

# UNIVERSITY PARK NEWSLETTER

TOWN OF UNIVERSITY PARK, MARYLAND

APRIL 2015

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

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## MAYOR'S COLUMN

At the invitation of University Park Elementary School (UPES) teachers and parents, I participated in the school's traditional mid-March Green Eggs and Ham Breakfast celebration of Dr. Seuss and the joys of reading. Especially noteworthy for me were the large number of volunteers. While the breakfast fare received a thumbs-down from a few of the kindergarteners-it seems that you either like green eggs and ham, or you don't-most everyone had a good time, especially we volunteers, who queued up and worked together to set tables, distribute drinks and carry plates to the seated students. What we do best is what we do together.

April, with its many volunteer events, provides a case in point. As usual, there will be Town meetings throughout the month. The Council will meet four times in April, including special sessions on April 2 (Cafritz stormwater holding tanks) and 16 (zoning ordinance updates) to

discuss special concerns and regular session on April 13 and 20 to consider budget, permits, and much more. Town committees also do a great deal of work on our behalf: the standing Policy, Rules and Municipal Structure; Police, Traffic and Public Safety; Public Facilities and Services Committees consist only of council members, and the special Tree, Stream and Development Overview Committees include town residents and council members. The Town's Ethics Commission monitors financial disclosures and ensures ethical conduct. The volunteer committees add significantly to elected officials' ability to act in the best interests of our community.

Please take a moment to thank town council and committee members for the volunteer work they do. Better yet, attend and participate in committee and council meetings.

## Town Meetings & Special Dates

Special Session on Stormwater	April 2
Town Council	April 13 & 20
Special Session on Zoning Ordinance	April 16
Election Deadlines	April 6
Development Overview Committee	April 15
Electronics Recycling	April 25

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).

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## FROM THE MAYOR CONT.

Please check this newsletter's calendar to read up on scheduled meetings and other goings-on. Also, register on the Town's website to be alerted to newly scheduled additions.

On April 11, put on your boots or waders and join us at the annual Clean-UP of Wells Run through the center of town, arranged each year by the University Park Civic Association. This was the very first event I volunteered for on moving to University Park in 2004 and it has become an annual tradition. You can come, too. You'll find me mid-stream somewhere near, trying to help.

The Town's stalwart Ivy League, part of the Tree Committee, will also be involved in the April 11 Clean-UP event. The League has been doing some excellent work to clear trees in town from invasive plants and can always use a few more good hands; together we make a difference.

On April 18, switch to your running or walking shoes for the 2015 Azalea Classic, organized by the University Park Elementary School Parent Teacher Association (UPES PTA). This event showcases our community while benefitting the programs at the school in our midst. Besides signing up to run or walk in the event, please volunteer time to help the UPES PTA bring off this event with its usual flair.

Service and volunteerism on the behalf of community is an essential part of the character of University Park and has become a cost-effective way for us to meet our community's needs. Working together has become central to how we move forward.—*Len Carey*

*Do you agree or disagree? Did I miss something?  
Let me know: [mayor@upmd.org](mailto:mayor@upmd.org)*

### **Charter Resolution 15-CR-02**

On March 2, 2015, the Common Council adopted, and on March 2, 2015, the Mayor signed, Charter Resolution 15-CR-01, to amend the Charter of the Town of University Park, by repealing and re-enacting Article VI, "Finance", Section 618, "Purchasing and Contracts" of the Charter to add the Town Newsletter Editor as a professional service position to be appointed by the Mayor and approved by the Council and to serve at the pleasure of the Mayor and Council.

A copy of the Legislative Resolution shall be posted on the entrance to the University Park Town Hall, 6724

Baltimore Avenue, University Park, MD 20782 for forty days, until April 13, 2015. The amendment will take effect on April 23, 2015, unless petitioned to referendum in a manner prescribed by law.

### **Notice of Introduction of LR-15-O-06**

On March 2, 2015, Ordinance 15-O-06 was introduced. This ordinance would amend Legislative Resolution 14-O-05, the Fiscal Year 2015 Budget Ordinance, to:

1. Establish a Revenue account for Sale of Asset - \$2,250
2. Establish a Revenue account for Street Repair Rebate - WSSC \$294,805.
3. Increase Unreserved Fund Balance by \$297,055.

The meeting set for April 13, 2015, is the first meeting at which the ordinance could be adopted. For more information or a copy of the proposed ordinance, call Town Hall at 301-927-4262.

### **Mayor and Council Special Session: Stormwater Management Along Wells Run Thursday, April 2, 7:30 PM**

#### **University Park Elementary School Cafeteria**

Attend for a presentation by the County's Department of Permitting, Inspections and Enforcement on stormwater management along Wells Run related to the Riverdale Park Station (Cafritz) project, and an evaluation of the County proposal by the Town of University Park's consulting engineer. The question is whether the developers will continue to be required to put in an underground stormwater holding tank on the property's west side despite new engineering studies indicating it would have negligible effect on floods. An alternative proposal is under consideration. This is a complex matter of great interest in our community.

### **Mayor and Council Special Session: Zoning Rewrite Thursday, April 16, 7 PM**

#### **University Park Elementary School Media Center**

This will be an important presentation by Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) staff on the rewrite of the County's zoning ordinance. After ten months of outreach and research, the M-NCPPC consultant team released the Evaluation and Recommendations Report for the rewrite of the Zoning Ordinance and Subdivision Regulations for Prince George's County, suggesting how the code should be restructured. Attend to hear what is being proposed and to share your thoughts and ideas on what County zoning and subdivision regulations should emphasize.

## FROM THE CHIEF & CRIME REPORT

Spring is a wonderful time of year. Warm days and cool nights make outdoor activities very pleasant. We get to enjoy our yards, gardens and the great outdoors. Yard work, walking, running-any physical activity can be very therapeutic. Whatever the reason for being outdoors, always take precautions to make your days safe and enjoyable.

