

# UNIVERSITY PARK NEWSLETTER

TOWN OF UNIVERSITY PARK, MARYLAND

MARCH 2014

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

VOL. XXXIX, NO. 3

## MAYOR'S COLUMN: CHURCH NEGOTIATIONS DELAYED

**Church Negotiations Delayed** After a February 12 meeting between representatives of the Riverdale Presbyterian Church and the Town, it was mutually agreed to delay further negotiations on the sale of the Church property to the Town until the fall of 2014. The lease of space within the Church by another church through January 2015 would make it difficult for the Town to begin the process of modifying the property for Town use should the Town decide to purchase it.

The delay of the negotiations will allow both parties to further assess the best course of action for each side and to re-visit possible acquisition later in the year as appropriate. The Council will take this matter up at the March 3 Council Meeting and vote on whether to withdraw or table the current ordinance with respect to the purchase of the Church. I would like to thank everyone involved in the assessment of this opportunity and the negotia-

tions, whether a citizen, council member or professional. In my opinion, it is a superb example of true democracy in action.

**The Veteran's Memorial Design Advisory Committee** has put forth a preliminary design for the Veterans Memorial to be located at the corner of Wells Parkway and Clagett Road. The committee will hold a public forum on the proposed design on Thursday, March 13 at 7:30 PM in the UPES Media Center. All are welcome, and I urge anyone interested to join the committee in discussing this important matter.

**Green Street** On February 10, the Town Council voted to move forward and submit a grant proposal for a Green Street design for Queens Chapel Road. The design is the first step in converting Queens Chapel Road to a green street and seeking funding. A green street will

### Town Meetings & Special Dates

Town Council	March 3 & 17
Veterans Memorial Public Meeting	March 13

Town meetings are at 7:30 PM at University Park Elementary School. Residents are encouraged to attend. Please request interpreting services 10 days in advance. Council agendas are posted at [www.upmd.org](http://www.upmd.org) and on the Town Hall bulletin board Fridays prior to meetings.

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reduce stormwater runoff into Wells Run, the Town creek, and make the street more pedestrian friendly and add a variety of additional streetscape improvements.

**Spring Permit Reminder** If you plan to do construction work on the exterior of your home, install or repair a driveway or exterior footpaths and steps, repair or build a fence, and/or build an extension, garage, or shed, you will need a Town permit. Please check with Town Hall early on so that we can advise you of any documents that we will need to process your permit. In addition, due to safety concerns, if you plan to use a pod or a large construction dumpster on the street, driveway, or front yard, you must get a Town permit in advance. If we require that you stop work, or move a pod or dumpster, this can be quite costly to you. A quick phone call to Tracey Toscano, the Town Clerk, will prevent any complications.

**FY2015 budget planning** has begun. Under the Town's Charter, the Mayor must deliver a budget proposal by March 31 to the Council for their consideration and approval. On April 7, the budget will be introduced, when the Mayor and Town staff present the proposed budget to the Town Council. On April 21 and May 5, Council discussion and public input will take place. On May 19, the formal hearing and vote on the budget will take place. If you have specific budget suggestions, please contact me before March 15.

**Shade trees** cool the areas around them in the summer and enhance the value of your property. As spring approaches and you are planning your garden clean up, consider planting a shade tree in an appropriate place on your property. The Town offers a rebate of up to \$300 for the planting of shade trees.

**Thank You** On February 5, the Town feted Donald Edwards who retired from service after 20 years. Earlier in 2013, Michael Robinson retired after 36 years of service to the Town. *Thank you* to both of you, and may you truly enjoy your retirement.

*Enjoy the end of winter and the early signs of spring, keep safe, and I will see you around Town.*

*John Rogard Tabori*

## The University Park Police Department presents



## Public Safety Fair Sat., March 8, 9:30 AM University Park Elementary School

## Meet & greet with the Chief and members of the Police Department.

## Giveaways, Free Donuts & Coffee

## The event will feature

- Alarm Company Vendors
- Auto Theft Prevention Tips
- CERT Team
- Register for the UP Pet Database

## FROM THE CHIEF & CRIME REPORT

Computer technology continues to change at an incredible rate. A recent article indicated that in 1991 it would have taken \$3000 worth of electronic equipment to do what a \$200 Smartphone is capable of doing today. That same smartphone holds all of the data those older devices stored as well. Smartphone users need to be careful about how secure the data is on their phones and should take steps to ensure they protect their devices. There has been a huge increase in the amount of personal and sensitive information held on these devices. Email addresses, email messages, online banking details, stored passwords, etc. are all sensitive data. Smartphones transmit and also store data, making them valuable to fraudsters as well as thieves.

Information coming into homes and offices through electronic devices can be difficult to manage. Protecting this information is important. Make sure devices are password protected or that they stay with you at all times no matter where you go. Electronic devices have become a large part of today's society and all of us including children depend upon and use them on a daily basis.



It's estimated that children spend up to eight hours a day on their electronic devices, which causes them to develop an entire culture of social interaction on the internet. This makes it very difficult for a parent to monitor who they are interacting with, or what inappropriate information they are being exposed to. What should we do to protect our kids and our personal information? Keep your electronic device secure with strong passwords and back up data regularly. Have a plan in place in case you lose any of your electronics. Could you replace the photos, passwords, account numbers, correspondence, phone numbers, addresses and the massive amount of personal information stored on it?

Never send a threatening message. If you wouldn't say it in person, don't say it online. Never share personal information online with someone you don't know. If you haven't met them in person, then you don't know them well enough. As a test, parents should ask their children if they've ever received a message online that frightened

them. Prepare yourself for the answer. Electronics are here to stay, with many schools eliminating books and using devices such as tablets as a way to study or receive information. While this can be beneficial, it also means an increased amount of time spent in front of a computer. Educate yourself about the dangers to children that come with electronic communication. You'll better understand what your child should be doing while they are online.

