

# UNIVERSITY PARK NEWSLETTER

TOWN OF UNIVERSITY PARK, MARYLAND

DECEMBER 2015

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

VOL. XXXX, NO. 11

## MAYOR'S COLUMN

Nearly 60 of our community gathered at the Town's Veterans Memorial on November 11, to honor the service of veterans. Our University Park Veterans Day observance does that in an intimate, small town way. The JROTC Color Guard of Northwestern High School presented the colors. Students from University Park Elementary School—Abigail Coleman, Larissa Olson, and Caroline Ross, directed by music teacher Amanda Ferguson—sang the National Anthem. Town resident Joann Fletcher described the census of University Park veterans, whose names were listed in the program. Major Kristin McElroy, an Army reservist who drills at the Army Reserve Center across Baltimore Avenue from Town, veteran of several deployments, and current Department of Defense veterinarian, spoke about the work of military veterinarians around the world. Major Colin Ferguson, veteran of several combat deployments as an Air Force and Air National Guard pilot, spoke about the

service of veterans and its meaning to our country. Major Ferguson lives with his wife and children in University Park, where he has been a proponent of raising awareness for veterans' affairs. As a veteran from an earlier era, I was moved by what Major Ferguson said about the service of veterans and the demands placed on all who serve. With his permission, I have excerpted Major Ferguson's remarks below.

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Today we are here to honor our great country's veterans as well as the men and women of University Park who have served and that are currently serving in the nation's defense. Today we celebrate the richness that our veterans contribute to our community. We remember that they are our friends, our family, our neighbors, our coworkers, and that they are among us. I encourage you

### Town Meetings & Special Dates

Town Council	December 16
Holidays	December 25 & January 1
Development Overview Committee	December 16

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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to seek out a veteran, and talk to them, even if just to say thank you.

We need to remember that conflict is ongoing, that today's military is in a constant state of readiness. Today's wars happen today, now, and that is the demand that is placed on your friends, family, and neighbors that serve. The United States has engaged in a nearly continuous state of war or conflict since the Gulf War kicked off in 1991. That constant grind has also occurred during a period of great resource cuts to our Department of Defense. The US Air Force alone has gone from 188 fighter squadrons in 1990, to 49 currently. They have also lost 40% of the Active Duty force, from over 500,000 to over 300,000 today. And the average airplane in service is 27 years old. I trained and flew missions on C-130s that were built in 1962. It just goes to show you how tough that old bird is.

This constant combat has taken a toll on our veterans. Today's veterans suffer from a wide range of war wounds. Some you can see, and some you cannot. But all is not lost. Thanks to the efforts of the American people we have top notch prosthetics available to our amputees, programs to help veterans reintegrate into society and their own families. It is efforts like these that ensure my faith in our ability to care for our protectors.

Just as we must understand the demands placed on our veterans, we must also pause today, in remembrance of those we have lost. These are men and women who have given the ultimate sacrifice for their nation. To their loved ones, we say, thank you.

As citizens, we must remember that this is impacting those around us, more often than you would think. Every veteran has a list of brothers-in-arms they have lost. We all grieve, but we all know they endured for a just cause. They gave up everything for our country, for us. Our task is to remember them, and simply say thank you.

Over time, war has changed, but the basic elements of service have not. No matter how complicated war might be, it always comes down to the ones who fly the planes, man the ships, and carry the rifles. In recognizing the service of a veteran, the government uses the words, "selfless consecration to the service of our country in the Armed Forces of the United States of America." The military life is built around sacrifice and complete devotion to America. For that, to veterans today, we say

thank you.

Living with and honoring our Veterans is a way of life in America. Veterans of multiple generations are among us, with the last US veteran of WW1 passing away as recently as 2011. In today's day and age, less than 1% of the US population is currently serving in the US military. Yet, we receive a much larger share of the American people's trust, their respect, and gratitude. For that, I say, thank you.

Our service members are an investment in the American ideal, the American way of life. For those we have lost, we owe them a debt we can never repay. For that, we say thank you.



We will often find ourselves together at this holiday season at one or more of the many events going on in town, possibly at the community potluck, holiday tree lighting, holiday house tour, or ambling about admiring the decorations around town or considering possibilities for snow. As always, I look forward to seeing you in town or nearby, and hope you will come over to say hello. I wish you the comforts of home and community, and peace.

*Len Carey*

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

## FROM THE CHIEF & CRIME REPORT

**'Tis the Season** When glowing candles, sparkling snowflakes and the joyful family gatherings often create the busiest and most stressful time of the year, as we host holiday festivities and search for that perfect gift. Thieves like to take advantage of consumers at this time of year. They exploit the giving nature of the season and turn the elevated stress levels and hectic schedules of consumers to their advantage. It's important that as consumers we know how to protect ourselves from threats that exist on the web.