The azaleas and pear trees are showing signs of blooming and the grass is turning green. This month the Azalea Classic will play host to most of the runners and walkers in and around town. Preparations are underway for this wonderful event as the race impacts most of the town in some way. Residents along Queens Chapel Rd. will be reminded with signs to not park on the road the morning of the event. No cars parked on Queens Chapel, with hundreds of people walking and running down the road, is quite a wonderful sight. It really is worth the experience. Many walkers and runners are gearing up for the event.

As you walk around town, please be cognizant of your surroundings. Walk facing traffic and understand that the person driving may not see you. Make eye contact, wave and acknowledge each other to ensure your safety. Whether driving, walking, biking or jogging through town keep an eye out for the unusual and report suspicious activity to the UPPD immediately. If you see suspicious activity, make mental or preferably written notes of a person's gender, height, weight and clothing. With vehicles, note the make, model, tag number and occupants.

If you decide to hire someone to do your yard work, the UPPD encourages that the people you hire provide adequate identification, address and phone number for your files and show a photo ID. Know who is working in or around your home and hold that person responsible for the job being done correctly.

As a community it is important to make an effort to help keep our town beautiful. The UPPD is asking you to rid your driveways of any untagged, unregistered and inoperative vehicles. They are an eyesore and also not permitted by town code. Letters will be sent out and we encourage you to be proactive and find a place to donate your vehicle. The fine for this violation is hefty and often more than the vehicle is worth. A clean town is a safe town.

Lock your doors and windows in your home as well as your car. Use your steering wheel club, and keep your valuables out of sight within your vehicle or in the house and do not leave change in your console trays. Update the inventory list of your valuables by documenting the serial numbers and keeping a photograph of the item. As a reminder, door-to-door salesman and panhandlers increase in good weather. If they knock on your door, please ask them if they have written permission to solicit before buying or donating to their cause. The UPPD will gladly come out to verify their credentials, so you are encouraged to contact us if you notice them going to homes in UP. Familiarize yourself with your neighbors. Crime prevention is everyone's business. Together we can make our town safer.

**Recovered Stolen Auto** On February 21 at 11:20 AM in the 4300 block of Clagett-Pineway a stolen 1992 Chevy truck was located by the owner who lives in Riverdale Park. The owner advised that they had left the keys in the vehicle when it was taken from his residence in Riverdale. No suspect was located. Investigation is ongoing by Riverdale Park Police.

### Prince George's Plaza Transit District Development Plan Community Open House Tuesday, April 28, 5-8 PM

Please join the Prince George's County Planning Office for an informal Community Open House. This open house will be an opportunity to preview the revised preliminary illustrative site plan for the Prince George's Plaza Transit District Development Plan, discuss key plan recommendations with the planning team and learn about the upcoming public hearing and other opportunities to submit verbal and written testimony regarding the plan. Prince George's Plaza Community Center, 6600 Adelphi Road, Hyattsville. For more information, contact Bill Washburn of the MNCPPC planning staff at 301-952-3166 or [william.washburn@ppd.mncppc.org](mailto:william.washburn@ppd.mncppc.org).



**Lost Pet Database** To register your pet, report a lost or found pet, please call Laura Collins. She can be reached at [UPPetDatabase@gmail.com](mailto:UPPetDatabase@gmail.com) or 301-785-2838. Have your pets wear their tags or a microchip at all times so they can be identified.

### Mosquito Spraying

University Park will be participating in the MD Dept. of Agriculture Mosquito Control Program from June 1-September 17, 2015. The program includes both larviciding and adulticiding. Surveillance will occur every 3 weeks on Monday evenings throughout the summer.



Residents should report problem areas to the Director of Public Works by phone or email (preferred). Resident reports should identify: the address, problem area, stagnant water (if any) and time of day mosquito activity is at its worst.

Problem areas may be treated by spray or pellet depending on the nature of the problem. Spraying will occur between 8 PM and 12:30 AM. Adult spraying will not occur in an area unless a specific threshold count criterion is met for that particular area. Due to variable weather conditions and other factors, we cannot guarantee that surveillance or spraying will be done even if we receive community complaints.

Residents who wish to opt out of the spray program must submit a written request to the Director of Public Works no later than Monday, May 11, 2015. A copy of the Exclusion Request Form can be found on the Public Works page at [www.upmd.org](http://www.upmd.org) or requested by emailing [mbeall@upmd.org](mailto:mbeall@upmd.org). -Public Works Director Micheal Beall

### Note Where the Fallen Stand

At long last we have emerged from the dark days to stand dazzled by the brilliant light of April. There is a great awakening all around us. Sadly, not all of our trees made it through the winter. There they yet stand, when in the gloaming of the twilight they deceptively appear as grand and vibrant as ever. But there are no buds and the truth will become more evident as the neighboring trees leaf out and shimmer the air with their green mist, while the dead stand dressed in their stark winter apparel.

We must let go of our dead, but trees answer to a different clock. In the wild, it is preferable to let nature take its course; the dead scaffolding will serve a variety of other purposes in its slow decline. Here in our suburban environs, we have other factors that force us to respond quicker. Disease and danger are the two primary constraints. A sick tree is usually easy to diagnose. It will either be dying from the top down (crown decay) or have

large patches of mold-like discharge around wounds. Danger is often a subjective call; many trees can remain stable for years after dying with very little risk; obviously, the taller the tree, the greater the risk. Not all diseases spread; not all dead trees are in danger of imminent collapse. Consult with an arborist. The town arborist will perform such consultations for free. Most removals of recently dead trees can wait a month or two. This interlude will afford you time to carefully study your remaining canopy and more prudently determine your needs. It will also afford you time to properly say goodbye.