**Theft from Auto** Between January 14 6 PM and January 15 7 AM in the 6400 block of Adelphi Rd. suspect/s broke the passenger side window of a 2008 Hyundai truck and stole several rings and coins from the glove box. No suspect/s was located. The investigation is ongoing.

### Have You Seen Them?

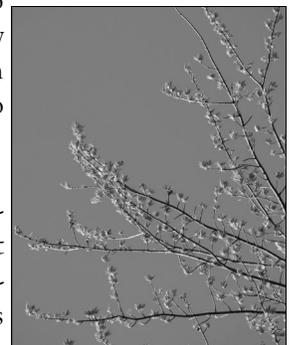
Two new street sign prototypes are on display at intersections on Queens Chapel Road and Wells Parkway in University Park. The Town would like public input on the design. Feedback can be emailed to Public Works Director Mickey Beal at [mbeall@upmd.org](mailto:mbeall@upmd.org).

### University Park Shade Tree Reimbursement Program

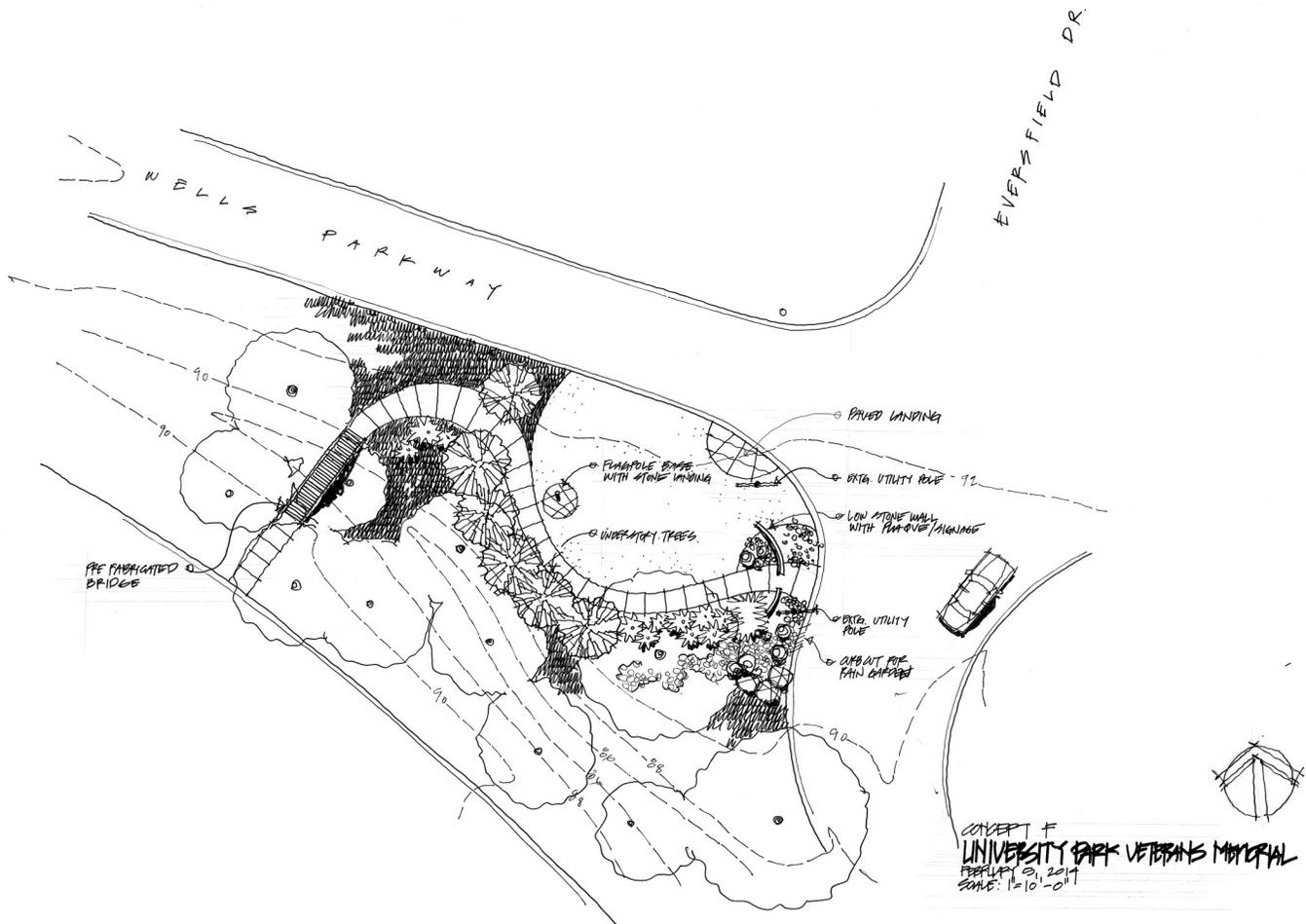
The Shade Tree Reimbursement Program offers residents up to \$300 towards the price of purchasing and planting a tree on private property. The purpose of the program is to enhance the town's tree canopy, which provides many benefits including conserving energy, reducing air pollution, increasing property values, enhancing wildlife habitat and providing aesthetic benefits.

The Town of UP recognizes these benefits and has an ongoing tree planting and maintenance program. But the town can only manage trees on public land, such as in parks and along streets. To increase and maintain a healthy urban tree canopy, the town needs to ensure that trees are also planted on private property.

Complete information is available at the Town of UP website at Public Works > Department Info. This program is in effect as long as funds are available.



# TOWN NEWS



## Designing the University Park Veterans Memorial Thursday, March 13, 7:30 PM UPES Media Center

On March 13, the University Park Veterans Memorial Design Advisory Committee will present a design concept for a University Park Veterans Memorial for community review and discussion. The committee developed the design concept as a result of a community design charrette held last November. This is your opportunity to see the proposal and to discuss it with the Committee before it recommends a design concept to the Council.