Before you begin shopping online, secure your computer by updating your security software. Every computer should have software that protects against viruses, spyware and spam, as well as a good firewall. Firewalls and antivirus software are the first line of defense. They help keep your computer safe and secure.



Use one credit card for easy tracking. Keep your personal information private and your password secure. Do not respond to requests to verify your password or credit card information unless you initiated the contact. Legitimate businesses will not contact you in this manner.

Look for signs that the business is reputable. Know your merchant. Protect your privacy. Get all of the details and keep good records of your purchases. Use secure websites for purchases. Look for the icon of a locked padlock at the bottom of the screen or *https* in the URL address. They indicate that you are dealing with a secure website. Beware of bargains from companies with whom you are unfamiliar-if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is. Print and save all confirmations from your online purchases. Donate to charities only if you have investigated the charity. Be sure that the charity's website is secure or make your donation through the mail. Consider alternate options to pay for your merchandise, such as one-time or multi-use disposable credit cards or money orders, at online stores and auction sites. Make sure you know all the rules and policies of these sites.

Also, the old-fashioned way of stealing your goods occurs each year, as thieves simply steal items from your front

porch after they have been delivered. It takes only a few seconds to run up to a front porch and grab the package and run off. If you know you will not be home during normal delivery hours, have a neighbor retrieve your package or get it later at the delivery pickup location.

**Safe Shopping** If you venture out to do your shopping locally, here are some tips:

Shop during the day or park in well-lighted areas.

- Be aware of your surroundings when you park, walk and are in stores.
- Avoid buying much more than you can carry.
- Lock your purchases in the trunk and out of sight.
- Remember where you parked. Have keys ready when approaching your vehicle; request a security escort if you shop alone.
- Know which credit cards you have with you when you shop. If possible, only take one; it's safer and easier to remember just one card. A current pickpocket practice is to remove one credit card from your wallet in hopes you will not notice until much later.
- Shop with a friend. The more the merrier...and safer.
- If shopping with small children, have a plan if you are separated from them. Determine a central meeting place and teach them to know they can ask mall personnel or store security employees if they need help.
- Keep all receipts together to help you verify credit card or bank statements.

December is National Drunk Driving Awareness Month. Don't drink and drive. Be sure your teenagers know this message. Sobriety checkpoints, extra patrols and cooperative efforts with adjoining jurisdictions are all planned enforcement activities for December. Don't let anyone drive after drinking. It may save a life.

*Have a Safe and Happy Holiday!*

**Theft from Auto** On October 11 between 10 PM and 8 AM in the 4000 block of Underwood St. suspect/s broke the rear window of a 2010 Ford van and stole a Makita cordless drill. No suspect/s was located. Investigation is ongoing.



**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 or 301-785-2838. Have your pets wear their tags or a microchip at all times so they can be identified.

### Holiday Funds



Please consider contributing to the University Park Holiday Funds for Town employees. These Funds offer a way for residents to express their ap-

preciation for the exemplary work done by the Town's dedicated employees throughout the year. Many Town employees have worked for us for more than 10 years, some for more than 40 years. The winter holidays afford a chance for residents to show their appreciation for the continued service to our community given by these very dedicated Town employees through foul or fair weather.

To contribute, checks should be made payable to "Town of University Park" and marked on the memo line of your check for the "Holiday Funds." You may also indicate whether your contribution is intended for Public Works, Police Department and/or for General Administrative Staff (including bus drivers), and the respective amount you wish to donate to each. Checks for the 2015 Holiday Funds should be mailed or delivered to the Town Hall by Thursday, December 31, 2015.

### Plowing and Snow Removal

Please keep this information on hand in the event of inclement weather. The Department of Public Works is responsible for plowing and salting town streets and removing downed trees or branches in the public right of way.



If you have a driveway, please park all vehicles there, to allow snow plows to work safely and effectively.

All residents (including renters) must remove snow from their private and public front sidewalks within 24 hours after the snow has stopped. Please keep them safe and passable.

Residents are also asked to shovel their driveways after plowing has occurred.

# Curbside Leaf Vacuuming Through Jan. 15



Leaf vacuuming continues through January 15, 2016.

- Crews will work counterclockwise through Town as follows: Ward 2, Ward 1, Ward 3, Ward 5, Ward 4, Ward 7 & Ward 6.
- Do not rake or blow leaves into the street.
- No rocks, sticks or metal in your leaf piles.
- Crews will not back track to collect leaves once they have been past your home.
- Check the Town website under the public works heading for updates and changes. You will also find a ward map at [www.upmd.org](http://www.upmd.org).