-Chris Aubry on behalf of the Tree Committee

### Ivy League at UP Annual Stream Clean Up Saturday, April 11, 9 AM-12 PM

Join the Ivy League as we gather under the banner of the Civic Association to clean out Wells Run. Please assemble in the parking lot near the church at Queen's Chapel Road. Long sleeves and gloves are recommended. Please bring ivy removal tools, primarily a set of hand clippers and either a dandelion weeder, a large, long bladed screwdriver or small pry bar. Tree Committee members will provide hatchets and saws for more gnarly vines. Participants will earn one credit toward their Ivy League special edition bandana, redeemable for five credits.

### Save the Date!

### Tree Planting

Saturday, May 2, 9 AM-1 PM



Please save May 2 for a community tree planting event in the Holly Hill/Oakridge neighborhood. The Holly Hill/Oakridge neighborhood was surveyed in August 2014 by the Tree Committee to assess the need for street trees. The plan has been approved by DPW, was selected for funding by

TreeReLEAF and is moving forward with the planting of 31 trees. All holes will be pre-dug by Public Works. We are especially hoping residents of the Holly Hill/Oakridge neighborhood will participate. Please respond to [TreeComm@upmd.org](mailto:TreeComm@upmd.org) to RSVP. Children's groups and clubs warmly welcomed with chaperone.

-Chris Aubry on behalf of the Tree Committee

## TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

### February 23 Council Meeting Highlights

Present were Mayor Carey; Council Members Thompson, Gekas, Hess, Verrill, Sorensen, Cron, Alvarez.

#### Public Comment

*Responses from Council Members or the Mayor are italicized.*

- Resident expressed the wonderful things that University Park offers and explained in detail the issues that have occurred recently and pointed out that these incidents are not the best of University Park.

- What is the sudden need of the mayor and some council members to want to change the current editors of the newsletter? As representatives of the residents, the council should take to heart what has been expressed by the residents as a matter of importance.

- Strongly encourage the council to award the current Newsletter Editors a contract as was recommended by a council member.

- Many residents do not support the proposed charter change.

- The newsletter is a wonderful asset to the community and this is not the time to change. Who has a contract in town? Why is it important to bid out \$11,000 for a newsletter editor, but not \$240,000 for trash trucks? *Council Member Hess clarified that the email that was sent out in reference to the town trash trucks was incorrect; the trucks were competitively bid. The ordinance requires that any amount spent over \$10,000 be bid competitively, but the council can waive that and has.*

- Town residents are happy with the current editors.

- Let's be a community and not fight over this issue.

- Consider having the town vote if they would like the current Editors to continue for another three years.

- Disappointed to hear the mayor and some council members stating they know of residents who are interested in the editor position. This is not professional.

- If a charter amendment is made, there should be a limit on the mayor's authority to terminate contracts conditioned on council approval.

- Written public comments made should be included in the newsletter or posted on the town website.

- Newsletter editor needs to be a town resident.

- No mayor or elected town official should be the final overall editor of the newsletter content or grammar. The editor should have the final say with the approval of a couple of council members.

- Contracts should never come due the same year as a mayoral election.

- Articles for the newsletter not received by the due date should not be published until the next month.

- Concerned about the involvement of the council when hiring and firing the current editors.

- Disappointed that this issue has been going on for so long.

- Current editors are being mistreated.

- What has changed from the previous editor and the current editors? *In 2011 the amount paid for editing the newsletter went above the \$10,000 cap established in Ordinance, above which expenditures were to go out to bid. Previous University Park Newsletter editors have worked without a contract and they should be under contract. The proposed amendment to the charter is simply to insert the words "Town Newsletter Editor" so therefore the council gets to approve the contract. This amendment would also make it very difficult for the mayor to fire the editors without consulting with the Council. In full support of giving a contract to the current editors.*

- Change the \$10,000 cap to \$15,000 and the problem will be resolved. *The problem is that the \$10,000 cap is in the Ordinance.*

*Motion that the council reorder the agenda and take up consideration of item 5B before taking up item 5A and that regardless of the result of the vote on item 5B, item 5A should follow.* Motion approved 7 to 0.

#### Continuing Business

*Motion to approve Resolution 15-R-05. A Resolution of the Mayor and Common Council of the Town of University Park to continue the contract with incumbent Newsletter Editors.*

WHEREAS, the Town entered into a verbal contract with Bridget Warren and Todd Stewart to act as Editors for the Town Newsletter; and

WHEREAS, the agreed payment for the Editor services is \$11,000, payable at \$1,000 per issue for eleven issues per year; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 2-105 of the Town Code, except in situations where good cause has been demonstrated to the Council, all contracts for goods or services in excess of \$10,000 must be put out to competitive bid; and

WHEREAS, the Council has determined that there is good cause to override the sealed bid process required by Section 2-105 and to award the Editor contract to Bridget Warren and Todd Stewart.

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Common Council of the Town of University Park that the Town enter into a contract with the incumbent Newsletter Editors,

## TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Todd Stewart and Bridget Warren, to be negotiated by the Mayor and approved by the Council, to perform the Newsletter Editor services consistent with the scope of work adopted by the Town. The contract shall specify compensation of not less than \$1,000 per issue. The terms of the contract with the incumbent Newsletter Editors shall provide for appropriate compensation increases. The contract shall be for a term of four years.

Motion fails 3 to 4 (Gekas, Hess and Sorensen, Yea; Thompson, Verrill, Cron and Alvarez, Nay).

*Motion to amend the Agenda by inserting a Council motion to instruct the Mayor to enter into a contract with the incumbent Newsletter Editors.* Motion approved 5 to 2 (Alvarez, Verrill opposed).

*Motion to instruct the Mayor to negotiate a one year contract, to be approved by the Council, with two one year extensions at the option of the Town, with the incumbent Newsletter Editors, Todd Stewart and Bridget Warren, to perform the newsletter editor services consistent with the Scope of Work adopted by the Town. The contract shall specify compensation of \$9,999 per annum for the initial year and for each option year if the contract is extended by the Council. If the contract as approved by the Council is not accepted by the incumbent editors, then the newsletter editor position shall be put out to bid.* Motion approved 5 to 2 (Alvarez, Verrill opposed).