Public comments during this meeting will be used to further the design for approval by the Council in late spring. This will lead to final construction documents that will be put out to bid this summer. If the schedule holds, the Veterans Memorial will be constructed in the fall. The site for the Veterans Memorial is at the intersection of Wells Parkway, Clagett Road and Eversfield Drive. For more information, contact Stephen Cook, Chair, at [cook@vika.com](mailto:cook@vika.com).

## January 13 Council Meeting Highlights

The town meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM at which time council moved from UPES to the conference room in town hall and called an Executive Session to consider the acquisition of Riverdale Presbyterian Church for a public purpose and matters directly related thereto; and consult with counsel to obtain legal advice.

Present were Mayor Tabori; Council Members Gekas, Christiansen, Carey, Sorensen, Cron, Alvarez. Excused: Brosch.

### Permits

*Motion to approve the application to replace the main water supply line from the house to the water meter located in the driveway apron and/or public sidewalk with the condition that the town engineer inspects the work when completed and that the homeowner has agreed to cover repair costs to those areas in the public right-of-way located at 4321 Clagett Road.* Motion approved 6 to 0.

## TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

### Department and Council Reports

Mayor Tabori gave a reminder of the two special meetings scheduled for Saturday, January 18 at 1 PM at Riverdale Presbyterian Church, and Monday, January 27 at 7:30 PM at University Park Elementary School with regard to the purchase of the Riverdale Presbyterian Church. In light of the Cafritz presentation that was held on Friday, January 10, Mayor Tabori asked council to think about the legal case and to be aware of this issue.

Town Clerk Tracey Toscano reported that donations continue to come in for the Department of Public Works Holiday Gift Fund and the University Park Police Department Benevolence Fund. She is currently researching the procedures of a referendum vote. Town hall will be prepared for any actions the community decides to take on the possible purchase of Riverdale Presbyterian Church. The MML Convention will take place on June 8-11, 2014 and hotel registration begins January 20. A conference call with Lance Duvall, from the City of Frederick has been scheduled for Wednesday, January 15 to discuss the Granicus program.

Town Treasurer Dan Baden reviewed the FY2013 audit report. December 2013 report was distributed.

Department of Public Works Director Michael Beall reported that leaf collection has ended for the season. The Anacostia Watershed Society will meet with the UPES administration to discuss the funding of projects relating to the school and Wells Run. This meeting will take place on Tuesday, January 14. After twenty years of service, a public works employee retired as of January 1, 2014.

### Continuing Business

*Motion to approve the Little Free Library MOU as attached and authorize the Mayor to sign this agreement on behalf of the town.* Motion approved 6 to 0.

*Motion to adopt Resolution 14-R-01 to dedicate a public space to Francis "Mickey" Lucas and to commemorate a dedication to Zoe Falkenberg with a plaque.* Motion approved 6 to 0.

### New Business

**Ordinance 14-O-02 to Amend the FY-14 Budget (Introduction)**

*Motion to approve the introduction of Ordinance 14-O-02 to amend the FY-14 Budget as presented by the Town Treasurer, to make the necessary adjustments per the fiscal year-end analysis, and to transfer the funds to the appropriate budget items.* The earliest date that this Ordinance may be considered for passage is February 3, 2014. A super majority is required to amend the budget (5 votes). Motion approved 6 to 0.

*Motion to move into Executive Session at the town hall to consider the acquisition of Riverdale Presbyterian Church for a public purpose and matters directly related thereto; and consult with counsel to obtain legal advice; and council will not come back into public session.* Motion approved 6 to 0.

The meeting adjourned by consent at 9:15 PM.

### January 18 Special Session Highlights

Present were Mayor Tabori; council Members Brosch, Gekas, Christiansen, Carey, Cron, Alvarez. Excused: Sorensen.

### Introductions and Opening Remarks

Mayor Tabori welcomed everyone and explained that the community conversation was scheduled to discuss the possibility of purchasing the Riverdale Presbyterian church in order to use it as a community center and some town hall functions as well.

### Public Facilities and Services Committee, Recommendations to the town council

CM Carey stated that the committee reviewed an array of options and after many meetings, building evaluations and consultations, recommended to the council that the town purchase the property with a lease-back of the church building to the church for 5 to 10 years and retain and continue to use the current town hall for UP police and public works along with their vehicles. It was also recommended to raze the annex and build an 8,000 square foot community building for town administrative offices, council chambers, civic use, and an elder care village office, before and after care, continuing education classrooms for a rental fee. The estimated cost of mitigating and razing the church building when the church is done with it is less than \$500,000.

## TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

### **Financing the Project**

Mayor Tabori gave a power point presentation of approximate cost estimates for the committee's recommendations if the church is purchased by the town. These estimates can be found on the town website. Mayor Tabori stated that he was reluctant to discuss the cost of the property since it was still in negotiation. It is estimated that the operating costs of the church will be \$150,000 to \$200,000 a year.

If the church is not purchased, the town will have spent approximately \$70,000 on this effort which will come out of the current year operating budget and will not impact future taxes.

CM Carey stated that he was informed that as of January 22, 2014 the church will be listed for sale and the asking price will be 2.3 million dollars.

### **Referendum, Proper Procedures, Legal Requirements and the Time Line for this Process**

Town Attorney Suellen Ferguson explained that if this property is purchased from the church, it will be done by an ordinance and which is required by state law. Under town procedures and the charter, Section 311D, a referendum process is allowed when an ordinance is adopted. Not all municipalities make a provision for this kind of referendum, but the town does. It is the only referendum process that you have for town actions other than charter amendments. Doing a public referendum for this question in and of itself without the council taking an action is not allowable under your code as it's written now. The only way this becomes a question that the public gets to vote on is if this council adopts an ordinance. It would have to adopt an ordinance to acquire the property. It does not have to adopt an ordinance not to acquire it.

If in fact the council voted to acquire the property, then that decision can be taken to referendum if it's done within twenty days after the date of adoption. The law requires that to go to referendum a question must be presented to the public and 20% of the registered voters

in the town must sign a petition to then require that the matter go to referendum election. That number is measured as of the date of the action that's taken by the council. So whatever date they vote on that's the voter roll that the town would acquire from the county to show who is a registered voter at that time and then 20% of those persons would have to file a petition.