### Leaf Collection

All bagged leaves must be placed in paper bags. The county no longer accepts leaves in plastic bags. Leaves will be picked up on Mondays with yard waste. If you miss curbside leaf vacuuming, leaves will need to be collected into paper bags or a durable container and put at the curb.

## TOWN NEWS

### Tree Committee

#### Sap Hydraulics

With the approach of winter, we think of the sap descending from the tree's crown into the roots. As we bend back toward spring, we say the sap is rising. But sap, like so many other phenomena in the natural world, is more akin to the ocean. Science has demonstrated that the moisture content of a tree remains constant throughout the year. In fall, the center of a tree is moisture rich, with comparatively dry content found in the outer edges. In the spring, this condition is reversed, with the overall moisture level remaining fixed. So too do we retreat into our inner beings as winter closes in, knowing full well we will surge again with the return of spring.

**UP's Notable Trees: American Sycamore (Planetree, Buttonwood), 4208 College Heights Dr.**



This majestic tree dwarfs the house it is next to. The form is balanced, well framed. The species has year-round interest by virtue of its leaves, fruit, and most strikingly its heavily exfoliated bark resulting in a mottled trunk of greens, grays, and browns. Pay a visit and tip your cap on your next stroll through town.

### Ivy League 2015 Finale

**Saturday, December 12, 9-11 AM**

Make your first present of the holiday season a gift to the town's trees. Join the Ivy League for its last session of the 2015 campaign. The Ivy League will be working on the trail leading from Little Free Library #1 (Queen's Chapel) to the foot of Tennyson Street, along the western edge of the soccer field. Please meet at 8:55 near the Little Free Library. Bring a set of garden pruning clippers and a large screwdriver, small pry bar, or dandelion weeder. The work is gentle on the body but is sure to exercise your town spirit. Attendance at five sessions will earn volunteers a custom, limited edition, University Park Ivy League bandana.

*-Chris Aubry, on behalf of the committee*

## TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

### October 19 Council Meeting Highlights

Present were Mayor Carey; Council Members (CM) Thompson, Gekas, Hess, Verrill, Cron, Alvarez. Excused: Caskey.

#### Permits

*Motion to approve the building permit application request to construct a 9' x 21.3' x 13.5' sunroom at 4105 Tennyson Road.* Motion approved 6 to 0.

*Motion to approve the building permit application request to construct a one story 4.5' x 20.56' x 10' kitchen addition located at 6714 Queens Chapel Road.* Motion approved 6 to 0.

#### New Business

*Motion to authorize the Mayor and Town Attorney to submit a letter to the Prince George's County Planning Board expressing the Town's position in regard to the Preliminary Transit District Development Plan and proposed Transit District Overlay Zoning Map Amendments for the Prince George's Plaza Area, and to authorize the Mayor and Town Attorney to present the position in testimony on behalf of the Town at the hearing on October 22, 2015.* Motion approved 6 to 0.

#### Continuing Business

*Motion to adopt the recommendation of the Council Committee on Police, Traffic & Public Safety to establish a rebate program suggested by the committee in its recommendations for residents who install a home security system that includes motion detectors, alarm systems (commercial or individually installed), outdoor floodlighting and outdoor security cameras as described in the committee proposal dated September 8, 2015 as amended.* Motion approved 6 to 0.

#### Department and Council Reports

##### Mayor's Report

- Received 06 proposed minor revisions to Cafritz DPS (relocating a tot lot to be nearer other playgrounds, converting two townhouses to retail properties, reducing the size of townhouses but adding more townhouses). University Park will have an opportunity to weigh in on these revisions.

- Attended a public status briefing on the Purple Line on October 8. Construction is expected to begin in 2016.

- Speakers and color guards are scheduled for the

## TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Veterans Day Observance program on November 11 at 11 AM.

- Attended a briefing in Hyattsville with Chief Wynnyk on a bicycle and pedestrian plan.

*Council Committee on Trees* CM Alvarez reported that the Tree Committee and volunteers planted 13 trees on Adelphi Road down Calverton and Wells Parkway. CM Alvarez thanked Public Works for their help in the planting.

*Council Committee on Policy, Rules, and Municipal Structure* CM Verrill reported that the committee met on August 27 to discuss a modernized town website. A copy of the meeting notes were distributed which included desired features and functions for a new town website. CM Verrill encouraged Council members to look at the following two websites and to give the Committee their opinion: [hyattsville.org](http://hyattsville.org) and [bouldercolorado.gov](http://bouldercolorado.gov).