*Motion to approve resolution 15-R-03 adopting a Newsletter Policy and Editorial Guidelines as amended.* Motion approved 7 to 0.

*Motion to approve the introduction of Charter Amendment 15-CR-02 to repeal and re-enact Article VI, "Finance", Section 618, "Purchasing and Contracts" of the Charter to add the Town Newsletter Editor as a professional service position to be appointed by the Mayor and approved by the Council, and to provide that the Newsletter Editor serves at the pleasure of the Mayor and Council.* Motion approved 7 to 0.

### New Business

*Motion to approve the introduction of the budget adjustments recommended by the Town Treasurer as outlined in the February 19, 2015 memo to the Mayor and Council after striking Sale of Asset and Street Rebate WSSC/WGL.*

Account Name	Increase	Decrease
Prior Years Surplus	183,613	
Insurance	4,500	
Legal Fees	34,000	
Transit Costs	6,500	
Accreditation	1,000	
Gasoline - Police		1,000
Park Activities		2,000
Upkeep of Park	2,000	
Street Lights		5,000
Street Tree Maintenance	5,000	
Fuel - Public Works		5,000
Vehicle Maintenance -PW	5,000	
Unreserved Fund Balance	138,613	

Motion approved 7 to 0.

*Motion to support Limited Minor Amendments to Cafritz Property DSP-13009/05, Revision to Street Lights, Reduction of Parking Spaces by 2, Expansion of Outdoor Seating, Minor Grading, and Installation of a Retaining Wall, with conditions as follows:*

- 1. To include and support the condition from the Town of Riverdale Park to remove two trees instead of the requested three trees, and to add one light at the western end of parking lot 6A, as per revised Sheets L1-01 and 04, attached.*
- 2. Support the addition of and change to design of streetlights and parking lot lights on condition they meet all current DSP required photometric and cut-off optic requirements.*
- 3. That for the two trees removed, two additional trees will be planted on the acreage encompassed by this DSP.*

*And to direct the Mayor and Town Attorney to prepare and send a letter consistent with this motion to respond to the referral dated February 2, 2015 from Susan Lareuse, Urban Design, M-NCPPC.* Motion approved 6 to 0 (Sorensen abstains).

*Motion to approve the recommendations from the Committee on Trees, Parks and the Environment supporting the legislation HB-376 in the Maryland House of Delegates and to authorize the Mayor and Town Attorney to draft and submit a letter to all appropriate state legislators stating the Town's position.* Motion approved 7 to 0.

## TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

*Motion to approve the adoption of Resolution 15-R-04 to support the Anacostia Watershed Society Application for a Green Streets Grant.* Motion approved 7 to 0.

### Department and Council Reports

Mayor Carey reported on Pepco vegetation management, testimony on HB 376, Green Eggs and Ham cooking breakfast at UPES on March 6. A complaint has been received through the Maryland Attorney General's Office alleging a violation of the Maryland Open Meetings Law on November 3-6 in regards to the council vote on the town's position on Cafritz signage. The Mayor has asked County Council Member Glaros to arrange a meeting re: possible elimination of the stormwater holding facility under the Whole Foods parking lot on the Riverdale Park Station (Cafritz) site.

### Council Reports

CM Sorensen reports that the Council Committee on Policy, Rules and Municipal Structure will meet on Tuesday, February 24 at Town Hall at 6 PM.

Town Clerk Tracey Toscano said that it's time to sign up for the MML Convention, which will be held on June 28 to July 1 in Ocean City, Maryland.

Director of Public Works Michael Beall reported that the trucks are not ready to be put in service. WSSC and Washington Gas are doing work in town. Compost volume has increased, though fewer people are putting out compost each week. Would consider adding people to the list.

The meeting adjourned by consent at 10:10 PM.

### March 2 Council Meeting Highlights

Present were Mayor Carey; Council Members Thompson, Gekas, Hess, Verrill, Cron, Alvarez. Excused: Sorensen.

### Permits

*Motion to approve the building permit application to construct a 19' x 19' x 6' x 14' single story addition, a 15' x 27' screen porch and a 13' x 23' deck with steps at 4008 Tennyson Road. In addition, this application requests approval to place a dumpster on the street and a pod in the driveway for the duration of this construction project, which is scheduled to take four months to complete.* Motion approved 6 to 0.

### Continuing Business

*Motion to approve the adoption of Charter Amendment 15-CR-02 to repeal and re-enact Article VI, "Finance", Section 618, "Purchasing and Contracts" of the Charter to add the Town Newsletter Editor as a professional service position to be negotiated by the Mayor and approved by the Council and to provide that the Newsletter Editor serves at the pleasure of the Mayor and Council.* Motion approved 6 to 0.

*Motion to approve the adoption of the budget adjustments recommended by the Town Treasurer as outlined in the February 19, 2015 memo to the Mayor and Council.*

Account Name	Increase	Decrease
Prior Years Surplus	183,613	
Insurance	4,500	
Legal Fees	34,000	
Transit Costs	6,500	
Accreditation	1,000	
Gasoline - Police		1,000
Park Activities		2,000
Upkeep of Park	2,000	
Street Lights		5,000
Street Tree Maintenance	5,000	
Fuel - Public Works		5,000
Vehicle Maintenance -PW	5,000	
Unreserved Fund Balance	138,613	

Motion approved 6 to 0.

### New Business

*Motion to authorize the funds in the engineering line item to be used to contract for a technical evaluation of the implications for University Park homes and residents of possible elimination of the planned storm water holding facility under the Whole Foods parking lot on the Riverdale Park Station (Cafritz) site; plus an evaluation of the total Riverdale Park Station (Cafritz) stormwater plan as recommended by the Development Overview Committee; and to authorize a contract for such technical evaluations with Charles P. Johnson and Associates, using the bid prices included in a contract awarded by another Maryland Municipality or the Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission, per Ordinance Section 2-105.* Motion approved 6 to 0.

## TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

### Public Comment

(Note: Responses from Council Members, Town Attorney or the Mayor are italicized.)

- Surprised that possible elimination of the holding tank is happening because when the Cafritz plan was adopted, this was part of the plan. How can this be taken out of the plan? *The holding tank under the Whole Foods parking lot was not part of the Detailed Site Plan.*
- Is Charles P. Johnson and Associates the same engineer who previously looked at the stormwater issue coming off of the Cafritz site? Yes, *this is the same company.*
- When referring to the M-NCPPC contract which we would follow, is that contract for anything that is related to this project or in the region, or is this about work someplace else that M-NCPPC is doing? *It is everywhere within Maryland National Capital Park and Planning. They have an on-call contract, which means they provide engineering services of all kinds that they produce and they give a rate card that gives an hourly rate, since no job is going to be exactly the same.*
- If you were to limit the contract to only looking at the cistern that is being put in, you might miss important characteristics of the bio retention gardens or whatnot, so narrowing your language might have some unanticipated consequences.
- It would be very helpful to have this engineering study done.
- When Home Depot was built on Route 410, the builders entered into a memorandum of understanding with the Town of University Park and through that they provided approximately \$318,000 to the Town as their in-lieu-of fee for stormwater. That money was then further combined at a later date with funds from EPA and Army Corps of Engineers. That combined total of at least \$300,000 plus was used for a design study and then for the stream bed stabilization that is seen in University Park today.

*Motion to authorize the Mayor and Town Attorney to draft a letter in support of HB 1087 and SB 481 Electricity-Community Solar Energy Generating System Program and authorize the Mayor to submit these letters to the necessary offices on behalf of the Town.* Motion approved 6 to 0.

*Motion to approve the introduction of Resolution 15-O-06 to amend the FY 2015 Budget Ordinance as follows:*

1. *Establish a Revenue account for Sale of Asset \$2,250*

2. *Establish a Revenue account for Street Repair Rebate-WSSC \$294,805*

3. *Increase Unreserved Fund Balance by \$297,055*

Motion approved 6 to 0.

*Motion to authorize the Mayor to invite representatives from the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission zoning rewrite committee to give a presentation to town residents on the substance of the proposed changes to the zoning laws as recommended by the Development Overview Committee.* Motion approved 6 to 0.

### Public Comment

(Note: Responses from Council Members, Town Attorney or the Mayor are italicized.)

The Council should consider revising the format of the minutes so answers that are provided to the public are attributed. *The best way to capture the entire council meeting is to purchase a program such as Granicus. The Policy, Rules and Municipal Structure Committee will be meeting soon to discuss this topic.*

### Department and Council Reports

#### Mayor's Report

- A letter was sent to Pepco on November 4, 2014 in response to the vegetation management plan in University Park, requesting that a copy of the plans be provided as soon as possible and to make arrangements to discuss the plans with the Town. Mayor Carey testified as an individual in favor of the legislative bill to remove the clause that said that municipalities cannot enforce or pass a law that would add to the cost of electrical utilities in vegetation management.
- Cooking and serving breakfast for kindergarteners at UPES on March 6.
- The Town election notice in the newsletter was incorrect. A new PDF will be provided and will be posted on the Town website. The correct notice will be printed in the April newsletter.
- The town has 30 days to respond to the Compliance Board Open Meetings Complaint.
- University Park will host the Route 1 University Communities Coalition scheduled for March 18. Mayor Carey asked the Council to reserve the date.
- The Azalea Classic is scheduled for April 18 and the Council should consider participating together in this event.
- Mr. Hess expressed concern about the public paths not

## TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

being cleared during the snowstorms. Public Works is very busy during this time; possibly consider hiring an outside contractor. The Police Department should move the stationary police cruiser during snowstorms; they cease to be a deterrent when there is snow on them for a number of days.

- The Town bus is running carefully but assertively in the winter conditions.
- Mayor Carey requested the following motion:

*Motion to authorize the Mayor and Town Attorney to draft and send a letter to the County Executive and County Council requesting that all stormwater management plans affecting Wells Run above its entry point to the Northeast Branch of the Anacostia River be brought to the Town of University Park and that we be given opportunity to weigh in. The County Department of Public Works and Transportation; Department of Permitting, Inspections and Enforcement; and Department of the Environment should routinely provide copies of all stormwater submittals to all municipalities on the Wells Run drainage including the Town of Riverdale Park, Town of University Park and City of Hyattsville within 7 days of their receipt, as well as an invitation to all meetings where these are discussed. This letter to be circulated to the Council for review and comment prior to sending.* Motion approved 6 to 0.

### Council Reports

CM Gekas reported that the Council Committee on Policy, Rules and Municipal Structure and Council Committee on Public Facilities and Services plan to hold a joint meeting on March 17 to discuss Granicus and the Town website.

### Council Work Session-Agenda-Setting for 2015

*Motion to recess the Legislative Session and convene a Council Work Session to discuss the Agenda Setting for 2015.* Motion approved 6 to 0.

The Council went through each item below and divided them into groups.

#### Improve Transparency and Access

- Website, Granicus, Transparency, Accessibility.
- This process will help residents look back and see what was done and why.
- Budget for the improvement of the website.
- Format for the minutes and what is and what is not included.

- Solve the problem of being able to access materials electronically at UPES from personal computers.

#### Branding (shared identity)

- Branding the Town to show that you are in University Park.
- Additional signs. Unique street signs.
- Reaching out to new residents. Sense of place.
- Changes to the permitting process. Notification of neighbors.
- Refer to Route 1 as Baltimore Avenue.

