County, as it seeks significant upgrades for the school system.

SPECIAL CONGRATULATIONS also are due for our own **Maxie Phillips** who was inducted into the 2010 Maryland Senior Citizens Hall of Fame on October 21st. If you'd like to tip your hat to her, you're sure to find her volunteering at the Town Holiday Party and Tree Lighting ceremony on **December 4th**. The award was a wonderful and worthy honor for our long-time resident and civic activist!

A MUST-DO FOR ALL RESIDENTS - Set aside **January 22, 2011** and **come to the Energy Efficiency Fair!** Our STEP-UP Program officially will be launched on that day! We will offer workshops and displays for homeowners who wish to improve their home's energy efficiency, get more for their money, and reduce their carbon footprint in the

process! STEP-UP has been gathering momentum and UP should have its Energy Coach on board by the time that you read this; an announcement will be made on the Town website. It's not too early to **add your name to the list of individuals who wish to explore the possibility of getting an energy audit** carried out on their home. You can do this by calling the STEP-UP Advisory Committee Chair, **Chuck Wilson** (301-864-2067).

A brief comment on **PERMITS** is in order again, as there continues to be confusion about when they are needed and from whom. It might be best to begin with when **a permit is NOT needed**. No permit is required when landscaping your property or making minor repairs to the exterior of your home, garage, storage shed, or fence. **County Permits are NOT needed** when laying down a new walkway or patio (as long as they individually or collectively cover less than 500 square feet). However, **a TOWN PERMIT is needed** for such work.

If you are doing any of the following, **both COUNTY AND TOWN permits ARE needed**: Relaying or constructing a new driveway or parking area on your property; constructing an outbuilding, such as a garage, shed, gazebo, or greenhouse; building an extension to your home or a raised patio attached to your house; installing new windows or doors in your house that require a change in the dimensions of the window or door frame; or, making changes to the outer walls or roof that could impact on load bearing structures. Many residents overlook the fact that both a County and a Town permit are needed to construct or replace a retaining wall that exceeds two feet in height. **It is far less expensive to get a permit than to find that you have to retrofit, modify, or tear something down after the fact**. If you have any doubts, please call the Town Clerk and ask. A two-minute conversation could save you all kinds of hassle and money.

Please keep in mind that **LEAF SEASON** is upon us and **SNOW SEASON** soon may be. Please curb your leaves and keep them out

of the gutters. Also, take a minute to read the reminder on snow policy in this NEWSLETTER. Finally, consider contributing to the **HOLIDAY FUNDS** for two of our best Town assets: our Public Works and Police Departments; details are in this issue.

"Have a wonderful Holiday Season, drive carefully, and take care of yourselves."



FROM THE CHIEF

MICHAEL WYNNYK

SAFE SHOPPING TIPS: As you prepare for the holiday season, please review and keep in mind these six basic tips:

- 1 - **Shop during the day** OR park in well-lighted areas.
- 2 - **Be aware of your surroundings** when you park, walk, and are in stores. Lock your purchases in the trunk **before** driving to another store.
- 3 - **Remember where you parked**. Have your keys ready when approaching your vehicle, and always request a security escort if you shop alone.
- 4 - Know which **credit cards** you have with you when you shop. If possible, **only take one**; it's safer/easier to remember just one card.
- 5 - Do your **shopping with a friend**; the more the merrier...and safer.
- 6 - **On-line shopping also requires caution**. Use one credit card for easy tracking. Look for signs that the business is reputable. Know your merchant. Protect your privacy. Write down all of the details and keep good records of each online purchase you make.

DRINKING AND DRIVING: December is "National Drunk Driving Awareness Month." Do not drink and drive! Also be sure your teenagers follow this rule. NOTE: Sobriety check-points, extra patrols, and cooperative efforts with neighboring jurisdictions are planned enforcement activities for Decem-

ber. Please, don't let anyone drive after drinking; you might save someone's life.

CRIME PREVENTION: Lock your car doors. Do not leave keys in your vehicle. Do not leave valuables in your vehicle. Set your car alarm. These tips are from the Highway Safety Council. Extra safety measures always are necessary to eliminate "Thefts from Auto" crimes. So, even though University Park is a safe place, locking doors, putting away bicycles and other valuables, and setting alarms is a good practice. Many of the thefts have been for little money and minimal value property, however holiday shopping increases the opportunity for thieves to steal more valuable items from your car. Remember to document serial numbers and etch identifying marks on your new gifts after the holidays. Then store the serial numbers, your receipts, and even photographs of your new valuables in a safe place. Practicing good crime prevention habits will help you to have a safe and happy holiday.

Whenever you are driving, jogging, walking, or biking through Town, try to take an interest in noticing the unusual, and report any suspicious activity to the UPPD as soon as possible. Together we can make our Town even safer.

"The University Park Police Department wishes everyone a Safe and Happy Holiday!"

CRIME STATISTICS (Oct 1st to Oct 31st)

DATE	CRIME	UP BLOCK/STREET
Oct 2-3rd	Theft from Auto	4400 Underwd Street
Oct 19th	Theft from Auto	6500 41st Avenue
Oct 20-25	Theft	4300 Underwd Street
Oct 22-28	Theft	3800 Calverton Drive
Oct 26-27	Theft	6500 Q. C. Road

Theft From Auto (Between 1 PM on October 2nd and 1 PM on October 3rd): Suspect/s broke a rear passenger window of a 2008 Mitsubishi Lancer and **stole an iPod music player**. No suspect/s have been located and the investigation is ongoing.

Theft From Auto (Between 8 AM and 5 PM): Suspect/s broke the driver's side window of a 2009 Chevrolet Van and **stole a Garmin GPS unit**. No suspect/s have been located and the investigation is ongoing.

Theft (Between 3 PM and 7:30 AM): Suspect/s **stole an Apple Macbook computer** from a temporary classroom at UPES. No suspect/s have been located and the investigation is ongoing.

Theft (Between 3 PM on October 22nd and 11:30 AM on October 28th): Suspect/s **removed and stole several sections of copper down spouts**. No suspect/s have been located and the investigation is ongoing.

Theft (Between 8 PM and 10:30 AM): Suspect/s **removed and stole several sections of copper down spouts**. No suspect/s have been located; investigation is ongoing.

Anyone with information concerning these or any crimes committed in Town should contact the UPPD immediately; all information will be kept strictly confidential.

UPPD, 6724 Baltimore Ave., UP, 20782 (301-277-0050 or cell: 240-375-1077; or call the P.G. County Dispatch: 301-333-4000 and ask for a UP officer to respond). For **Chief Mike Wynnyk**, contact upchief@upmd.org or 301-277-0051. **ALL EMERGENCIES: CALL 9-1-1**



FROM THE UPPWD DIRECTOR
MICHAEL BEALL

For details about the progress of the leaf-collection trucks through Town, please visit www.upmd.org and check the Public Works page or the UPPWD Calendar. Both are updated weekly to reflect the crew's progress through Town and to list the locations where leaf-collection can be expected in the ensuing two-week period. Please understand that the schedule always is subject to change. This can be caused by weather conditions, by leaf volume, and by

other unforeseen factors. Residents are reminded again NOT to rake leaves into the gutters or the street.



[Ed. NOTE: "Highlights" of the minutes from monthly UP Council Meetings are incomplete unofficial records with a 2-month lag time. Residents who cannot attend Council Meetings should review the minutes available on line or at the Town Hall. Please call 301-927-4262 for more information.]

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE OCTOBER 4th COUNCIL MEETING

Present were Mayor Tabori and all Council Members; Sergeant McCully reported for Chief Wynnyk.

Five points were raised under **Public Comment**. A Woodberry Street resident said **(1)** Near the intersection of Wells Parkway and College Heights Drive, a shrub was cut down that had been chest high and over 10 feet in diameter. The shrub had provided ground cover beside the Stream bank and a nesting area for small birds. **(2)** Also, she asked that the new storm culvert at Wells Parkway and Chansory Lane be checked for erosion damage. Water running off adjacent areas was cutting away the soil beside the culvert and creating a deep trench. Mayor Tabori said he would check with the UPPWD about the shrub and would have the Town Engineer check the culvert. **(3)** CM Bradley Chacón said leaking water pipes were discovered on Forest Hill Drive near where Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC) recently had done work.

(4) People were observed playing on the Town Field when the Field had been designated "closed," which resulted in the Field surface being damaged. The Mayor proposed that the topic "Town Field permits for organized play" be put on the agenda for the next meeting. Points were made that a "sign" and a "policy" already were in place, and that the problem might be a

communication gap due to language or culture. Mayor Tabori said a key issue is that when non-permitted organized teams and leagues use the Field, the University Park community is prevented from using it.