*Council Committee on Development Overview* The Development Overview Committee will meet at Town Hall on Wednesday, October 21 at 7:30 PM. One topic the Committee plans to discuss is a vision for University Park.

*Council Committee on Public Facilities and Services* CM Gekas reported that an email was sent to the Town in reference to the two markers that were recently placed in the park for Zoe Falkenberg and Mickey Lucas. Public responses for Zoe's marker have been positive. Still waiting for more responses on Mr. Lucas' marker. Mr. Gekas will inform the Council if a change to the placement of that marker is appropriate.

Town Clerk Tracey Toscano reported that she participated in a CivicPlus webinar. University Park will participate in the MML Banner City program for 2016. The MML hotel reservations will be sent this week to those attending.

Town Treasurer Dan Baden presented the September 2015 Treasurer's Report, which was discussed.

Police Chief Wynnyk reported that there were no reported crimes in September. He attended the chili cook-off. Completed the operational plan for Halloween. Purchased new vests, shirts and hats for the Community Emergency Response Team members to show appreciation for their assistance. Corporal Sunday was

recognized by the State Highway Administration for DUI enforcement.

Department Of Public Works Director Michael Beall reported:

- Two groups of volunteers and three staff members supported the Tree Committee in the recent tree planting. The County has not yet provided 12 trees. The Anacostia Watershed Society planted 24 trees on both sides of the creek in the park. There will be 26 trees planted in Ward 1. The total number of trees planted within a two week period will be approximately 75 to 80.

- Lawrence Bloomfield has retired from Public Works after 22 years of service.

- A second person will sit for their CDL exam on Tuesday, October 20.

- Acquired a replacement for a backup packer and sold the old backup packer.

- Pointed out the significant decline in vehicle maintenance expenses on the budget.

Mayor Carey asked Council members to mark their calendars for December 3, 2015 and to hold that date for a holiday staff party at which three employees will be recognized for longevity of service. This event will be held at the University of Maryland Golf Course at 6 PM.

The meeting adjourned by consent at 10 PM.

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### November 2 Council Meeting Highlights

Present were Mayor Carey; Council Members (CM) Thompson, Gekas, Verrill, Caskey, Cron, Alvarez. Excused: Hess.

#### Presentation

Mayor Carey introduced Mayor Andrew Fellows and the new City Manager Scott Somers of College Park. Mayor Fellows' term as Mayor terminates on the second Monday of December and he has chosen not to run for reelection. Mr. Somers is looking forward to the collaboration of the Route1 corridor coalition.

#### Permits

*Motion to approve the building permit application request to erect an 8' x 12' shed located at 6914 Pineway.* Motion approved 6 to 0.

## TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

### New Business

Authorizing a position on DSP 13009/06, minor revisions to the Cafritz detailed site plan.

*Motion to authorize the Mayor and Town Attorney to submit a letter to the Prince George's County Planning Staff expressing no objection to DSP 13009/06, minor revisions to Building 5 architecture and relocation of the tot lot from Building 5 to an exterior location. These minor revisions are for Planning Director review only.* Motion approved 6 to 0.

*Motion to adopt the Proclamation declaring November 2015 as Municipal Government Works Month, which is required for continued eligibility as a Banner City in the Maryland Municipal League.* Motion approved 6 to 0.

### Department and Council Reports

#### Mayor's Report

- On October 26, 2015 the Town Attorney and former Mayor Tabori went to Upper Marlboro and recorded the January 2012 Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions pertaining to the Cafritz site.
- The tennis court has been repaired at no cost to the Town.
- Mayor Carey has requested a crown reduction of three Bradford pear trees on Tennyson Street, which will be done in December.
- A budget transfer request will be made in December for street trees to pay for this crown reduction, since this line item has been significantly diminished.
- A Town Hall meeting with County Councilmember Dannielle Glaros and Senator Paul Pinsky has been scheduled for Tuesday, November 3, 2015 at 7 PM in the University Park Elementary School gymnasium. Councilmembers are encouraged to attend and to ask questions.
- The Town's Veterans Day observance will be held on November 11, 2015 at 11 AM. The program will include two speakers, University Park Elementary School musical group to sing the National Anthem and the JROTC from Northwestern High School presenting the colors.
- The event scheduled for December 3, 2015 at 6 PM will be held at the University of Maryland Golf Course Club House. The following three employees/contractors will be recognized for their service: Public Works Mechanic and Supervisor Kerry Hall (50 years), Town Engineer Rajvinder Sidhu (32 years), and Town Attorney Suellen Ferguson (30 years).

• Washington Gas is installing a gas line connection on Route 1 across the state right of way to the Riverdale Park Station site. This work is being done with a permit provided by the State Highway Administration, which has required that they work only at night. Mayor Carey has addressed the issue of the work being done at night adjacent to a residential area, and Town police have asked that they park their trucks on the state right of way.