The town has options in terms of whether or not it aids the process for doing the referendum. At the state election level, the state is required to offer assistance to residents wanting to go to referendum. At the town level, we are not required to do so but have in the past, when we have gone to referendum. There was one prior time that the town worked with the petitioners to present the question in a fair way and to vet the petition form before it goes out on the street. That helps to avoid anyone having legal problems about whether the question was validly presented to folks when they signed the petition that they wanted the matter to go to referendum.

If a petition with 20% of the registered voters is submitted to the town within the twenty day period following the adoption of the ordinance, then a referendum election would be held. The timing of that would be up to the council and in situations like this that we are talking about, obviously the council would want to set it as soon as possible. That is the only referendum option that is available under town law at this time. So a failure of the council to take an action is not a matter that by itself is subject to a public vote.

CM Carey asked Ms. Ferguson to explain whether there are any difficulties with Use and Occupancy in terms of a lease back. Ms. Ferguson stated that this is a totally separate legal issue that exists in this case. Most people in University Park do not deal with zoning issues very often because all of the properties in the town are zoned R55. The R55 zone is otherwise known as the single family home zone. There are certain other uses that are allowed in an R55 zone. What a zone does is it defines, among other things, what uses can be made of the property in that zone. So in an R55 zone, you might be able to have an in home office, such as a doctor's office, but you cannot have a grocery store. You can have a school, but you can't have another kind of commercial business other than maybe an in home business. Those restrictions apply to the property that this building sits on.



**Lost Pet Database** To register your pet, report a lost or found pet, please call Linda Verrill at 301-927-6743. Have your pets wear their tags or a microchip at all times so they can be identified.

## TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Each property of this type is supposed to have a use and occupancy permit from the county. The town has no governance or say over issuance of use and occupancy permits. To date, we have not been provided with a Use and Occupancy permit from the church. We do not know whether they have one or do not have one. When a new owner takes a property, someone may have a Use and Occupancy permit that requires that they do certain things and make certain improvements and after that they don't have to.

A new Use and Occupancy permit triggers a number of additional, maybe safety requirements such as a sprinkler system, new parking regulations, new building construction regulations, because as time goes on over the decades, the idea of what is safe for the public has changed. That is reflected in the zoning and building laws. A new owner of this property, whether it is the town or someone else, would be required to bring this building to code, depending on what use you were going to make of it. The issue is that, in determining whether the town is able to purchase all or part of this property and then take on improvements for it, we have to be able to have an understanding with the county as to what the town would be required to do.

### Public Comment

*At a previous meeting, I got the impression that the cost would be the same for each household in University Park and not based on assessment.* The council requested calculating figures based on assessment (Tabori).

*Will the taxes be calculated by home or assessment?* The council is debating this (Tabori).

*Due to reassessment, a resident asked that a projected increase be included in the estimates for those who have not yet been reassessed.* The full assessment database is available and will be used to calculate fairly detailed breakdowns for everybody (Tabori).

*Sarah Kozel, Underwood Street: Is there a necessity for this purchase?* The necessity lies largely in community use. Town hall is currently limited and not ADA compliant, not enough room in the current conference room for committee meetings (Carey).

*Joe Shultz, Tennyson Road: Would like more information on the new building options other than just how big they are?*

The committee only requested an estimated cost of building a community building, being 4,000 square feet or 8,000 square feet (Carey). At this time there is no design or full program; the numbers were put together to give the town a sense of what a building of those two sizes would cost (Ahmann, architect).

*Linda Verrill, Van Buren Street: When the town votes on this, is it to move forward with the purchase or also on a particular option? And if not, when does that factor in and how?* The first ordinance would be to acquire the property. The financing would also be done through an ordinance because it will involve a bond of some kind (Ferguson). The fundamental question is to buy or not to buy the property. Yet in the process the council would like to put forth a proposal about what could be done with the property and to hear what the community would like to be done (Carey).

*Anna Mae Kobbe, Woodberry Street: Considers the church as the town community center and hopes that all of the civic organizations will be able to continue meeting in an accessible place in town.*

*Mike Kemper, Tuckerman Street: Concerned about the increased taxes and suggests that the town wait a few months to see if the asking price goes down.*

*Bruce Burrows, East West Highway: The town needs to take the initiative in keeping those residents updated who do not spend time on the internet and are unable to attend town meetings. All residents need more realistic values in order to get a full understanding of what their burden will be.*

*Mary Gathercole, Tennyson Road: What would be the worst case scenario that could be put in place of the church?* R55 is a specific zoning category; it is defined very carefully in the county zoning code. A school, church and single family homes can be allowed (Ferguson).

*Jarrett Lee, Oakridge: Any estimates for building income, whether that be church rental or if it be turned into single family homes, what is the change in tax income from that as well as any other rentals?* If six single family homes were built for \$500,000 that would bring in about \$15,000 to \$25,000 to the town. If the church would lease back, there would be no change in the taxes that the town would accrue (Tabori). *Are there estimates on the lease cost that the church would pay?* It is part of the negotiation (Tabori).

## TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Catherine Donnelly, Sheridan Street: *Does the town have any control of the appearance of the houses if it goes in that direction? A builder would have to work through the county zoning law and the town can weigh in on the process and fully state what they want to happen (Ferguson).*

Bridget Warren, Van Buren Street: *A good developer will want to work with the community to make neighbors at ease. Propose that the town do a more careful analysis, especially the operating costs. Survey the residents to see what sort of need there is in the community. The additional tax burden is concerning.*

Fred Werth, Pineway: *If the decision is made to build on the property, it should be designed to be energy efficient.*

Shayne Hinter, Wells Parkway: *There seems to be a certain amount of deficiency in the structure which would prevent it from getting the Use and Occupancy permit. What are the repairs that code would require? A code and zoning study was done and there are a number of issues. There are deficiencies in terms of ADA compliance, ceiling height on floors, elevator needed, and several more. These can be found in the report which is on the website.*

Dana Shea, 40<sup>th</sup> Avenue: *The concern is all of the things that follow from the decision of purchasing the church. There is not a sense of what the cost of the building might be as a long term cost if purchased. What sources of grants or other aid on the county, state or federal level have been investigated that could assist in generating a community center or a new town hall? The town can receive over a two or three-year period up to \$500,000 in a bond bill, which does not have to be paid back (Tabori). The council is trying to set some of the framework so that the community can start to look at the impact of various pricing structures and cost structures (Tabori).*

Tiegh Thompson, 41st Avenue: *Concerned of the increased taxes and not being able to stay in University Park for this reason.*

David Caskey, Pineway: *Does the council know of any other municipality or civic entity that has purchased a house of worship and leased it back? Not anywhere local, but this is a fairly common occurrence nationally (Ahmann).*

John Brunner, Tennyson Road: *Park and Planning is pur-*

*chasing the Beth Torah Congregation on Adelphi Road and will merge this with the PG Community Center. This may offer some opportunities and provide options for the town. What happens to the church, sanctuary and offices when the lease is up? Possibly raze the building or find other uses for the church (Carey).*

Dennis Giblin, 41st Avenue: *Interested in the church and state separation if a lease is provided to the church at a very low rate. Is this proper for town government to be doing? There is nothing wrong with the town renting to a church; that is not establishment or support of religion, it's having a tenant. The rental that will be negotiated will be all part of a package that makes this affordable to the town and fair (Ferguson). Is the intention to actually take the vote on this on January 27, 2014, to introduce the ordinance and vote on it? The original plan was to do that, but the plan has changed. The earliest that we would be voting is on February 3 but more likely February 10 (Tabori).*

Marty Caulk, Baltimore Avenue: *Reconsider the 2009 plan to renovate the current town hall.*

Bridget Warren, Van Buren: *Consider making a portion of the purchase and simply add to park land and continue the greenway through the town.*

Mary Plath, Van Buren: *Will the cost of this purchase be apportioned on a by house basis or will it be apportioned based on the assessment of each house? Originally it was based on we all share equally, yet the council asked that figures be calculated on the assessment of each house (Tabori).*

The meeting adjourned by consent at 3:25 PM.

### January 27 Special Session Highlights

Present were Mayor Tabori; Council Members Brosch, Gekas, Christiansen (arrived at 8:05), Carey, Cron, Alvarez. Excused: Sorensen.

#### Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays Trust Fund for Stormwater Retrofit at UPES

Letter of support for Anacostia Watershed Society's grant proposal for a project to reduce and manage stormwater runoff from University Park Elementary School (UPES).

*Motion to approve the letter of support as attached for*

## TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

*Anacostia Watershed Society and authorize the Mayor to sign this letter on behalf of the Town.* Motion approved 5 to 0.

### **Public Comment on the Possible Purchase of the Riverdale Presbyterian Church**

Bruce Burrows, East West Highway, suggested that all cost factors be included on the tax spreadsheet and to also consider reassessment should the purchase of the Riverdale Presbyterian Church go forward.

Linda Verrill, Van Buren Street, appreciates the council taking up the potential purchase of the church as well as the many opportunities to speak in a public forum.

Dennis Giblin, 41st Avenue, is concerned with the increase in taxes and the financial burden with the purchase of the Church. There are other solutions to meeting and town space and these should be carefully investigated.

*Motion to approve the introduction of Ordinance 14-O-03 to authorize the acquisition of Riverdale Presbyterian Church on 6513 Queens Chapel Road under certain conditions (Introduction).* Approved 4 to 1 (Christiansen opposed; Brosch abstained). The earliest date that this Ordinance may be considered for passage is February 3, 2014.

The meeting adjourned by consent at 8:47 PM.

### **February 3 Council Meeting Highlights**

Present were Mayor Tabori; Council Members Brosch, Gekas, Christiansen, Carey, Sorensen, Cron, Alvarez.

### **Department and Council Reports**

Mayor Tabori reported on upcoming discussions and public presentations. Work has not yet begun on the Cafritz Development project. Mayor Tabori will ask the developer to notify town hall when work will begin in order to notify the community. Mayor Tabori thanked Connie Visnic and Terisa Flick for organizing the Little Free Library project. The installation and unveiling event was held on Saturday, February 1 which was very successful. Mayor Tabori attended Dr. Loh's event at the 4 cities meeting in College Park. Since the meeting was very informative and worthwhile, Mayor Tabori recommended obtaining a copy of the recorded tape of the meeting.

CM Gekas, Ward 1, expressed concern regarding the pod which has been placed on Sheridan Street near Henson Green.

Town Attorney Suellen Ferguson is still waiting for a letter from Comcast in reference to the resolution to extend the cable franchise agreement.

### **Continuing Business**

#### **Ordinance 14-O-02 to Amend The FY14 Budget (2nd Reading)**

*Motion to approve the adoption of Ordinance 14-O-02 to amend the FY14 Budget as presented by the Town Treasurer, to make the necessary adjustments per the fiscal year-end analysis, and to transfer the funds to the appropriate budget items.* The earliest date that this ordinance may be considered for passage is February 3, 2014. A super majority is required to amend the budget (5 votes). Approved 7 to 0.

### **New Business**

#### **Veterans Memorial Design Advisory Committee**

*Motion to approve the appointments of Mary E. Collins Baugher and Fred Werth as Co-chairs to the Veterans Memorial Design Advisory Committee as new members.*

*Motion to table the motion to approve the appointment of Ms. Baugher and Mr. Werth as co-chairs until the next Council meeting and to ask Mr. Cook if he is able to attend the next meeting to talk about his continued involvement or provide a written response.* Motion approved 5 to 2 (Carey and Cron opposed).

*Motion to move into Executive Session to discuss (i) the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom it has jurisdiction; or (ii) any other personnel matter that effects one or more specific individuals; consider the acquisition of Riverdale Presbyterian Church for a public purpose and matters directly related thereto; and consult with Counsel to obtain legal advice.* Motion approved 7 to 0.