Discussion continued on how to regulate access to the Field. Sergeant McCully asked if the "Field Closed" policy also applied to individuals. **It was reiterated that when the Field is closed, it is closed to everyone, whether an organized team or a couple of individual Town residents.** Field closings may occur for fertilizer or pesticide applications, high standing water, hazardous weather, and other similar reasons. **(5)** CM Lucas expressed his appreciation to the UPPD for their rapid response to the situation when a sinkhole appeared in Tennyson Road.

To bring the Stream maintenance proposal to Mr. Beall's attention, CM Bradley Chacón suggested Council pass a motion that would set a date for when Mr. Beall should lay out his plans for cleaning out the swale and conducting pond maintenance, rather than setting a date for the work to be completed. CM Lucas then discussed the minutes of the Wells Run Stream Committee's (WRSC) meeting. **[Ed.NOTE:** The full WRSC Report can be found on the Town web site, www.upmd.org under "Documents."]

The next WRSC meeting would be held on October 28th. CM Lucas said that Mr. Stickles had developed a new design for the trash trap that is located temporarily in Wells Run. Mr. Stickles said he would bring the new design to the Council's attention for review at the next Council meeting.

A **motion** was approved unanimously to direct Mr. Beall to meet with Mr. Lucas, Mr. Stickles, and public works personnel of his choice **to schedule a time to complete the maintenance of Park swales and ponds** no later than October 23, 2010. Any necessary funds for the work were to come from Budget Line Item 6220-02 (Upkeep of Park).

Motions were approved unanimously to: (1) **construct of a 4-foot wooden board-and-batten fence** at 4304 Woodberry Street and (2) **construct a 10'x4' outer areaway with a door** at 4103 Underwood Street. *(The intention was to make the basement space available as a rental area. The outerway was a below-grade doorway that would provide egress from the basement.)*

A **Consent Agenda** item was approved unanimously to **replace the front steps and walkway** at 4339 Clagett Road.

Mayor Tabori reported on four items:

(1) **Re the Landy property**, he thought the developer might be in support of the Nine Ponds (NP) solution. The Mayor was hoping to meet with and get support from Mr. Will Campos and Mr. Eric Olson in moving the NP proposal forward with the County government. CM Carey was concerned with the percolation rate of the NP area and with verifying that NP could absorb water run-off from a major storm. Mayor Tabori said he knew personally that NP was the Army Corps of Engineers' one priority for the Northwest Branch watershed, and added that NP's important amenities and benefits included reducing the force of the water moving downstream, supporting the percolation of water into the underground aquifer, and providing an amenity to the community.

Re the pros and cons of a four-, five-, or six-story development on the Landy property, UP's position was to build the development to four stories and bring the units forward to the street, rather than set back from the street. He added that the proposed roof line of the four-story buildings was 62 feet in height, which nearly was equivalent to a flat-roofed six-story building which is 61 feet tall.

(2) **Re budget questions for Mr. Baden:**

Mayor Tabori stated that the Department of Energy (DOE) Grant money was in the budget; otherwise, Federal monies could not be received by the Town. CM Mallino asked if the State DOE Grant (an amount of

\$13,000) had been closed. The Mayor said there had been confusion around this Grant. The Town had planned to use the money to replace the Town Hall furnace with a more energy-efficient model, but the Maryland DOE had said furnaces could not be considered an energy-efficient improvement for the purpose of using the State Grant funds. Also, CM Mallino said that there were Public Service Commission issues that affected the differences between the incentives electric companies could offer for energy audits in homes and the incentives gas companies could offer for performing audits. She added that the Public Service Commission was preventing gas companies from offering incentives to homeowners.

(3) CM Lucas had concerns about the **STEP-UP Energy Advisory Committee** holding meetings on Sunday. He also mentioned that the people who would benefit most from any energy-efficiency opportunities were people who were not likely to be on a listserv. Mayor Tabori noted that because the University Park Elementary School (UPES) media center was wired to carry Internet broadcasts over cable TV, it might be possible to broadcast the STEP-UP Committee meetings.

(4) CM McPherson said she recently had talked with Ms. Amber Waller about installing solar panels on UPES. Mayor Tabori and CMs Bradley Chacón and Carey said they had attended a recent **UP Community Solar LLC (UPCSLLC)** meeting. The Mayor said he was not sure who was charged with taking the next step in the process of getting more solar panels installed. CM Carey's understanding was that the Solar Co-op needed to reconstitute itself into a different type of group for the UPES business planning. Also, there may be "conflict of interest" issues for STEP-UP Committee members who wish to participate in and/or are members of the UPCSLLC. Mayor Tabori said he would touch base with UPCSLLC members to ascertain the status of the UPES solar panel project.

Sgt. McCully reported on the status of the grant requests for the UP Police Department. He said the UPPD had applied for grant funding to cover eight new radios to be installed in the police cruisers and eight new computers to be installed in the squad cars. The radios and computers would be the same models as those used by the Prince George's County Police Department. This meant that County repair facilities would have manufacturer representatives on hand in case repairs or maintenance was needed.

Sgt. McCully announced that a new candidate was being interviewed to fill the vacancy in the Department. There also was some discussion with the Council Members about pedestrian crosswalk enforcement.

Motions were approved unanimously to: (1) authorize the Mayor to proceed to **negotiate a Traffic Study Contract** for Wards 2 & 6 with Jim Cook and (2) **introduce funding for the Traffic Study Contract**, not to exceed \$4850. The funds would be taken from Engineering 6055-01. The meeting adjourned at 10:01 PM.



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE OCTOBER 18th COUNCIL MEETING

Present were Mayor Tabori; CMs Carey, Lucas, Mallino, McPherson, and Toscano; Town Employees Chief Wynnyk, UPPWD Director Beall, Treasurer Baden, Attorney Ferguson, and Clerk Headley. NOTE: Mayor Pro Tem Mallino opened the meeting at 7:45 PM; Mayor Tabori joined the session at 8:00 PM.

A **motion** was approved unanimously to **install a 42" steel railing at the top of the outside basement stairs** at 4406 Underwood Street.

A **consent agenda item** was passed unanimously to **replace a 4-foot fence** at 4339 Wells Parkway.

Mayor Tabori reported that: (1) he and several Town residents planned to testify on the CB-80 Storm Water Management bill; (2) the street maintenance plan would be presented to the Council on November 1st; (3) the Town Hall had not received the redline final set of plans for the work being conducted on Route 1 by the State Highway Administration (SHA); and (4) that he had contacted Ms. Amber Waller about installing solar panels on University Park Elementary School.

Chief Wynnyk reported that the Hyattsville Police Department had made some significant arrests in the "Breaking and Entering" crimes that were occurring in the area. He and CM Lucas discussed ways of restricting access to the Town Park after dark and/or raising awareness of the dangers of walking through the Park area unaccompanied.

The Chief also said that the red light camera on Route 1 was at the end of the first portion of its contract. Mayor Tabori said that he planned to renew the contract for two more years, unless the Council wanted him to take a different action. Attorney Ferguson asked if the entire contract had ended or just the initial period of performance, with additional option years still on the contract. Mayor Tabori said the contract had option years remaining, which he planned to invoke.

Treasurer Baden reported that \$1.3 Million in tax revenue was received by the Town on October 11th. The Department of Energy Grant was not reflected in the budget yet because the agreement on the contract only was finalized on October 15th.

Director Beall reported that (1) the sewer main line and manhole work on Van Buren Street had been completed and WSSC would return to connect the laterals to each home. (2) Prince George's County had milled the intersection of Claggett Road and Claggett-Pineway and would begin resurfacing in the next week or so. (3) He said mill

and asphalt overlay work would start on Route 1 in the evenings during the following two weekends. **(4)** He explained that the asphalt patches on the curbs, such as those along Van Buren Street, indicated locations where the contractor could not meet the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements as shown on current blueprints. He said the contractors would have to work with SHA to resolve those areas, and that contractor crews also were working on East-West Highway.

(5) He announced that trip hazards in the north-bound sidewalks on Adelphi Road had been repaired. Also, he said that the trees marked for removal would be taken out and the State was willing to work with the Town to determine which species would be used for the replacement plantings.

(6) He said there were two sewer laterals that required replacement on Underwood Street and two more on Beechwood Road. **(7)** He said the contractor was working to complete permanent patches on Forest Hill Drive and planned to complete the water main replacement on Sheridan Street within the week.