• In reference to 7-Eleven, on October 26, 2015 the Mayor and Council of the Town of Riverdale Park voted to pursue a judicial appeal and to appeal to the District Council re: the Planning Board decision. University Park will be in support of these appeals.

• On October 26 there was a dog-on-dog attack on Wells Parkway and College Heights Drive. Since University Park does not have the authority or the trained personnel to handle this matter, Animal Management at the County level was notified.

#### Council Reports

CM Verrill recently attended a meeting in College Park on resources for aging in the community. College Park has put together an aging task force to explore the needs of aging people in their community and Ms. Verrill thought that University Park might like to consider doing the same. CM Verrill will be in contact with Mayor Carey to discuss the possibilities of forming a task force.

In reference to researching a new website design for University Park, CM Gekas suggested [www.thurmont.com](http://www.thurmont.com) be added to the list of website recommendations.

The next Police, Traffic and Public Safety Committee meeting is scheduled for November 10, 2015 at 7 PM at Town Hall.

The meeting adjourned by consent at 9:03 PM.

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### UPWC Meetings & News

Please join us in 2016 as we celebrate our 75th anniversary! On Monday, January 4, Dr. Deborah Holmes of Complete Physical Therapy will speak on her physical therapy practice and how we can all be "stronger, more agile and better balanced." University Park artist David Brosch will join us on February 1, to show and discuss his artwork. You may know David through his involve-

## TOWN NEWS & EVENTS

ment in town causes relating to environmentalism and energy conservation. Did you know he is also an artist-in-residence at the Montpelier Arts Center in Laurel where he specializes in printmaking?

March 7 will focus on interior design and we are in the process of scheduling our local guest speaker. April 4 will showcase the work of Canine Assistance Dogs and on May 2 we will round out the year with what should be a lively International Affairs presentation. And don't forget the UPWC Spring Garden Tour! The date has not yet been set and we again thank Beth Bukoski of College Park for serving as the 2016 Garden Tour Chair. Watch the UP Town Newsletter and UP Listserv for further information on these meetings!

The UPWC meets from 11:30 AM to 2 PM on the first Monday of each month in October and November, and again from January to May, at the University Christian Church, 6800 Adelphi Road, Hyattsville. A light lunch is served at each meeting and childcare is free. For further information and to RSVP please contact Jana Over, Club President, at [upwcLead@gmail.com](mailto:upwcLead@gmail.com) or 301-779-5120, or Michelle Wedge, Communication Chair, at [upmdwc@gmail.com](mailto:upmdwc@gmail.com).

**UPWC Special Thanks** Since 1941, the women of the University Park Woman's Club have followed the motto, "the highest of distinctions is service to others." The charitable projects of the UPWC would not be possible without our wonderful members who volunteer hundreds of hours each year to many charitable and community-building activities. Special thanks are due to Sallie Holder and Anna-Mae Kobbe (and the wonderful homeowners for sharing their beautiful homes!) for chairing our major fundraising project, the Holiday House Tour, and a community-building effort, the UPWC Holiday House Decorating Contest. Special thanks are also due to Vice President Jacquie Groppe, who coordinates our other major fundraising effort, the sale of White House Ornaments. Within the community, and behind the scenes, Kate (and Bruce) Beveridge coordinate Stream Clean-ups, other conservation projects, our Scholarship Student Outreach project, and coordinate the set-up and take-down for each meeting. Leatha Thome handles our finances and received International recognition by the General Federation of Women's Clubs for her records-management work on behalf of the UPWC, while Michelle Wedge, our Communications Chair, produces

our much-admired newsletter and with Leatha Thome produces our annual Membership Directory. Sara Nelkin, Club Secretary, crafts excellent, timely minutes of both Board and Club meetings. Marilynne Lasduzky graciously continues to keep us in order as our Parliamentarian, (and along with Margaret Callaghan, Maxie Phillips, Michelle Stawinski, Helen Andreno and Anna-Mae Kobbe, served as a past Club President.) Rene McDonald and Sharon Roushdy, along with many of the aforementioned women, serve as Program Chairs, as do women who live outside of UP, Dianne Bukoski (Scholarship Program Chair) and Pat Myers. Along with other current UPWC members (Jean Bourne-Pirovic, Birgit Brill, Melanie Brockman, Io Buck, Beth Bukoski, Peggy Calcott, Eddie Crocker, Lorraine Daniel, Ira Dewi, Denise Eggers, Mollie Huitema, Mary Keefer, Joan Laskey, Melody Lawrence, Becky Livingston, Nicole Lucier, Sharon Matthews, Rachel Mayo, Peggy Misback, Carol Nelson, Edda Osborne, Amelia Roberts, Faye Spradlin, Walli Stevens, Tracey Toscano, Pam Wilkerson, Janet Young and new members, Mary Dancy, Marilyn Hickam, Mary Anne Hakes, Carol D'Antuono, Ann Hutchkins and Catherine Turner) all work to improve the lives of others through volunteer service. When you see these women (and Bruce!), please take a minute to thank them for their many years (in some cases, decades) of volunteer work on behalf of the Town of University Park and surrounding communities. And our thanks also go to each of YOU for supporting the charitable projects of the UPWC by attending our fundraising events and purchasing fundraising items!