#### Transport (interconnectivity)

- Link transportation projects.
- Improve the sidewalks along Baltimore Avenue going towards Hyattsville.
- Bicycle/pedestrian connectivity.
- Network of circulator buses. Hyattsville, College Park, Riverdale Park.
- Tools available for future traffic management issues in town.

#### Code Enforcement

- A proactive code enforcement.
- Improve rental properties.
- Digital pictures of rental properties posted on website.

#### Streams

- Take action on the flooding of the stream. Erosion under the drains.
- Promote the use of pervious paving materials.
- Offer incentive to residents for using pervious paving materials

#### Veterans

- Veterans Memorial

#### UPES

- Improvement of University Park Elementary School. Community Center. Police Department. Co-location.

The meeting adjourned by consent at 9:55 PM.

 **UPCA News**  
We want to give a big thank you to Michelle Wedge for organizing and facilitating the Spring Egg Hunt, and for all volunteers who helped out with bingo night. Thank you for all who

## TOWN NEWS & EVENTS

attended, making our events such a success! This month we are introducing the University Park Tennis Club. We will then round out the month of April with the UPCA social at the Cron's. Don't forget to save the date for the Townwide Yard Sale on May 9 and the 2nd Annual Mutt Strut on June 7. We look forward to seeing you at all these great events!

### **University Park Tennis Club** **Sunday, April 5, 9AM-Noon**

Been meaning to use the town's tennis courts? Come join like-minded tennis fans at the Queen's Chapel Courts for inaugural sign-ups; all ages and all skill levels are invited. Please bring your tennis gear and be ready to play as well as sign up for future events. Tennis balls and water will be provided. Please contact John Gekas with any questions at [UniversityParkTennis@gmail.com](mailto:UniversityParkTennis@gmail.com), or visit the UPCA website at <http://upcivicassociation.com> for more details. See you on the court!

### **UPCA Social** **Tuesday, April 28, 7-9 PM**

Come join us for our bimonthly UPCA social. Carol, Michael and Hershey Cron have opened up their house at 3901 Underwood Street. Light refreshments will be served. Come as you are and meet your neighbors. If the weather ever clears up, we might also be able to enjoy their backyard!

### **Townwide Yard Sale** **Saturday, May 9, 9-2 PM**

Be on the lookout for the Spring Townwide Yard Sale happening in May! This will give you a chance to meet new neighbors and make some money on things you no longer use. Do want to sell at the Spring UPCA Yard Sale? Email Dawn Nichols at [dawnandjoe@verizon.net](mailto:dawnandjoe@verizon.net) to be added to the list and have your house on the yard sale map.



### **University Park Woman's Club Author Event** **Monday, April 6, 11:30 AM-2:30 PM**

Please join us as Professor Michael A. Ross, Associate Professor of History at the University of Maryland, discusses his new book, *The Great New Orleans Kidnapping Case: Race, Law, and Justice in the Reconstruction Era*. Mr.

Ross will be available after his presentation for book signing and conversation. The twists and turns in *The Great New Orleans Kidnapping Case* include psychic consultations, a shadowy "House of Secret Obstetrics" and the derring-do of an expert Afro-Creole police detective.

Please RSVP for this informative free presentation to [upwcLead@gmail.com](mailto:upwcLead@gmail.com) or call Jana Over on 301-779-5120. Childcare is free and lunch is provided by the club, with a free-will contribution basket. The club meets at the University Christian Church, 6800 Adelphi Road, at the corner of Belcrest and Adelphi Roads.

### **UPWC Plant & Garden Gear Swap** **Sunday, April 12, 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](mailto:mdwedge@gmail.com). UP soccer field along Queens Chapel Road, across from Riverdale Presbyterian Church.

### **UP Woman's Club** **Annual Spring Garden Tour** **Saturday, May 9, 1-4 PM**

The UP Woman's Club Annual Spring Garden Tour will feature a fine selection of gardens in our community. See a wide variety of gardens-urban orchards, ornamental, shade and kitchen gardens-and get inspired! Don't miss this wonderful neighborhood tradition. Maps will be available at individual houses on the tour during event hours and signs will be posted in the front yards of featured homes. Free. Contact Sara Nelkin to find out more at [saranelkin@gmail.com](mailto:saranelkin@gmail.com).

**UP Town Stream Clean-UP**  
**Saturday, April 11, 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 clean-up will be associated with the area-wide Alice Ferguson Foundation's 27th Potomac River Watershed Cleanup. Rain or shine. Questions, contact Kate Beveridge at 301-277-4485 or BBeve@Verizon.Net.

**Annual Mulch Sale**  
**Saturday, April 11, 8 AM**

University Park Church of the Brethren will be selling good quality shredded hardwood mulch for \$3.50 per 2 cu. ft. bag (same price as last year) at the University Park Church of the Brethren parking lot, Baltimore Ave. and Tuckerman



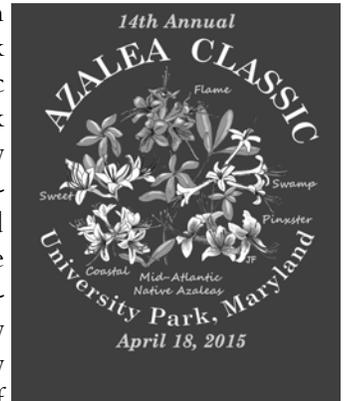
Street. Advance, prepaid orders of 15 bags or more can be delivered if within reasonable distance. To order mulch in advance, call 301-864-4328 or email UP-COB2@verizon.net. Delivery instructions should indicate where truck should leave bags (please note: drop-off point needs to be accessible to our delivery vehicles). Please make your check payable to University Park Church of the Brethren.

**UPES Spring Open House**  
**Tuesday, April 14, 8:30-10 AM**

An event for incoming and prospective families. Meet our Principal, learn about our kindergarten and first grade programs, find out about registration, ask questions and tour our school! UPES Media Center; RSVP to Newcomer Committee Chair Sarah Treado, sattro@comcast.net.