CM Mallino requested that the Town obtain a final sign-off from WSSC on whether or not the sewer laterals would be replaced on Tuckerman Street, as that could affect the Town's plans to repair the streets.

(8) Mr. Beall said that the Town had received two of the three reimbursement checks from FEMA for the February snowstorms; however, the remaining check covered about 50% of the submitted reimbursement requests. **(9)** He announced that leaf collection season would begin on October 25th in Ward 2 and that the collection schedule was on the Town web site. And **(10)**, he said he was getting requests for additional recycling bins. Discussion ensued on the availability and cost of additional bins.

Re the September 22nd letter from UP to the MNCPPC Planning Board about the Belcrest Plaza/Landy Project: Mayor Tabori said he planned to edit the MNCPPC letter as the Town's testimony at the hearing on October 26th. He added that the developer would be asked to install a 20-foot-wide walkway as well as to extend the corner of the building with 8-10 additional apartment units, which would completely shield University Park's view of the parking garage.

Re Zoning Variance Appeal V-77-10 for the unapproved parking pad at 6903 Adelphi Road: [Speakers included Town residents **Ms. Jenny Glenn** and **Realtor Dixie Meadows**; others included Attorney Kotakolis (of CHE) who represented the UP property's owners Mr. and Mrs. D'Rozario (of CP), their neighbor Reverend Abba (CP), and Ms. Randy Reilly (of HY). The D'Rozarios will be the future landlords of the Adelphi Road property, as they plan to rent it.]

Mr. D'Rozario, owner of the property at 6903 Adelphi Road, distributed photographs and explained that the lot had very limited parking and that no off-street parking was allowed on Adelphi Road. He asked the Council and Mayor to advocate for approving the addition of the concrete parking pad in front of the home.

Ms. Meadows noted that buying a home out of foreclosure and then installing a parking pad swapped one set of problems for another. She said Mr. D'Rozario had been aware of the existing parking configuration when the home was purchased. She added that she viewed the parking pad, which the owner had installed without the appropriate permits, as unsightly and indefensible.

Ms. Reilly raised her concerns about there being an unfair application of the rules, since there were UP properties on Route 1 and East-West Highway that had concrete parking pads in front of their homes. She also said that Mr. D'Rozario was an honorable person and had done nothing deceitful. She (later) mentioned that the undercurrent or

tone of the meeting was very unsettling. Mayor Tabori strongly objected to Ms. Reilly's comments. He said Mr. D'Rozario had applied to MNCPPC for a permit and the permit had been denied until the District Planning Board granted a variance. However, Mr. D'Rozario proceeded to install the parking pad without a permit or a variance.

Then Mr. Kotakolis advocated on his client's behalf from the standpoint of safety. Attorney Ferguson asked for a clarification of his statements, based on the photos that Mr. D'Rozario had submitted, because the photos showed parking signs that indicated on-street parking was allowed on Adelphi Road outside of school hours.

Reverend Abba said Mr. D'Rozario had not willfully disobeyed the law and asked that the variance be granted. Ms. D'Rozario said that if she and her husband had been aware of the rules, they would have followed them. She said they had not received a copy of the Town's NEWSLETTER, which contained information about the permit process and permit requirements. Mr. Kotakolis said it was important to modernize the Adelphi Road property, which was built during a time when most families owned only one car. Ms. Glenn pointed out that University Park wanted to be a Green community and actively was working to receive energy-efficiency grants. It was hoped that eventually the Town could aspire to become a no-car community.

Mayor Tabori provided a bit more background information on the permit issue. He said there was a resident in Town who had installed a concrete parking pad on a Route 1 property and that the Town had spent three years working to get the parking pad removed. Now the resident has been compelled by the County to remove it. Mayor Tabori also noted that Mr. D'Rozario had applied for a permit and had been told of the requirement for a variance before he proceeded to install the parking pad. The Mayor reemphasized that parking was allowed along Adelphi Road, outside of

school hours. And he added that ten years ago, Prince George's County passed a law restricting parking pads in front of people's homes that were in R-55 zones. Any previous exceptions to that law had been grandfathered in and, since that time, no new parking pads had been installed in front of University Park houses.

CM McPherson also voiced her concerns to Mr. D'Rozario. She said that, most likely, passing such a variance would erode property values in University Park. She said that protecting the value of the community was a requirement of the Council.

A **motion** [moved by CM Lucas and seconded by CM Mallino] was passed unanimously to **disapprove zoning variance appeal V-77-10** (to validate and obtain a building permit for a new 18'x20' driveway area in the front yard of 6903 Adelphi Road), which would be contrary to Zoning Ordinance Section 27-120.01 (c). This specific violation resides in the fact that no parking structure may be built in the front yard of a dwelling in the area between the front street line and the sides of the dwelling. A waiver of the parking area requirement is being requested. The motion **PASSED by a vote of 5 yea and 2 excused.** [Roll Call Vote: **Bradley Chacón** - Excused; **Carey** - Yea; **Lucas** - Yea; **Mallino** - Yea; **McPherson** - Yea; **O'Connor** - Excused; and **Toscano** - Yea]

Mayor Tabori said he would prepare a letter to submit to the Zoning Board stating the Town's position, and that he would attend the hearing.

Re the Permit System for Use of the Town Field: Mayor Tabori felt the two distinct issues with the Field were the usage policy, and maintenance and tolerance for Field deterioration. These issues intersected when the Field was used inappropriately and/or was misused. Mr. Beall said the current maintenance policy was to support maximum Field availability. Discussion ensued. The meeting adjourned at 9:35 PM.

HOLIDAY COLLECTION SCHEDULE

Friday, **December 24th** (Christmas Eve) and Friday, **December 31st** (New Year's Eve) are legal Town holidays. **The Town Office will be closed** and there will be **NO bus service**. There also will be **NO UPPWD trash collection**. There will be a regular recycling collection.



HOLIDAY GIFTS OF APPRECIATION

Please consider donating to University Park's "**Holiday Funds**." These Funds offer a way for you, as Town residents, to express your appreciation to our wonderful Public Works Department and Police Department for the exemplary work done by the dedicated employees in both Departments throughout 2010.

Many of the members of the **University Park Public Works Department** have worked for our Town for more than **TEN years...and some for longer than THIRTY!** The winter holidays offer an opportunity for residents to show their appreciation and give some "concrete heartfelt thanks" to these very dedicated Town employees for their continued conscientious service to our community. Donations to the UPPWD Fund are totaled and divided equally among all PWD personnel as a holiday bonus from Town residents.

Residents may show their appreciation to our Town Police Department by making a contribution to the "**UPPD Benevolence Fund for Town Officers**." This Fund is used when the Police Department wishes to recognize an officer for a life event such as marriage, or the birth or death of a loved one.

Checks for both Funds should be made payable to: "Town of University Park." On the memo line, please indicate the "UPPWD Holiday Gift Fund" and/or "UPPD Benevolence Fund" and the respective amounts you wish to donate to each. **All donations should be delivered to the Town Hall by Friday, December 17th.**



**IT'S NOT TOO EARLY
TO THINK ABOUT... SNOW!**

❖ When there is a chance of snow, **please use driveways or garages to park your vehicles**. With fewer vehicles parked on Town streets, our Public Works crew is able to clear them of ice and snow more effectively.

❖ **Residents are requested to keep their sidewalks and front walks free of snow and ice**. This thoughtful way to show consideration and possibly prevent injury benefits one's neighbors, mail carriers, public service employees, seniors, and others. Most jurisdictions ask that sidewalks be cleared within 24 hours after a snowfall. Each of the following young residents (who were listed on the "UP Teen Workers List" in the October NEWSLETTER) is available for snow removal if you need help: **Jack McKeown** (12.5, Ward 3) 301-277-1528; **Justin McPherson** (17, Ward 3) 301-779-5249; and **Kyle McPherson** (19, Ward 3) 301-779-5249.



COMMUNITY WISH LIST

❖ **A YEAR-ROUND FARMERS MARKET!** - You can eat locally YEAR-ROUND by shopping at the **Takoma Park Farmers Market** (6900 block of Laurel Avenue). For their 27th year, this producers-only market is offering produce grown locally within a 125-mile radius. It is open every Sunday from 10 AM to 2 PM. To see what is available at the 23 stalls, visit www.takomaparkmarket.com. This info is available on the Town's neon yellow Annual Information Sheet. Starting dates for next year's area Farmers Markets will be printed in the April 2011 NEWSLETTER.