### UPWC 2015 White House Ornament Sale

As part of the Woman's Club biggest fundraising event, the Holiday House Tour and Boutique, UPWC is selling White House Ornaments from the White House Historical Association. The 35th annual White House ornament honors Calvin Coolidge and features a Christmas tree (which lights up!) for \$22 and the commemorative, elegant White House ornament crafted in sandstone (also \$22 each) are available for purchase. The price of the 2015 White House ornament is one of the best in the area, and all proceeds support the UPWC's charitable projects. To purchase, contact Jacquie Groppe at [jacqueline.groppe@verizon.net](mailto:jacqueline.groppe@verizon.net).



**UPCA News**

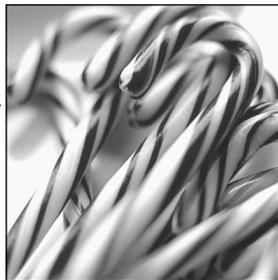
The Halloween Decorating results are in! But first the judges have to say what a nearly impossible task this was the first year of the contest. They viewed each of the 13 entries twice, once before dark and once after dark. We were so impressed by the effort and creativity of our neighbors and the range of decorations: so many fun decorations, from the artistic to the absolutely spooky; so many that involved the whole family in decorating. And we loved how some completely transformed their homes after dark, from spooky projected flying ghosts and spiders to flickering lights and paper cutouts in windows. Impossible to choose! But choose we must. Here are the results:

- 1st place** Ronnie Roerig, 6902 Wells Parkway
- 2d place** Jenn Mooney, 4001 Remington Court
- 3rd place** Emily Suntum, 4311 Sheridan Street

*Honorable Mention*  
 Jane Horvath, 4317 Clagett  
 Brandt Witte, 4409 Sheridan Street  
 Gary Sanderson, 7039 Hunter Lane  
 Special thanks to our judges Jana Over and Tassie Hanna for this very difficult job. Over a dozen houses entered to win. All houses that entered will get a shiny new 2016 UPCA car magnet and the winners will receive a Target gift card for some 50% Halloween décor to use for next year...and the honorable mentions will be getting a little something too.

**Annual Holiday Party and Tree Lighting**  
**Saturday, December 5, 4:30-7 PM**  
**University Park Elementary School**

Calling all neighbors for the UPCA Town Holiday Party! Join us for the Tree Lighting & Potluck Dinner. *Please note the change of address this year: the festivities will now be held at the University Park Elementary School, 4315 Underwood Street.* The Potluck Dinner activities for young and old include arts & crafts activities. The UP Woman's Club Santa's Closet boutique will also be selling holiday house tour tickets. Please consider donating pairs of mittens or a scarf to pin to the UPWC Mitten Tree.



The Potluck Dinner will be from 4:30-7 PM. If attending, please provide a main dish, side dish or dessert, enough to feed 10-12 people. We will provide beverages

as well as arts & crafts activities. The UP Women's Club will also be selling holiday house tour tickets during this time. After dinner, we'll walk to the town tree, located at the corner of Queens Chapel and Sheridan, around 7 for the tree lighting. Santa will be making his appearance. Caroling and candy canes for all!



**For All Good Causes**  
**Holiday Sharing Fair**  
**Saturday, December 5,**  
**9:30 AM-3 PM**

Do some shopping near home and support nonprofits and artists working for justice, peace and the good of the earth. Come learn about: SERRV handicrafts and jewelry, Heifer International, the New Community Project and other participating organizations. Grilled brats, pecans and baked goods will also be available. UP Church of the Brethren, 4413 Tuckerman Street. For more info visit upcob.org.

**After 8 Book Group**

**Tuesday, December 8, 8-10 PM**



The book for December is *Gilead* by Marilynne Robinson. The January book is *Dead Wake: Last Crossing of the Lusitania* by Erik Larson. Please call Mollie Huitema at 301-927-5836 or Laura Donnelly at 301-927-6550 for more information.