**University Park Azalea Classic**  
**Saturday, April 18, 8:30 AM**

Please join us for the 14th Annual University Park Azalea Classic 5K/1Mile/1K run and walk on April 18! It's a great way to engage with the community, get some exercise and help kids all at the same time! This year, we are honored to have University Park resident Kerry McCoy as our celebrity starter of the 5K. Currently head coach of UMD's wrestling program, McCoy was inducted into the National Wrestling Hall of Fame and was a two-time Olympian for the United States.



The University Park Azalea Classic is a family-friendly event with fun for everyone. Registration includes: raffle entry for great prizes, high-quality colorful t-shirt with a custom design (this year by town resident and artist Joel Floyd), medals for all kids participating in the 1K and 1M races and certificates for winners of each age/gender category. We're also one of the most affordable races out there!

Involving people of all ages, the event promotes good health for the whole town while boosting the community spirit that University Park is known for. Proceeds from the Azalea Classic benefit the kids at University Park Elementary School, purchasing things such as books, supplies and special opportunities they would not otherwise have given tight budgets.

Feel free to walk the race. We finish up with a DJ and prizes at our post-race party. Find out more or register at [www.azaleaclassic.com](http://www.azaleaclassic.com). You can also email the Race Director at [kristibjanzen@gmail.com](mailto:kristibjanzen@gmail.com) for questions.

**After 8 Book Group**  
**Tuesday, April 21, 8-10 PM**

The April book is *In Sunlight and In Shadow* by Mark Helprin. The May book will be *The Goldfinch* by Donna Tartt. The After Eight Book Group meets on the third Tuesday of each month (the second Tuesday in December) from September to June. Please call Laura Donnelly at 301-927-6550 for more information.

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

**Aging in Place Info Exchange Monday, April 6, 6:30 PM** All are invited to attend an ideas and information exchange with speakers from: College Park (CP) Taskforce on Aging, CP Neighborhood Quality of Life Committee, Greenbelt Assistance in Living Program, Greenbelt Volunteer Exchange and Forming a "Village." Dessert and coffee 6:30-7 PM, speaker panel with Q&A 7-8 PM at St. Andrews Episcopal Church, 4512 College Ave., College Park. Questions? Email carolnezzo@gmail.com or call 301-935-5111.



**Summer Day Camp Expo Saturday, April 11** Summer Day Camp registration is open and SMARTlink customers that have registered for a class or a program within the past 2 years and have children ages 4-15 should have received a copy in their mail. The brochure is available at all Parks and Recreation community centers and online at [www.pgparcs.com](http://www.pgparcs.com). Playground and Teen Center registration begins May 1. Prince George's Sports and Learning Complex.

**Rummage Sale Saturday, April 18, 9 AM-3 PM** Treasures galore. Items for sale include: furniture, clothing, (children's and adults) collectibles, toys, books, electronics, housewares, kitchenware, china, linens, tools and bric-a-brac. Donations for the sale are accepted at the church until April 16. Donations are tax deductible. University United Methodist Church, Campus Drive, College Park.



**Hyattsville Library Independent Film Series, *The Last Waltz*, Monday, April 20, 6:30-9 PM** Interspersed with interview footage, *The Last Waltz* documents the farewell concert of The Band, one of rock's superstar groups, when they decided to call it quits after sixteen grueling years on the road. The farewell concert took place on Thanksgiving Day, 1976, at San Francisco's Winterland, the site of their first performance. Filmmaker-in-Residence, Chris Lynn, will facilitate the post-screening discussion.

**Call for ArtsFest 2015 Vendors** The Riverdale Park Arts Council (RPAC) is seeking artists to be vendors of their original art at ArtsFest 2015, to be held on Sunday, May

3 from 11 AM to 5 PM at 4650 Queensbury Road (at the MARC station). The cost per vendor is \$40. For current RPAC members the cost is \$30. See RPAC's website for the vendor application at: [RPartscouncil.org/artists-application](http://RPartscouncil.org/artists-application), where you can now apply and pay your vendor fee online. The application deadline is April 21.



**AWS Earth Day Cleanup Saturday, April 25** The Anacostia Watershed Society (AWS) is doing a lot of work in our community. Join with more than 2,000 volunteers to work cleaning up neighborhoods, parks, streams and the Anacostia River. AWS relies on good volunteers for Earth Day. Sign up to help out: you can find more information at <http://www.anacostiaws.org/earthday2015/>

**Maryland Day Saturday, April 25, 10 AM-4 PM** UMD invites everyone to the EXPLORE OUR WORLD OF FEARLESS IDEAS 17th annual Maryland Day to explore the campus and its world of fearless ideas. Visit <http://www.marylandday.umd.edu/> for full details on science, arts, business, sports and family programming.



**Vacation Bible School** University Baptist Church will once again host their weeklong Vacation Bible School Monday-Friday, June 29-July 3 from 9 AM - 12 PM. VBS is for children ages 4 through 6th grade. This year's theme will be: "G-Force: God's Love in Action." More information, along with a registration form, will be available on the UBC website in April. If you are looking for a great morning activity for your children, put these dates on your calendar. University Baptist Church, 3515 Campus Drive, College Park. Free.

### Use University Park as Your Tax Address

It's tax season, please be sure to use University Park (not Hyattsville) as your address on your Maryland income tax forms. Designating University Park as your residence address makes it more likely that the state will compensate a share of state income taxes for Town services.