What to give? This year,
Give the gift of FRIENDSHIP:

Listen – Care – Take time –
Believe in – Love!

Tom Trudeau, Adelphi Road

PGAS/PBC FREE BIRD WALKS

The **Prince George's Audubon Society** and **Patuxent Bird Club** is hosting mid-week Bird Walks every 1st and 3rd Thursday at the newly-dedicated Luther Goldman Birding Trail in Lake Artemesia's Natural Area Park. **Both beginners and experts are welcome and bird checklists are available.** No reservations are needed; just meet at the parking lot located at Berwyn Road and Ballew Avenue in Berwyn Heights at 3 PM. A map and directions can be seen at www.pgaudubon.org. In the spring and summer months (April-August), the walks are at 6 PM. The next three walks will be held at 3 PM on **December 2nd, December 16th, and January 6th.** For more info, call 301-459-3375.



ENTERTAINMENT AROUND TOWN

❖ The **UM Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center** (CSPAC) continues its 2010-2011 season. Highlighted are five concerts, two of which are FREE! For reservations or a copy of the new catalog, please contact 301-405-2787 or www.claricesmithcenter.umd.edu.

♦ **"The Annual Kaleidoscope of Bands"** on **December 3rd** at 8 PM in the Dekelbourn Concert Hall - For this special Kaleidoscope, the Wind Ensemble, Wind Orchestra, UM Band, Community Band, and (in their only concert hall appearance) the Marching Band will fill the stage, aisles, and spotlight with a parade of musical styles. Hear a rousing selection of works sure to warm any winter's night. Tradition has proven that audiences march away with something special from each kaleidoscope ensemble -- directed by former Wells Parkway resident **L. Richmond Sparks**.

♦ "Honors Chamber Music Concert" on **December 5th** at 2 PM in the Gildenhorn Recital Hall - Enjoy a showcase for exceptional ensembles of the UM School of Music's chamber music program, as selected by faculty. **FREE**

♦ "UM Percussion Ensemble" on **December 6th** at 8 PM in the Dekelbourn Concert Hall - Enjoy a unique evening of marimba, xylophone, tubular bells, timpani, drums, and more. **FREE**

♦ **"Big Band Winter Showcase"** on **December 8th** at 7:30 PM in Kay Theatre - You'll heat up a cold winter night with this swinging concert by the UM Jazz Ensemble, the Jazz Lab Band, and the UM Jazz Band. The UM's "2010 Distinguished Scholar-Teacher Honoree," Chris Vadala, will direct the bands in classic and contemporary jazz works.

♦ **"The Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols"** on **December 10th** at 8 PM in the Memorial Chapel - This 9th annual Festival will use the original format of the 1918 King's College Cambridge service. It will feature the UM Men's and Women's Choruses, the UM Chamber Singers, The Maryland Boy Choir, Femmes de Chanson, Männer Musik, the Maryland Palestrina Choir, readers from the University campus and area communities, and audience participation. (NOTE: On the day of the performance, tickets only are available in the Chapel lobby, at 7 PM.)

❖ **The Publick Playhouse** in Cheverly (5445 Landover Road; 301-277-1710/TTY 301-277-0312) continues its 2010-11 season with two holiday plays for children.

♦ On Thursday, **December 6th** at 10:15 AM & 12 NOON, Midweek Matinees will present **"A Season of Miracles,"** Pushcart Players' sparkling collection of holiday tales from different cultures. The heartwarming musical tales will include *"The Gift of the Magi"* & *"The Nutcracker"* (about Christmas), *"The Kwanzaa Kite"* (set in Nigeria), and *"A Menorah from Heaven"* (a Chelm story). Perfect for grades K-4, (\$5)

♦ On Thursday, **December 9th** at 10:15 AM & 12 NOON, Midweek Matinees will present **"The Magic Toy Shop,"** master puppeteer Bob Brown's rollicking adventure exploring the secret life of toys. Recommended for children in grades PreK-2 who

may wonder what happens when the Toy Shop closes at night? (\$3)

❖ The **Greenbelt Arts Center (GAC)** (123 Centerway, underneath the Co-op Grocery Store; www.greenbeltartscenter.org or 301-441-8770) holds performances on Fridays and Saturdays at 8 PM and on Sundays at 2 PM.

♦ On **December 9th-12th**, GAC will present "**Lions and Penguins and Bears (Oh, My!)**." The evening will include a selection of 1-act plays by Matt Hanf and a special guest production from Thunderous Production.

♦ On Friday, **December 17th** at 8 PM, GAC will present its annual "**The Chromatics**" concert and on Sunday, **December 19th** at 2 PM, GAC will present its annual "**Homespun Ceilidh Band**" concert.

♦ On Tuesday, **December 14th** and on Wednesday, **December 15th**, from 7:30-10 PM, auditions will be held for the musical, "Reefer Madness." Please prepare a song and bring sheet music, something from a 21st-Century musical is preferred. A short dance routine also will be learned and performed, and there will be script readings. [NOTE: All the cast (except the Lecturer) must smoke "stage reefers" and only ages 18 and older may audition. The play will be performed March 11th through April 2, 2011. Director Jeffery Lesniak is casting the following: **Male Lead** and **3 Males** (who will play: 9 roles, 4 roles, and 3 roles); **Female Lead** and **3 Females** (a mid-30s, one older, and a Placard Girl who also plays 2 other roles); and a **M and F Ensemble/Chorus** (portraying Reefer Zombies, Orgy Dancers, Kids at "5 & Dime," or Angels). Please visit www.greenbeltartscenter.org/ for specifics.



DECEMBER ACTIVITIES AT CPAE

All **College Park Arts Exchange (CPAE)** events are FREE and are held at the College Park Old Parish House (corner of Knox Road

and Dartmouth Avenue) unless otherwise noted. For more information, to register, or to remit fees for classes or special activities, please contact info@cpae.org or 301-927-3013; or visit www.cpae.org for more info.

❖ The **CPAE Youth Choir (CPYC)** will be performing in "**Christmas for Kids (of All Ages)**," the Music-At-Riverdale concert on Sunday, **December 5th** at 4 PM at Riverdale Presbyterian Church (6513 Queens Chapel Road, UP). The program will feature several choral groups, audience caroling, and a grand finale carol/hymn with the combined choirs and audience. A free-will offering will be collected. CPYC's talented, energetic, and busy Director, Christopher Fominaya, also is the UPES Music Teacher, works with Greenbelt's Creative Kids Camp, and with the Prince George's Teen Theatre! For more information, please call RPC (301-927-0477).

❖ The CPAE Youth Orchestra's (CPYO) Fall Concert will be held on **December 5th** at 7 PM. Director Kenneth Whitley will lead both the Primary and Intermediate Ensembles as they perform their first concert of the season at Eleanor Roosevelt High School in Greenbelt. The concert is free and open to the public. Armed with almost 30 years of professional experience, the multi-talented CPYO Director (who lives in Baltimore with his wife and son) oversees the Middle School Music Program and directs two vocal ensembles at The Bryn Mawr School in Baltimore.

❖ Everyone is invited to join Cheryl Safford for an evening of "**Renaissance Dancing**" at 7:30 PM on Friday, **December 10th**. Come dressed to move and ready to enjoy the beautiful rhythms of dances of the 15th, 16th, and 17th-Century Renaissance. Light refreshments will be served.

❖ At 3 PM on Sunday, **December 12th**, you can start celebrating the holidays by enjoying some informal "**Seasonal Celebrations**" presented by talented local performers. Bring the whole family for a fun afternoon that will include a snack and a hot drink, a puppet show, a dance recital, and more!

❖ Children can print their own beautiful wrapping paper for the holidays on **December 19th** from 2-4 PM, at the "Kids' Arts Drop-in" program. Arts Specialist Aaron Springer leads CPAE's FREE monthly creative arts workshop for ages 3-8 and their parents.



TOWN HOLIDAY SUPPER PARTY

On Saturday, **December 4th** from 5 to 6:45 PM, the UP Civic Association and the UP Historic Preservation Association, will co-host UP's joyous "**Holiday Pot Luck Supper Party**" and later, the "**63rd Annual Town Tree Lighting Ceremony.**" All residents and friends are invited to dine with their neighbors in Custis Hall at Riverdale Presbyterian Church (6513 Queens Chapel Road) and/or at 7 PM, plan to join the Party group (who will walk there) at the Town Tree (corner of Sheridan Street and Queens Chapel Road).