**UPWC House Tour**

**Friday, December 11, 7-10 PM**

The University Park Woman's Club, Inc. will hold their 22nd annual Candlelight Holiday House Tour featuring five beautiful homes this year. For a listing of homes and ticket information, see the insert in this newsletter.



**UPWC Holiday Decorating Contest**

**Sunday, December 13, 5-8 PM**

Get your creative, decorating, energizing juices flowing...help make your neighborhood fun to drive around during the holidays. Judging takes place December 13. All UP and College Heights residents are eligible. See the next page for categories.

## TOWN NEWS & EVENTS

Categories:

**Most Unique** 1st place winner only

**Special House Front**

3 winners

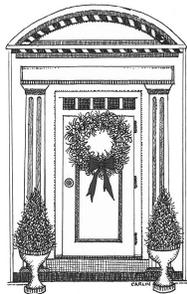
**Most Attractive**

**Whole House**

3 winners

Winning houses will have signs placed in the yard.

Questions? Contact Sallie Holder, 301-864-9264 or slholder410@gmail.com.



### Qigong & Tai Chi Lessons

Saturdays, 8-9:30 AM

Come join us to learn the ancient Chinese martial art often referred to as "meditation in motion" and leave feeling relaxed and energized. Free. Hosted by University Park Church of the Brethren, 4413 Tuckerman Street. For more information, call 301-466-5894.



### Great Decisions 2016

The Foreign Policy Association recently announced topics for the Great Decisions 2016 discussions. If there is enough interest among residents, we would like to reconstitute the Great Decisions Group that once met here in town. We will focus on the Middle East, the Rise of ISIS, the Future of Kurdistan, Migration, the Koreans, the



United Nations, Climate Change, and Cuba and the US. The group will meet a total of 9 times on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month between 7:30 and 9:30 PM, starting January 26. Location to be announced, but will be in town. The cost of the discussion materials is about \$22 per person. Town residents and others who might be interested in joining the group should email John Tabori at mctab@aol.com to express their interest and for further information. Detailed information will also be available in the January issue of the Newsletter. Information about the Foreign Policy Association can be found at [www.fpa.org](http://www.fpa.org).

### Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center

University of Maryland, College Park; Tickets: 301-405-2787; Info: 301-405-7794, [contact.theclarice@umd.edu](mailto:contact.theclarice@umd.edu)

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR



**Angélique Kidjo, Saturday, December 5, 8 PM** Grammy-winning vocalist Angélique Kidjo is a bona fide, chart-topping world music superstar.

Her highly unique style combines powerful West African grooves, American R&B, samba beats and sophisticated jazz harmonies. She brings her infectious joy and liberating passion to The Clarice for a special performance celebrating the resilience and beauty of Africa's women.

**14th Annual Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols, Friday, December 11, 8 PM** Modeled after the beloved Christmas Eve tradition of King's College, this performance tells the story of Christmas through lively readings and music that epitomizes hope, goodwill, and joy.

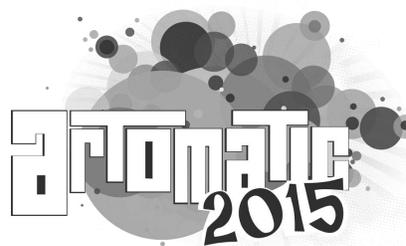
**'Tis the Season: A Musical Holiday Celebration, Sunday, December 13, 5 PM** 'Tis the Season is a majestic musical holiday celebration featuring the talents of FAME-Foundation for the Advancement of Music supported youth musicians, including music from the famed Largo High School Choir and the Oxon Hill High School Choir.



*Riversdale*

**Riversdale by Candlelight, Wednesday, December 30, 6 PM**

Residents from three eras of Riversdale's history welcome guests to the candlelit museum for tours, refreshments, live music, and children's activities. \$5/adult; children 12 & under with an adult/Free. Riversdale House Museum, 4811 Riversdale Road, Riverdale Park, MD. Call 301-864-0420 or email [riversdale@pgparks.com](mailto:riversdale@pgparks.com) for more information.



**Artomatic 2015, Through Saturday, December 12, hours vary.** Come to the

D.C. area's largest art festival! This free event features all types of art: visual, music, performance,

film, and more. Participation is open to all. Please visit <http://www.artomatic.org> for complete details and special activity schedule. 8100 Corporate Drive, Hyattsville, MD 20785.