The public meeting adjourned by consent at 8:35 PM.



**UPCA News**



We had a wonderful turnout on Saturday, February 1 for the unveiling of University Park's first Little Free Library. Many thanks to Terisa Flick for suggesting it, painting it and overseeing the contents. Be sure to stop by. The library is across from Riverdale Presbyterian Church on Queens Chapel Road. Take a book, read it, return it or keep it; be sure to donate an appropriate book from time to time. On Saturday, February 8 we held our first Jazz Cafe, suggested and organized by Sabrina Meyers. We had about 30 people join us for wine, refreshments, coffee (donated by Quality Hill Coffee) and jazz melodies performed by our own Julie and Darryl Parsons of UP. Many thanks to them for donating their time to this new event.

Our March UPCA meeting will be on Tuesday, March 25 at 7 PM at RPC. We'll put the finishing touches on our first spring events, which include the annual Stream Clean-UP on Saturday, April 5 at 9 AM and the Spring Egg Hunt the following day on Sunday, April 6 from 1-3 PM. Dawn Nichols will host our April UPCA Social at her house on Tuesday, April 29. Our ever-popular Townwide Yard Sale will be on Saturday, May 10. Finally, another new event, suggested by Linda Verrill, will be a Mutt Strut on Sunday, June 8. Look for details of this fun family and pet event in future newsletters.

Finally, thanks to all who have supported the UPCA with their 2014 contributions. Our current membership for 2014 is increasing steadily, but we are still missing most families in UP and College Heights Estates. With more supporting members, we can have more fun events. Have *you* joined the UPCA? Do *you* have a cool magnet for your car stating you are a proud supporter of the UPCA? It's never too late to join and support the University Park Civic Association. Visit our website ([upcivicassociation.com](http://upcivicassociation.com)) to pay via PayPal or pay at an upcoming event.

**UP Woman's Club March Meeting  
Monday, March 3, 11:30 AM**

The UP Woman's Club will highlight continuing education opportunities. Speakers from Prince George's Community College will describe the SAGE Program. Ms. Camille Crawford and Ms. Suzanne Van Nuys, coordinators of the program will present an overview of the

SAGE classes offered, class locations and the opportunities to enrich our lives and nourish our intellects. All who are curious about SAGE, men and women, are welcome to attend the meeting. Jacquie Groppe, Education Program Chair will introduce the speakers.

The club meets at the Riverdale Presbyterian Church. Registration begins at 11:30 a.m. followed by lunch at 12 Noon. Membership in the Women's Club is open to all women in UP and surrounding communities. The club provides programs and activities that encourage community service and volunteerism, fellowship and networking among members, and community enhancement. UPWC is affiliated with the General Federation of Women's Club, Inc. with international offices in the District. Visitors are asked to call 301-277-0414 to make a reservation for the meeting.

**Introduction to the Route 1 Corridor Village  
Tuesday, March 11, 7 PM**

Everyone experiences growing older differently, but most people prefer staying in their homes and communities as they grow older and their needs change. There may be times when it is difficult to do chores or run errands. There may be other times when it gets lonely. The village creates a community where neighbors look out for each other as our needs change. The village provides information on community services, assistance in accessing those services and opportunities to learn and visit with your neighbors.



All are invited to an informational meeting about this new community effort in Room 2 of the Riverdale Presbyterian Church. There will be a brief presentation about the village concept as it relates to growing older in our communities with the support of our friends and neighbors. Come hear more as we explore developing a new village to support neighbors living along the Route 1 corridor. Contact Eddie Rivas at [eerivas@yahoo.com](mailto:eerivas@yahoo.com) for more info.

**Prince George's County  
History Day Competition  
Saturday, March 15, 8 AM-4 PM**

March brings Maryland's county level History Day competitions. Middle and high school students in Prince George's County have been researching, analyzing and learning about their chosen projects. With this year's theme, "Rights and Responsibilities," these budding historians promise to enlighten and inspire. This month, many of UP's Historic Preservation Association members will act as judges, coaches and enthusiastic observers. For many families, and maybe yours, the day will be the start of something exciting. UPHPA members look forward to seeing many of our friends and neighbors. Location: Dr. Henry A. Wise Jr. High School, 12650 Brooke Lane, Upper Marlboro.

**After 8 Book Group  
Tuesday, March 18, 8-10 PM**



The March book is *Love Saves the Day* by Gwen Cooper. The April selection is *My Name is Red* by Orhan Pamuk. The After Eight Book Group meets on the third Tuesday of each month from September to June. Please call Louisa Woodville at 301-927-9548 or Laura Donnelly at 301-927-6550 for more information.

**Church of the Brethren Mulch Sale  
Saturdays, March 29 and April 5, 8 AM**

Come purchase good quality shredded hardwood mulch at \$3.50 per 2 cu. ft. bag. Advance, prepaid orders of 15 bags or more can be delivered, if within reasonable distance. To order mulch in advance, call 301-864-4328, or email UPCOB2@verizon.net. In the parking lot of University Park Church of the Brethren at Route 1 and Tuckerman Street. Available until it's all gone.

**UPWC Plant & Garden Gear Swap  
Sunday, March 30, 1-4 PM**

The University Park Woman's Club members invite you to get a jump start on your garden by exchanging plants, seeds and garden gear with your neighbors. Dig up your seedling trees or other beauties ready for a new home, divide those hostas and bulbs, or pass along a



houseplant or two. Have garden pottery, tools, trellis/plant supports or decor to exchange? Garden gear or tools in usable condition are welcome. Plants can be brought in garden pots, plastic grocery bags or disposable cups. Don't have a plant or garden item to swap? Small donations to UPWC charitable endeavors are also appreciated. This is a free event. Questions can be directed to Michelle Wedge at mdwedge@gmail.com. UP soccer field along Queens Chapel Road, across from Riverdale Presbyterian Church.