Supper Party **participants are asked to bring either:** a festive entree, a side dish, or a dessert to share -- enough for 10-12 servings. Families who attend the Supper Party may wish to bring a camera to capture their children chatting with Santa by the fireplace, creating a holiday craft, and/or enjoying the live entertainment and a holiday song fest.

Also, participants (or others) are being asked to make a donation to the Hyattsville Volunteer Fire Department. For years, though not our official area Fire Department, HVFD has been exceptionally supportive of our community and our Town events. So this year, the co-hosting groups have expressed a mutual desire for the Town to give something back to HVFD.

During the Supper Party, discounted advance tickets may be purchased for the Candlelight House Tour (on **December 10th**). UP Woman's Club members will have the \$12 tickets available (that will be \$15 "at the door"). After the Supper Party, the Town Tree-Lighting Ceremony will awaken UP's second "green" Holiday Tree with twinkling

LED lights as the assembled group welcomes a visit from our bearded North Pole friend. All are invited to both or either celebration. If **YOU might enjoy lending a welcome hand** with some of the evening's festivities, please contact Lynn Butler (LynnHButler@aol.com or 301-27-7451) for more details. Remember: "**Many hands make less work...more fun!**"



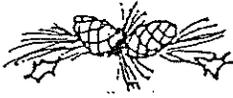
TOWN TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY

Once again University Park's Town Tree will be "Green," thanks to its many strings of twinkling energy-efficient LED lights and to a special gift from University Park Community Solar LLC (UPCS). In a gesture fitting the holiday season, members of UPCS will contribute to the Town some of the funds they received (from the "excess" energy produced by the solar panels on the roof of the Church of the Brethren) to pay for this season's Tree lighting.

Since their installation in July, UPCS's solar panels have been producing more electricity than the Church has been using. That excess is flowing into the grid that powers other PEPCO-serviced homes, in the same way that electricity produced by coal, wind, or nuclear power contributes to the grid. At the end of the year, University Park Community Solar LLC will be paid by PEPCO for the excess electricity they directed to the grid, and UPCS members have chosen to give some of their payment to the Town to cover the cost of the Tree lighting. **This concept is called "virtual metering"** and it illustrates how solar electricity can grow into the larger energy sector.

Even though its solar power source is "up the block," our Town Tree will remind us that University Park is a vanguard, leading in new ideas to make our future greener and brighter. So mark your calendars now for our **63rd Town Tree-Lighting Ceremony** on Saturday, **December 4th** at 7 PM (at the corner of Sheridan Street and Queens Chapel Road), and

and plan to join your neighbors and friends at our Town Tree to sing in a cleaner, greener holiday season as we **welcome Santa to UP!** For other details/questions, please contact Sarah Moseley (sarahnmoseley@verizon.net).



DECEMBER FUN IN GREENBELT

If you were born between the late 30s and early 50s and would like to show your kids (or grandkids) what life was like when you were a little kid, plan a visit to the **Greenbelt Historic House Museum**. Beginning with the free tour on Friday, **December 3rd from 6-9 PM**, the Museum House will be trimmed for the holidays with wonderful period decorations from the 30s and 40s and its Gift Shop will be freshly stocked with new holiday merchandise of the period. Tours (\$3) will continue through the end of the year on **Sundays from 1 to 5 PM** and on Wednesdays, **December 8th and 15th from 5 to 8 PM**. The Greenbelt Historic House Museum is located at 10-B Crescent Road. For more information, please contact greenbeltmuseum.org or 301-507-6582.

On Saturday, **December 4th** from 10 AM to 5 PM, and on Sunday, **December 5th** from 11 AM to 4 PM, the 38th annual City of Greenbelt's "**Festival of Lights**" **Arts & Crafts Show** will be held in the Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Road. This year, the marvelous juried fair will include **38 professional crafters of distinctive artistic merit** (not including kit crafts, imports, or commercially-produced items) plus gifts from the Greenbelt Museum House, books from 2 groups of local authors, and crafts from 4 non-profit groups. Also at the Festival, there will be a make-and-take paper box craft workshop on Saturday from 1-3 PM and delicious refreshments available in the "Festival Cafe." From 1-3 PM on Sunday, Greenbelt's **Artful Afternoon program** invites you to make-and-take an evergreen wreath, while supplies last (bring natural elements or other embellishments you wish to add).

SOARING INTO DECEMBER

The **College Park Aviation Museum** (1985 Corporal Frank Scott Drive, CP, 301-864-6029) will offer posters, a film, trains and planes, and Santa! Museum hours are daily, from 10 AM to 5 PM; all children must be accompanied by an adult. Questions? Phone 301-864-6029/TTY301-864-4765 or visit the web site: www.collegeparkaviationmuseum.com.

❖ The 2010 annual "**Santa Fly-In**" will take place on Saturday, **December 4th** from NOON to 4 PM. Come and watch Santa fly into historic College Park Airport and have your picture taken with him after he arrives at the Museum. (NOTE: His reindeer are at the North Pole helping the elves move heavy packages.) While waiting for Santa's arrival, Museum visitors are invited to enjoy holiday arts and crafts projects in the gallery.

FREE with Museum admission →→→→ FWMA

❖ **Hollywood Flyers** - Plan now for a monthly weekend movie at 1 PM! This series of famous films features Hollywood blockbusters, classics, and documentaries with a flight theme. Lemonade and popcorn are included. On Sunday, **December 12th**, see "**The Nightmare Before Christmas**" (PG). *In this animated Tim Burton film, Jack Skellington, the Pumpkin King, ruler of Halloweentown, happens upon Christmastown, and decides to change Christmas into another Halloween.* (NOTE: The next Hollywood Flyers movie will be "Iron Man" on January 30th.)

FWMA

❖ "**Holiday Trains and Planes**" - From **December 18th through 23rd**, the Museum will be decked out in Yuletide spirit complete with an encore visit from the National Capital Trackers' exhibit. Their constantly-moving fascinating display of model railroad circuits features a miniature world of trains, villages, tunnels, and depots! Come spark your imagination and see history brought to life at this multi-generational holiday tradition that is not to be missed.

FWMA

❖ **Beautiful posters** (noteworthy artifacts of both aviation history and the 21st Century) comprise the **"Fly Now!"** Exhibition borrowed from the Smithsonian Institution's National Air and Space Museum. It will be on view through Friday, February 25, 2011. Forty posters are being showcased, dating from 1860 to 2007, that represent five continents and many countries around the world. The history of advertising, technology, business, transportation, tourism, and cultural geography, all a part of the exhibition, offers a unique perspective of aviation history. **FWMA**



UPWC's CANDLELIGHT HOUSE TOUR

The **University Park Woman's Club** will present their 17th annual **"Candlelight House Tour"** on Friday, **December 10th** from 7 to 10 PM. This lovely neighborhood tradition, and the Club's major fund raiser, supports the UPWC's two annual scholarships as well as community service projects that promote education and the arts. The Club is proud to announce the five awesome **2010 Candlelight Tour Homes**:

- 4301 Woodberry Street, UP**
(Martha Kay Lequeux and Gary Klein);
- 4103 Woodberry Street, UP**
(Nadia and Jason Monroe);
- 4102 Clagett Road, CHE**
(Kimberly and Charlie Nugent);
- 4201 Woodberry Street, UP**
(Gail O'Klesson); and
- 4108 Van Buren Street, UP**
(Leatha and Kurtis Thome).

All of these delightful Cape Cods and Colonials feature their own unique seasonal and holiday décor as well as upgrades and renovations made by the current owners.

In addition to the House Tour, the Club's annual **"Holiday Boutique"** will be held again at the Pirovic residence (3912 Calverton Drive, CHE) from 6:30 PM to 10:30 PM

(allowing shoppers more time to visit the Boutique before and after the House Tour). Local artisans will be offering a wide variety of handcrafted items and will donate a percentage of their proceeds to the UPWC Scholarship Fund. Although Tour tickets are not required to visit the Boutique, they may be purchased there (and at each Tour Home) throughout the evening. Tickets are \$12/in advance and \$15/during the Tour. For more info/tickets, see any UPWC member or call either Tour Co-Chair: Anna-Mae Kobbe (301-277-0414) or Sallie Holder (301-864-9264).

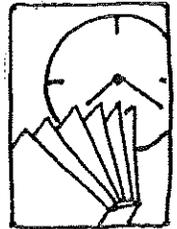


BOOKS AND AUTHORS

*"I've never known any trouble
that an hour's reading didn't assuage."*
Charles De Secondat

❖ **The After Eight Book**

Club, a group open to all interested men, women, and couples, continues its 2010-2011 Club year on **December 14th** at 8 PM to discuss **"Three Cups of Tea..."** by Greg Mortenson. The group welcomes new members. If you have questions or would like directions to attend this month's discussion, please call Margaret Callaghan (301-864-1031). On January 18th, their selection will be **"The Help"** by Kathryn Stockett.