# **-REVISED NOTICE- TOWN OF UNIVERSITY PARK ELECTION NOTICE**

**AN ELECTION FOR THE  
Town of University Park for the  
Office of Council Member for  
Wards Two, Four, Five, and Six  
will be conducted on**

**TUESDAY, MAY 5, 2015  
8 AM-8 PM  
Town Hall  
6724 Baltimore Avenue**

## **REGISTER TO VOTE**

Residents may register to vote the following ways:

- Register to vote online at: [http://www.elections.state.md.us/voter\\_registration/](http://www.elections.state.md.us/voter_registration/)
- Go to the Prince George's County Board of Elections at 1100 Mercantile Lane Suite 115A, Largo, MD 20774, Monday-Friday, 8 AM – 4:30 PM, Office: 301-341-7300
- Pick up a voter's registration form at Town Hall.

## **DEADLINE**

To file as a candidate or register as a new voter the deadline is Monday, April 6, 2015 at 5 PM.

### **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

## **CANDIDATES**

Candidate packets (Candidate Petition and Financial Disclosure Statement) are available at Town Hall, Monday-Friday during business hours, and these documents are available on the Town's website, [www.upmd.org/](http://www.upmd.org/) under Elections. If residents have any questions, please contact the Town Clerk via phone or email.

## **DEADLINE FOR WRITE-IN CANDIDATES**

Thursday, April 30, 2015 at 5 PM.

Town of University Park  
6724 Baltimore Avenue, University Park, MD 20782  
Office: 301-927-4262, Fax: 301-277-4548, TDD: 1-800-735-2258,  
[www.upmd.org](http://www.upmd.org), email [townhall@upmd.org](mailto:townhall@upmd.org)

# FREE E-CYCLING DAY

for University Park Residents

**Saturday, April 25, 9 AM-1 PM**  
**UP Elementary School Bus Circle**

**If you can't sell it at the Town-wide Yard Sale on May 9...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 a list of other reuse and salvage organizations. The annual shredding event will take place this fall.

## Acceptable Items

Answering Machines  
Ballasts-non PCB  
Batteries (see list below)  
Cables  
Camcorders  
CDs/ DVDs  
Cell Phones  
Circuit Boards  
Compact Disc Players  
Computer Equipment  
Computers  
Copiers  
Cords  
Duplicators  
DVD Players  
Electric Typewriters  
Electronic Games  
Fax Machines  
Hard Drives  
Keyboards / Mice  
Household Electronics  
Ink / Toner  
Lab Equipment  
Laptops  
Laptop batteries  
LCD Monitors  
Mainframe Equipment  
Media  
Metal Scrap  
Microwave Ovens  
Modems  
Monitors  
Networking Equipment  
Pagers  
PDA's  
Printers  
Printed Circuit Board  
Radios  
Rechargeable Batteries  
Remote Controls  
Scanners

Stereo Components  
Stereos  
Tapes  
Tape Players  
Telephones  
Telecom Equipment  
Televisions  
Testing Equipment  
Toasters  
Transparency Makers  
Two-Way Radios  
UPS - Power Supplies  
VCRs  
Word Processors  
Other Electronics

## What items are not acceptable?

Air Conditioners  
Broken CRT monitors  
Console Televisions  
Dishwashers  
Dryers  
Light bulbs  
Medical Waste  
Nuclear Waste  
Paint  
PCB Ballasts  
Radioactive Waste  
Refrigerators  
Thermostats  
Washers

## What types of batteries are not acceptable?

Lead Calcium Batteries  
Lithium Batteries  
Magnesium Batteries  
Manganese Batteries Mercury Batteries  
NiCd Wet Cell Batteries  
Nickel Iron Batteries  
Nickel Zinc Batteries  
Silver Oxide Batteries  
Zinc Carbon Batteries



# April 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
				<b>Recycling Special Session: Stormwater Management, 7:30 PM, UPES</b>	<b>Trash</b>	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
University Park Tennis Club, 9 AM-Noon	<b>Yard Waste</b> UPWC Author Event, 11:30 AM-2:30 PM <b>Election Deadlines, 5 PM</b>	<b>Trash</b>		<b>Recycling</b>	<b>Trash</b>	COB Annual Mulch Sale, 8 AM UP Town Stream Clean-UP, 9 AM-Noon
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
UPWC Plant & Garden Gear Swap, 1-4 PM 	<b>Yard Waste Town Council, 7:30 PM</b>	<b>Trash</b> UPES Spring Open House, 8:30-10 AM	<b>Development Overview Committee, 7:30 PM</b>	<b>Recycling Special Session: Zoning Rewrite, 7 PM, UPES</b> 	<b>Trash</b>	Azalea Classic, 8:30 AM
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	<b>Yard Waste Town Council, 7:30 PM</b>	<b>Trash</b> After 8 Book Group, 8-10 PM 		<b>Recycling</b>	<b>Trash</b>	<b>E-Cycling Day, 9 AM-1 PM, UPES</b> 
26	27	28	29	30	May 1	2
	<b>Yard Waste</b>	<b>Trash</b> Prince George's Plaza TDDP Open House, 5-8 PM UPCA Social, 7-9 PM		<b>Recycling</b>	Save the Date! Tree Planting Saturday, May 2, 9 AM-1 PM Holly Hill/Oakridge	Save the Date! Town Election, 8 AM-8 PM, Town Hall, 6724 Baltimore Avenue



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

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**Permit No. 2776**

**TOWN DIRECTORY**

**Town Hall**

Office Hours M-F 9 AM-5 PM 301-927-4262  
 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 Lenford C. Carey mayor@upmd.org  
 Mayor Carey Cell Phone 240-338-2826  
 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

**Town Council**

Ward	Council Member	Phone
1	Joe Thompson	240-770-1358
2	James Gekas	301-864-2734
3	Bradlee Hess	301-699-0694
4	Linda Verrill	301-927-6743
5	Heidi Sorensen	301-927-4977
6	Michael Cron	301-277-4718
7	Roy Alvarez	301-779-6746

**NEWSLETTER**

The May newsletter deadline is Monday, April 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.

Editors Todd Stewart & Bridget Warren  
 univparknews@gmail.com 301-209-7341