**Save the Date! UPWC Spring Garden Tour  
Sunday, April 27, 1-4 PM**

More details to come in the April newsletter, but we encourage anyone interested in recommending a garden to be featured on the annual garden tour (or volunteering your own garden) to email upmdwc@gmail.com.



**UP Town Stream Clean-UP  
Saturday, April 5, 9 AM-Noon**

Sponsored by the University Park Citizens Association, The UP Woman's Club and the Town Stream Committee, groups, residents and friends are all encouraged to join in beautifying our park and stream. We'll meet on the UP soccer field near Queens Chapel Road. There will be coffee, juice, doughnuts and trash bags for all. Bring gloves. There will also be demonstrations of conservation and preservation efforts by the Town Stream Committee. Student community service hours earned will be documented. The cleanup will be associated with the area-wide Alice Ferguson Foundation's 26th Potomac River Watershed Cleanup. Come on down on and enjoy the work and fun. Rain or shine. If you have questions, contact Kate Beveridge at 301-277-4485 or BBeve@verizon.net.

**Save the Date!  
Town Yard Sale  
Saturday, May 10, 9 AM-1 PM**

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR



### Azalea Classic Saturday, May 3

Save the date! Join the University Park community for a morning of family-friendly fun and fitness. The Azalea Classic has a race for everyone! Choose from our USATF certified 5K, our 1 Mile Challenge or our 1K Family Fun Run. This popular event brings together people from across the region, various schools and all ages. The event is organized by the University Park Elementary School PTA and all proceeds benefit programs at the school. On-line registration is open at <http://038ea76.netsolhost.com/>.

### University Park Woman's Club College 2014 Scholarships

#### Doris McPhee Memorial Scholarship

This one-year \$1000 award is open to graduating high school students (female or male) of Northwestern High School with a minimum grade point average of 3.0. This is a financial-need based scholarship. Applicants for this scholarship must *complete parts A, B, and C of the application and provide the additional information requested.*

#### University Park Woman's Club Scholarship



This one year \$1000 award is open to graduating high school students (female or male) who are residents of University Park, Maryland, or a non-resident child or grandchild of a member of the University Park Woman's Club.

This is a Merit-Based Needs-Blind scholarship. Applicants must have a minimum grade point average of 3.0. Applicants for this scholarship must *complete parts A and*

*B of the application and provide additional information requested.*

Applications and further information can be found at <http://www.upmd.org/?documents> or by calling Dianne Bukoski at 301-277-6458. Completed applications must be received no later than Monday, April 7, 2014.

### Scholarship Opportunity from State Senator Paul Pinsky

Are you or one of your children expecting to attend a Maryland college or university next year? Are you interested in financial assistance to help with tuition? University Park residents can apply to Senator Pinsky's scholarship committee for a Senatorial Scholarship. These scholarships usually range from \$500 to \$2,000 for each of four years. If you'd like an application, please either call Senator Pinsky's Annapolis office at 301-858-3155 or access his website at [senatorpinsky.org](http://senatorpinsky.org) for download instructions and an application. You can also check with your school's guidance office. The scholarship committee, made up entirely of citizen volunteers from the 22nd legislative district, will be selecting the scholarship winners. Applications are due by April 1, 2014.

**Camp Madness Expo *Sunday, March 23, 1-5 PM*** Looking for information about M-NCPPC summer day camps, summer playgrounds, Summer Xtreme Teen Centers and Safe Summer programs in Prince George's County? Interested in getting information about summer job opportunities and/or summer volunteer opportunities? Come to this free event designed to showcase M-NCPPC summer camps, summer playgrounds & teen sites, at the Prince George's Sports & Learning Complex, 8001 Sheriff Road, Landover. For questions about the expo, call 301-218-6700.

**Hyattsville Library Independent Film Series *Stories We Tell, Monday, March 24, 6:45 PM*** *Stories We Tell* is a fascinating documentary that plays like a feature film with multiple surprises. It resonates because we all have a story to tell. We recognize director/filmmaker Sarah Polley in women's history month for her film ostensibly about her deceased mother, where she discovers that the truth depends on who's telling it. Family responses to the same —cont. next page



## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

questions bring about arguments about whose version is the true one—a universal experience in families. The evening concludes with a discussion facilitated by Prince George's County filmmaker, Miriam Machado-Jones. Hyattsville Library, 6530 Adelphi Rd.

### College Park Arts Exchange

All events are free and take place at the Old Parish House, 4711 Knox Road, College Park, unless otherwise noted. Your generous donations for free events are always appreciated. Parking passes are available. Contact [info@cpae.org](mailto:info@cpae.org) or 301-927-3013 for more information.

**A Tribute to Chopin Gala Concert *Saturday March 1, 7:30 PM*** This concert featuring local performers is dedicated in thanks to all the supporters who helped make the improved piano at the Old Parish House a reality. Ticketed event; inquire for availability.

**Byline: Ernie Pyle featuring Steve LaRocque *Friday, March 14, 7:30 PM*** One of the first embedded reporters, Ernie Pyle's newspaper column ran daily during World War II. This new one-man one-hour show consists entirely of excerpts from Pyle's reports from the front.

**ERHS Dixieland Jazz Combo *Sunday, March 9, 3 PM*** Local high school students present a great concert and introduce their instruments. The whole family is welcome to AHA Kids events, perfect for ages 3 and up.



**Arts Workshop: Sock Monkeys *Saturday, March 1, Noon-4 PM*** Come make a friend out of socks. Learn how to make sock monkeys and other sock creatures. We provide all the materials, but if you have a special pair of socks feel free to bring them. \$10 materials fee; mail your check to CPAE, PO Box 784, College Park MD 20741.

**Children's Arts Drop-In Programs *March 22 and 23*** Arts Specialists Aaron Springer and Ann Potter lead free fun arts workshops for children ages 3-8 with their parents. March theme: kites. Saturday 10 AM-12 PM at College Park Community Center, Sunday 2-4 PM at Old Parish House.