❖ **The College Park Arts Exchange Book Club** (info@cpae.org or 301-927-3013) meets monthly on Fridays from 7:30-9 PM at the College Park Old Parish House (corner of Knox & Dartmouth) for lively conversation in a fun, casual setting. Their ongoing theme is mostly literary non-fiction by women. Guests are welcome to drop in on a meeting any time! Their selection for **December 17th** will be **"The Language of Baklava: A Memoir"** by Diana Abu-Jaber. (*Raised in upstate New York & spending time in Jordan, a Jordanian-American bridges both worlds w/recipes!*) On January 21st, the Club will be discussing **"Dreaming in Hindi"** by Katherine Russell Rich.

❖ The Hyattsville Branch Library (6530 Adelphi Road; 301-985-4690) hosts the **HY-LI Book Discussion Group** monthly on the third Saturday at 3 PM. There is **no December meeting** as the Group skips the busy winter holiday season. However, for their January 22, 2011 meeting, the **correct** book selection will be "Map of Home" by Rhonda Jarrar.



RP HOLIDAY MARKET & FESTIVAL

Riverdale Park's 6th annual **Holiday Market** and 9th annual **Lights Festival** will be held on Saturday, **December 11th** from 12 to 8 PM at the Town Center (4650 Queensbury Road, where the Farmers Market was held). Donations of canned food will be gathered to give to area families. **Lights Festival Trolley Rides** are FREE with a non-perishable food donation. Trolleys run from 5:30-8:30 PM; the last trolley ride will leave the starting point at 8 PM. Trolley rides tour local RP holiday decorations while jolly elves lead a sing-a-long.

Area artisans will offer a wide array of unique holiday gifts, crafts, art, and greenery (including wreaths and trees). Local food vendors will provide entrées, desserts, hot cocoa and cider. Continuous live holiday music will be presented by many favorite local bands & musicians. **Bring your camera and take a FREE picture with Santa!** Face painting, tattoos, games, and family fun also will be FREE with canned goods donations. For more information, please contact 301-332-6258 or www.rpholidaymarket.com.



DON'T HESITATE...DECORATE!

The judging for **UP's annual Holiday Home (Outdoor) Decorating Contest** will take place on Sunday, **December 12th** from **7:30-9:30 PM**. ALL UP homes are entered in this contest automatically! Just be sure your lights are turned on by 7 PM. The judges' vehicle

will make a complete circuit of every street in UP to view the lighted homes and then make 2-3 more return visits to all the "possible" winners before the final decisions can be made. The result of their labors will be a 1st, 2nd, and 3rd-place winner for each of the four contest categories: "**Best Decorated Door,**" "**Best Decorated Whole House,**" "**Best Religious Theme Decoration,**" and "**Best Children's Delight.**" First Place winners will receive a Gift Certificate from Will's Decorating Center in Beltsville (301-937-3733). Second and Third Place winners will receive a certificate of appreciation. Special recognition signs will be placed in the yards of all the winners and they will be announced online and in the January 2011 UP NEWSLETTER.

The aim of the contest is to encourage and acknowledge the most creative, pleasing, and totally-awesome results of the way UP residents have decorated their homes to enhance the beauty and enjoyment of the winter season or its many holiday celebrations. Winners are requested to keep their decorations on view at least until January 9th so everyone will have a chance to enjoy the variety of creativity that went into brightening our winter nights. For more information, please call either Contest Co-Chair: Sallie Holder (301-864-9264) or Rene McDonald (301-779-1943).



DECEMBER EVENTS AT RIVERSDALE

Guided tours of the early-Federal Riversdale House Museum (4811 Riverdale Road, RP) are available Fridays and Sundays on the quarter hour, from 12:15-3:15 PM; group tours are available by appointment. No charge for Gift Shop visits during tour hours. Free Dependency Kitchen cooking demonstrations are held on "Seasonal Selections" Sundays. For more information, please call 301-864-0420 or TTY301-699-2544. Sign up for classes and activities at www.pgparcs.com or 301-583-BOOK. **NOTE:** All fees listed are for Prince George's County residents.

❖ On **December 29th** from 6-9 PM, RHM again will present **"The Calverts by Candlelight."** As the doors of the stately 200-year-old mansion open, George Calvert and his wife, Rosalie Stier Calvert, will welcome you into their home filled with the smells of spicy gingerbread and pine. You will enter a veritable mansion festooned with seasonal greens and filled with the sounds of merry period music. During a self guided tour of the illuminated mansion, visitors may interact with costumed interpreters representing the Calvert household and their friends. By watching the cooks at an open hearth fire, partaking of the delicious warming refreshments, and sharing the children's delight in special activities planned for their entertainment, everyone will be able to capture the spirit of the evening. Admission is \$5 for adults and **FREE** for accompanying children (12 and younger).

❖ **HEADS UP** for RHM's very popular **"Twelfth Night Ball"** to be held on Saturday, January 15, 2011 from 7:30 to 10 PM. Notice is being given now because the dancing hall's capacity is limited and **advance registration is required by January 7th.** So plan now to close your holiday season in high style at Riversdale's **Annual Regency-style Twelfth Night Ball** -- back by popular demand! Dress for the occasion in period costume or black tie. You'll enjoy dancing to live music of the era in English-country style and, in keeping with Twelfth Night tradition, help choose a king and queen to lead the dancing. Dances will be selected from those of the late-18th/early-19th Centuries. (NOTE: From 7:30-8 PM, instruction will be offered for those who are unfamiliar with the dances so...no experience is necessary!) Traditional period-inspired light refreshments also are included in the \$32 fee. Please contact riversdale@pgparks.com or 301-864-0420/TTY301-699-2544 to make a reservation.



*"The world is round and the place
which may seem like the end may
also be only the beginning."*

Ivy Baker Priest

HISTORIC PRESERVATION REVIEW

Recently, the **Prince George's Historic Preservation Commission** retained EHT Traceries (EHTT) (an architectural history and historic preservation firm located in Washington, DC) to review the existing **University Park National Register Historic District.** The project is funded by M-NCPPC and is being undertaken at the request of the Town of University Park.

As part of its responsibilities, EHTT will examine the boundaries of UP's current Historic District (covering Wards 1-5), assess the possibility of expanding those boundaries to cover Wards 6 and 7, document the Town's history and development more fully, and amend/update the associated documentation for our District. This work will include an on-site survey of all properties (those previously listed and those to be added) to evaluate whether or not the buildings contribute to the history and significance of the Historic District. **The survey will begin in December 2010, and will be conducted from the public right-of-way.** A draft of the amended/expanded "National Register Nomination Form" will be available for public review in late January 2011.

Please do not be surprised if you see EHTT staff wandering through Town and taking pictures of your homes. The pictures that they take will be incorporated into some of the planned exhibits associated with the celebration of our Town's 75th Anniversary (throughout 2011). If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Town Hall.



NOTICE TO RESIDENTS

The **University Park Official Town NEWSLETTER** loves publishing the milestones of former and current UP families (births, weddings, and obituary notices; graduations and honors; school, sports & community awards, etc.) **plus** club or publicity notices for events of interest to all University Park residents.

Please send articles to upnews@yahoo.com or to Flo Harris, 6703 44th Avenue, UP 20782.

The **UP NEWSLETTER** only prints original articles and does not publish political or commercial advertising. Please send any letters of opinion or suggestions for the Town to the Town Hall. **NOTE:** University Park NEWSLETTER articles may not be excerpted or reprinted without crediting their source.

TO READ THE UP NEWSLETTER ON LINE:

Former residents and current paid subscribers who would prefer to read the UP NEWSLETTER on line, may visit www.upmd.org (Documents) and read each issue at no cost!

TO RECEIVE PAPER COPIES OF THE NEWSLETTER:

Residents who've moved from Town and other readers should notify the Town Hall which month they would like their subscription to begin and include their first year's payment of \$15. After that, it will be up to the subscriber to pay the subscription rate for each following year before the month that their subscription ends.

PLEASE NOTE: The Town does not give any reminders to subscribers. One's subscription renewal month/year will be printed on the address label. When payment is received, the label is updated. If no payment is received, the subscriber is removed from the mailing list. However, if you have a computer and Internet access, you may prefer to read the NEWSLETTERS on line rather than have a paid paper subscription.