## FREE E-CYCLING DAY

for University Park Residents

**Saturday, April 26, 9 AM-1 PM**  
**UP Elementary School Bus Circle**

**If you can't sell it at the Town-wide Yard Sale on May 10...don't put it in the trash. Recycle it!**

Bring your Driver's License for proof of residency. All e-cycle items collected will be reused, refurbished or recycled through Turtle Wings Inc., in accordance with local, state and federal regulations.

Please check the Public Works page at [upmd.org](http://upmd.org) for acceptable recycling items and a list of other reuse and salvage organizations. The annual shredding event will take place this fall.

**Residents must arrange to bring acceptable items to the scheduled recycling events or dispose of them personally at the Prince George's County Landfill.**





# TOWN OF UNIVERSITY PARK

## ELECTION NOTICE

**AN ELECTION FOR THE  
Town of University Park for the  
Office of Mayor and Office of Council Members for  
Wards One, Three, and Seven  
will be conducted on**

**TUESDAY, MAY 6, 2014  
8 AM-8 PM  
Riverdale Presbyterian Church  
6513 Queens Chapel Road**

### **REGISTER TO VOTE**

Residents may register to vote the following ways:

- Online at <http://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/sites/Elections/VoterInformation/Information/Pages/default.aspx>
- At the Prince George's County Board of Elections, 1100 Mercantile Lane Suite 115A, Largo, MD 20774, Monday -Friday, 8 AM-4:30 PM, 301-341-7300
- By picking up a voter's registration form at Town Hall

### **REGISTRATION DEADLINE**

To file as a candidate or register as a new voter the deadline is Monday, April 7, 2014.

Residents wishing to vote in the upcoming election must be:

1. A citizen of the United States,
2. 18 years of age or older on the date of the Election,
3. A resident of University Park and
4. Registered to vote at least 30 days prior to the Election

### **CANDIDATE DEADLINE**

Candidate packets (Candidate Petition and Financial Disclosure Statement) need to be completed and returned to the Town Clerk by April 7, 2014. Packets are available at Town Hall and on our website, [www.umpd.org](http://www.umpd.org) under Elections. If residents have any questions, please contact the Town Clerk via phone or email.

### **WRITE-IN CANDIDATE DEADLINE**

Thursday, May 1, 2014

Town of University Park  
6724 Baltimore Avenue, University Park, MD 20782  
Office: 301-927-4262, Fax: 301-277-4548, Website: [www.upmd.org](http://www.upmd.org)

# March 2014

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 2	Save the Date! UP Town Stream Clean-UP, April 5, 9 AM-Noon 3	Save the Date! Candidate Filing & Voter Registration Deadline, April 7 4	Save the Date! UPWC Spring Garden Tour, April 27, 1-4 PM 5	Save the Date! Town Yard Sale Saturday, May 10, 9 AM-1 PM 6		1
9	Yard Waste Woman's Club Meeting, 11:30 AM Town Council, 7:30 PM 10	Trash Route I Corridor Village Meeting, 7 PM 11	12	Recycling 13	Trash 14	Public Safety Fair, 9:30 AM  8
16	Yard Waste 10	Trash Route I Corridor Village Meeting, 7 PM 11	12	Recycling Veterans Memorial Meeting, 7:30 PM 13	Trash 14	15
23	Yard Waste Town Council, 7:30 PM 24	Trash After 8 Book Group, 8-10 PM 25	26	Recycling 27	Trash 28	22
30	Yard Waste 31	Trash UPCA Meeting, 7 PM April 1	2	Recycling 3	Trash 4	Church of the Brethren Mulch Sale, 8 AM  4
UPWC Plant & Garden Gear Swap, 1-4 PM 	Yard Waste 31	Trash UPCA Meeting, 7 PM April 1	2	Recycling 3	Trash 4	Church of the Brethren Mulch Sale, 8 AM 4



**TOWN OF UNIVERSITY PARK**  
**6724 Baltimore Ave.**  
**University Park MD 20782**

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**TOWN DIRECTORY**

**Town Hall** 301-927-4262  
 Office Hours M-F 9 AM-5 PM 301-927-2997  
 Fax 301-277-4548  
 TDD 800-735-2258  
 Website www.upmd.org  
 Town Field Status 301-927-4262 x 600  
 Town Bus Status 301-927-4262 x 601  
 Mayor John Rogard Tabori mayor@upmd.org  
 Town Clerk Tracey Toscano ttoscano@upmd.org  
 Public Works Dir. Mickey Beall mbeall@upmd.org  
 Chief Michael Wynnyk upchief@upmd.org

**Police**  
 Emergency 911  
 Non-Emergency 301-352-1200  
 Police Dept. Direct 301-277-0050  
 Police Dept. Cell Phone 240-375-1077  
 Chief Michael Wynnyk 301-277-0051  
 Mayor Tabori home 301-779-6530

**Town Council**

Ward	Council Member	Phone
1	David C. Brosch	301-779-3168
2	James Gekas	301-864-2734
3	Arlene Christiansen	301-927-2394
4	Lenford C. Carey	301-864-1383
5	Heidi Sorensen	301-927-4977
6	Michael Cron	301-277-4718
7	Roy Alvarez	301-779-6746

**NEWSLETTER**

The April newsletter deadline is Thursday, March 6. The *University Park Newsletter* is published monthly, except for a combined July-August issue. Newsletter submissions, questions and comments may be emailed to univparknews@gmail.com or sent via www.upmd.org > Communications > Contact. The *Newsletter* publishes the milestones of current and former UP families (births, weddings, obituaries, graduations, awards, etc.) plus events of interest to residents. Political or commercial advertising is not accepted. Please send letters of opinion or Town suggestions to Town Hall. The *Newsletter* is online at www.upmd.org > Documents.

**Subscriptions** Former residents may subscribe for \$15/year by contacting Town Hall. Subscribers must renew each year before the month that their subscription ends. No reminders are sent. The address label indicates your renewal date.

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