UP NEWSLETTER: upnews@yahoo.com
UP Town E-mail: townhall@upmd.org
UP Mayor E-mail: mayor@upmd.org
UP Police Department: upchief@upmd.org
UPPD Director: mbeall@upmd.org
UP Town Website: www.upmd.org
UP Town Field Hot Line: 301-927-4262x600
UP Town Bus Hot Line: 301-927-4262x601
STEP-UP! Coach: UPEnergyCoach@gmail.com
PGC Government Hot Line: 301-952-481

LOST PET DATABASE

To register your pet, or report a lost or found pet, please call Linda Verrill (301-927-6743). To ensure that your pets are easily identifiable, always have them wear their tags or a microchip.



UPCA
INFORMATION
FOR NEW
UP RESIDENTS
Contact Jenn Mooney
jtmoondock@aol.com

The Town of University Park encourages the involvement and participation of individuals with disabilities in all its programs and services. Please let the Town know how it can best meet your needs: (i.e. sign language interpreters, adaptive equipment or other assistance).

Inquire at the Town Hall:
6724 Baltimore Avenue, UP
(301-927-2997/TDD 1-800-735-2258)

Save This Date

JANUARY 22, 2011

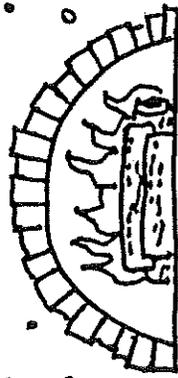
UP ENERGY EFFICIENCY FAIR !

See Displays
Attend Workshops

Sign up now for a Home Energy Audit!
Contact Chuck Wilson
301-864-2067



December 2010 University Park Monthly Planner



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p><i>Takoma Park Farmers Market</i> 10-AM-2 PM (RP*FM)</p>	<p>December is Universal Human Rights Month &</p>	<p>3-D Month (<i>Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month</i>)</p>	<p>1 12:00 NOON Deadline for January 2011 NEWSLETTER</p>	<p>2 FREE BIRD WALK Lake Artemesia - 3 PM <i>Hanukkah Begins</i> (December 2nd through 9th) SINGLE-STREAM RECYCLING</p>	<p>3 FREE TOUR - 6-9 PM Greenbelt Historic House Museum (GHHM Tour) UM 8 PM <i>Kaleidoscope of Bands</i> TOWN TRASH COLLECTION</p>	<p>4 <i>GB Craft Show 10a-5p & 1-3p make/take Box Workshop</i> UPCB Sharing Fair, 9:30a-5p CPAM, SANTA FLY-IN, 12-4p UP SUPPER PARTY, 5p, RPC UP TREE LIGHTING, 7p</p>
<p>5 <i>GB Craft Show 11a-4p & 1-3p Artful4U Wreath Workshop</i> (TP*FM) (GHEM-Tour, 1-5p) UM Honors Chamber Concert, 2p CPAE Youth Concerts: CPYC: 4 PM at RPC CPYO: 7 PM at ERHS</p>	<p>6 10:15 AM & 12 NOON "Season of Miracles" 7:30 PM UPES COUNCIL MEETING UM "Percussion Ensemble" 8 PM YARD WASTE RECYCLING</p>	<p>7 <i>Pearl Harbor Day</i> TOWN TRASH COLLECTION</p>	<p>8 (GHHM - Tour, 5-8 PM) UM Big Bands Concert 7:30 PM</p>	<p>9 PP 10:15 AM & 12 NOON "The Magic Toy Shop" GAC 8 PM (GAC-1AP) A night of "1-Act Plays" SINGLE-STREAM RECYCLING</p>	<p>10 CPAE-OPH 7:30 PM "Renaissance Dancing" (GAC-1AP, 8 PM) UM Lessons/Carols, MC, 8 PM UPWC's Candlelight House Tour: 7-10 PM & Boutique: 6:30-10:30 PM TOWN TRASH COLLECTION</p>	<p>11 (GAC-1AP, 8 PM) Riverdale Park 12-8 PM "Holiday Market and Festival of Lights"</p>
<p>12 (TP*FM) (GHEM Tour) (GAC-1AP, 2 PM) CPAM "Nightur Before Xmas" 1p CPAE-OPH: <i>Seasonal Celebrations 3p</i></p>	<p>13 YARD WASTE RECYCLING</p>	<p>14 GAC Auditions 7:30-10p for "Reefer Madness" UP After-8 Book Club "Three Cups of Tea..." TOWN TRASH COLLECTION</p>	<p>15 (GHEM - Tour, 5-8 PM) <i>Bill of Rights Day</i> GAC Auditions 7:30-10p for "Reefer Madness"</p>	<p>16 FREE BIRD WALK Lake Artemesia - 3 PM SINGLE-STREAM RECYCLING</p>	<p>17 GAC "Chromatics" 8p <i>Last day to donate to the Jews Holiday Appreciation Funds</i> CPAE BOOK CLUB OPH 7:30 to 9 PM "Language of Baklava" TOWN TRASH COLLECTION</p>	<p>18 CPAM 10 AM- 5 PM "Holiday Trains and Planes" Exhibit (CPAM-HT&P)</p>
<p>19 (TP*FM) (GHEM Tour) (CPAM-HT&P) CPAE-OPH 2-4 PM Kids' Arts Drop-In "Print your own special wrapping paper."</p>	<p>20 (CPAM-HT&P) 7:30 PM UPES COUNCIL MEETING YARD WASTE RECYCLING</p>	<p>21 (CPAM-HT&P) <i>First Day of Winter</i> Watch for a total lunar eclipse of the full moon, that Native Americans call "Cold Moon"! TOWN TRASH COLLECTION</p>	<p>22 (CPAM-HT&P)</p>	<p>23 (CPAM-HT&P)</p>	<p>24 TOWN TRASH COLLECTION</p>	<p>25 <i>Christmas Eve</i> (Town Office closed; no bus service)</p>
<p>26 (TP*FM) (GHEM Tour)</p>	<p>27 YARD WASTE RECYCLING</p>	<p>28 <i>37th anniversary of the Endangered Species Act</i> TOWN TRASH COLLECTION</p>	<p>29 RHM 6-9 PM "The Calverts by Candlelight"</p>	<p>30 SINGLE-STREAM RECYCLING</p>	<p>31 <i>New Year's Eve</i> (Town Office closed; no bus service)</p>	<p>Jan 1, 2011 <i>"Happy New Year!"</i></p>



UNIVERSITY PARK

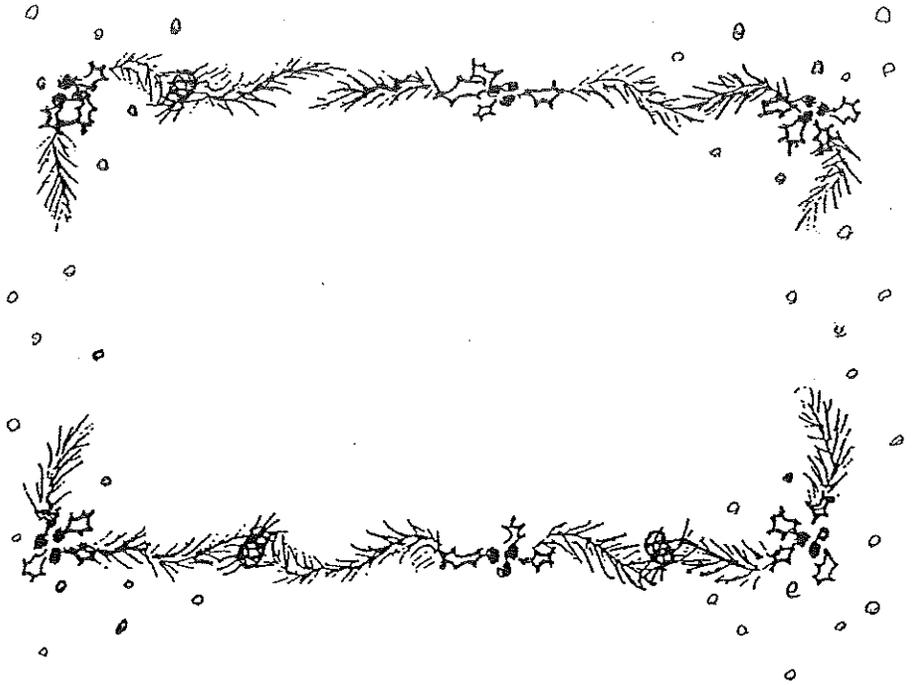
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DIRECTORY

University Park Mayor John Rogard Tabori,
Town Clerk Amy S. Headley (x100),
UPPWD Director Michael Beall (x200), and
Treasurer Daniel Baden may be reached at the
Town Hall Office: 301-927-4262 or 301-927-2997
UP Police Chief Michael Wynnyk: 301-277-0051
Emergency: 911 UPPD Non-emergency: 301-333-4000
Mayor Tabori's home phone: 301-779-6530

WARD	COUNCIL MEMBER	PHONE
1	Margaret S. Mallino	301-927-7199
2	Francis M. Lucas	301-927-2925
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4	Lenford C. Carey	301- 864-1383
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6	Anne V. O'Connor	301- 779-0491
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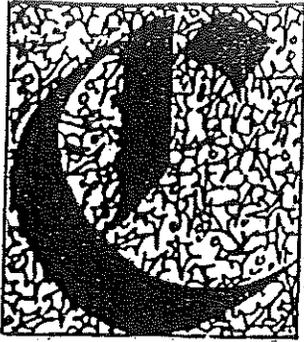
NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The University Park **NEWSLETTER** is published monthly eleven times each year. Wednesday, **December 1st** is the deadline for our **January 2011 issue**. Please e-mail articles before 12:00 NOON.

NOTE: The deadline to submit articles for the **February issue** will be Wednesday, **January 5th**, also before 12:00 NOON.

EDITOR: Flo Harris (301-864-0135)
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CANDLELIGHT HOUSE TOUR AND HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE

Proceeds benefit UPES, Hyattsville Middle School, and Northwestern High School



FRIDAY
DECEMBER 10, 2010

6:30 PM TO 10:30 PM

CANDLELIGHT TOUR

We present our uniquely decorated
Five - Tour Homes:

Lequeux - Klein: 4301 Woodberry Street
The Monroe's: 4103 Woodberry Street
The Nugent's: 4102 Clagett Road, CHE
Gail O'Kleson: 4201 Woodberry Street
The Thome's: 4108 Van Buren Street

6:30-10:30 PM Craft Sale: 7002 College Heights Drive

FOR TICKETS, PLEASE CALL

Jean Bourne-Pirovic (301-520-8420)

"Thanks to the generous folks who are opening their homes, and to all residents who are supporting this educational fund raiser sponsored by the University Park Woman's Club."

THE 2010 HOLIDAY MARKET & SHARING FAIR

UNIVERSITY PARK CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

CORNER OF ROUTE 1 AND TUCKERMAN STREET • 301-864-4328

Before the Town Tree Lighting and Pot Luck Supper Party, UPCB's Sharing Fair will help SUPPORT GOOD CAUSES that link all of the world's people and promote peace.

Saturday, December 4th from 9:30 AM to 3 PM

An Alternative Bazaar of Unique Gifts

DIVERSE NONPROFITS

FAIR TRADE

Family Artisans

EQUAL EXCHANGE

REBUILDS COMMUNITY

RESPECTING THE EARTH

LUNCH AND MUNCH from a varied grill

plus **SWEETS TO EAT** 'til you've had your fill

New this year: A Children's "Secret Santa Shop"

Child-sized prices & Great variety of selections

Volunteers will help wrap to keep purchases SECRET!

Dec. 4th
Riverdale
Presbyterian Church

5:00 PM
POT LUCK
SUPPER and
HOLIDAY ENTERTAINMENT

7:00 PM
63rd ANNUAL
UNIVERSITY PARK
TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY

REFLECTIONS FOR THE NEW YEAR

2010



NOTHING USELESS IS, OR LOW;
EACH THING IN ITS PLACE IS BEST;
AND WHAT SEEMS BUT IDLE SHOW

STRENGTHENS AND SUPPORTS THE REST.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

2011

STEP-UP

The Sequential, Transformative Energy Program for University Park

Vol. 1, No. 2, December 2010

In 1936 University Park was at the forefront of residential design in America. 2011 marks the 75th anniversary of UP's incorporation, and once again our town is poised to become a model for the future. A \$1,425,000 grant awarded to UP in June by the Department of Energy (DOE) aims to change how we use energy in our homes and throughout the town. Here's an update **highlighting the activities in the three months since University Park officially accepted the Department of Energy STEP-UP grant:**

- * The STEP-UP Advisory Committee is meeting regularly. The public is welcome to attend and is encouraged to participate. Working groups are established in the areas of Communications, Technical and Budget, and Measurement and Evaluation. These teams are hard at work.
- * The Mayor is leading recruitment of a Project Manager/Energy Coach.
- * An interim STEP-UP web page is active and linked from the Town web site. A more-complete STEP-UP Web site is in the works.
- * The Town has accounting set up for the Grant, has completed the first round of Federal reporting, and has begun receiving funds from the Department of Energy.
- * Town employees and contractors are tracking their hours spent in support of STEP-UP to ensure the Town is able to recover all costs related to the project.
- * The Advisory Committee is publishing a series of inserts in the University Park Newsletter to introduce residents to the project; this is the second of these inserts.
- * The Mayor and Advisory Committee Chair, Chuck Wilson, are meeting with Sun

Trust Bank, PEPCO, the Maryland Energy Administration, the Alliance to Save Energy and the UP solar initiative regarding their participation as partners on STEP-UP implementation.

- * On November 1st, Advisory Committee Chair Chuck Wilson, briefed the University Park Women's Club on the potential benefits of STEP-UP to town residents.

Next Steps

1. Complete the hiring of the Project Manager/Energy Coach and integrate them into the project.
2. Build the STEP-UP Web site to facilitate participation in STEP-UP programs.
3. Develop baseline energy use information.
4. Support the UP solar community in planning for the school solar installation.

SAVE THE DATE!

January 22, 2011

is set for the Town launch event for STEP-UP complete with workshops, vendors and lots of information. Stay tuned for more details...

How we save energy—a homeowner

profile: *This month the STEP-UP project team interviewed Sarah Elder, a Forest Hill Drive homeowner, who commissioned a comprehensive energy study of her home in early 2009. Sarah eagerly told us the factors driving her decision to have an energy study and to describe her overall experience. Sarah becomes an important role model for all of us in UP, as her experience demonstrates how utilizing an energy review and implementing the recommended upgrades can save money and create a more comfortable home.*

My husband, Paul Yde, and I bought a rambler on Wells Parkway three years ago. During the first year of ownership, a friend and her son stayed in the house and we quickly discovered the utility costs for the 1949 rambler on a concrete slab were greater than the utility costs for our three-story home.

Assuming the problem was an old, inefficient furnace, we replaced it with a new high-efficiency furnace. We saw a small improvement in the energy costs but the heating bill for the small house with two people was often \$100 more than for our significantly larger home with five people.

At that point, I decided to have an energy study to find out why this small and seemingly snug brick house was costing so much money to heat.

The thorough energy study revealed the house lacked insulation throughout the attic thereby losing large amounts of heat through the roof and walls.

The energy study provided us with a list of corrective measures to consider. We opted to implement most of the suggested corrections from adding attic insulation to fixing the fireplace flue.

Upon completion of the work, our utility bills for the Wells Parkway house dropped dramatically and we tracked these savings by comparing utility bills from the previous winter to see a monthly savings of hundreds of dollars!

Based on these monthly utility savings, we will quickly pay for the cost of the energy study and the improvements to the home.

Finally, this fall we are installing high-efficiency windows and new doors throughout the house, which will hopefully further increase the energy efficiency of the home.

The energy study gave us the information we needed to take action to improve the energy efficiency - and the value - of our home. Our neighbor, Sarah Elder, 6909 Forest Hill Drive, University Park, MD 20782, 301-927-8006

Heads-up! Energy Saving Tax Credits expiring

December 31, 2010 is the deadline to purchase and install certain energy-efficient home improvements to take advantage of a 30 percent Federal tax credit. A \$1,500 cap still lets you upgrade lots of items in your home including:

- *Exterior windows* including skylights and storm windows.
- *Insulation, exterior doors, and roofs* including seals to limit air infiltration and storm doors.
- *Central air conditioner, heat pump, furnace, boiler, water heater, or biomass (e.g. corn) stove.*

This and more information can be found on our grant partner's, the Alliance to Save Energy, Website <http://www.livingefficiently.org>

Instructions for your Federal tax credit can be found at <http://www.energystar.gov>

STEP-UP will keep you updated with new or changing programs that are being offered.

Any questions??
Contact STEP-UP at
UPEnergyCoach@gmail.com