# UNIVERSITY PARK CIVIC ASSOCIATION HOLIDAY PARTY

Potluck Dinner & Tree Lighting  
Saturday, December 5  
University Park Elementary School  
4315 Underwood St., UP

## Potluck Dinner and Holiday Fun: 4:30-6:30 PM

- Please bring a dish or dessert to share that serves at least 15 people. There is no kitchen access, so please plan accordingly.
- Let the kids get creative at the Arts & Crafts Table.
- Enjoy the Children's Choir.
- Contribute to the Mitten Tree. Donate a pair of mittens or warm hat or scarf to pin to the tree!
- Purchase the UP Holiday House Tour tickets.

## Tree Lighting: 6:30-7 PM

After dinner, walk with neighbors to Henson Green for the Tree Lighting. Santa will make his appearance! Caroling and candy canes for all!

## We Need Elves!

We need help with specific tasks, such as setting-up, decorating, and table monitoring. Please contact Debra Suarez at [debra.suarez@gmail.com](mailto:debra.suarez@gmail.com) if you are interested in volunteering for this favorite town tradition.

*The More Volunteers, the Merrier!*

*Sponsored by the University Park Civic Association.*

University Park Woman's Club, Inc.  
22<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL  
CANDLELIGHT HOLIDAY  
HOUSE TOUR

Friday, December 11, 2015

House Tour 7-10 PM

Featuring UMD School of Music Performances



*Tour Homes*

Kerr—4320 Tuckerman

JenkinsDerr—4008 Tennyson

Bowerman/Marshall—4113 Clagett

Monroe—4103 Woodberry

Huitema—4214 Underwood

Tickets \$18 in advance, \$20 on the tour.

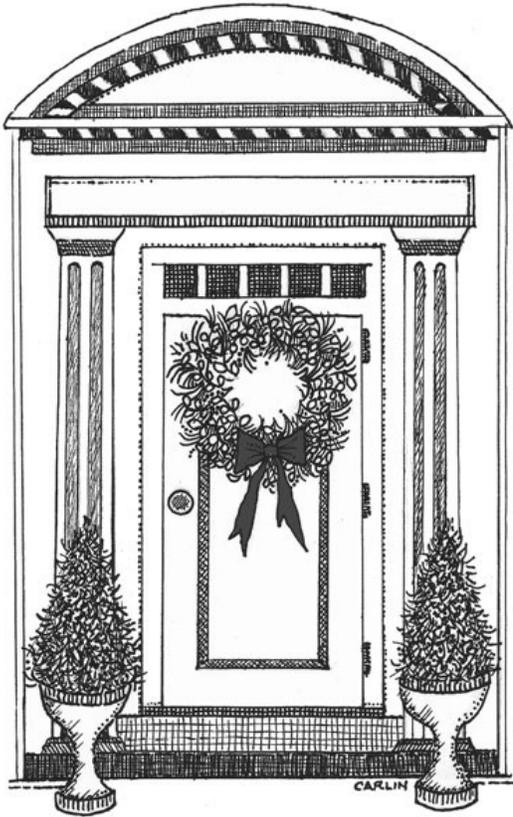
For advance tickets, please call 301-864-9264 or 301-277-0414. Tickets will also be available at the Civic Association's Tree Lighting & Potluck Dinner, December 5 at the UP Elementary School.

Tickets will also be available Friday, December 11 during event hours at each home. No admittance without a ticket.

*Proceeds from the house tour and boutique support local UPWC scholarships and community outreach. A portion of the house tour ticket is tax deductible.*

# University Park Woman's Club, Inc. HOUSE DECORATING CONTEST Sunday, December 13, 5-8 PM

All UP and College Heights Residents Eligible



There is plenty of time to make your home a seasonal treat for the eyes if you start now. Let's see what awesome results we can create this year! Remember, seasonal has many meanings. Participants should have their lights turned on from 5-8 PM. Decorations will be judged in three categories this year:

## Categories

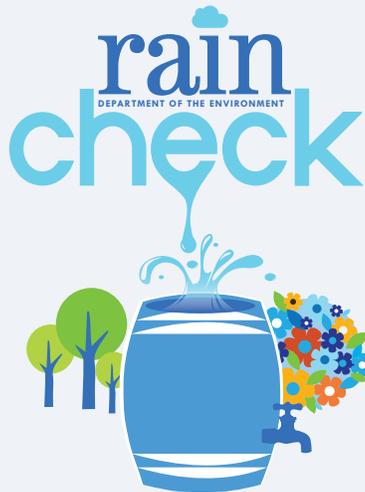
- ◆ Most Unique – 1st place only.
- ◆ Best Decorated Door – 1st, 2nd and 3rd place.
- ◆ Best Decorated Whole House – 1st, 2nd and 3rd place.

## Note

- ◆ 2014 winners are ineligible unless they have created a new design.

Special recognition signs will be placed in winners' yards. Winners will be listed on the UP Listserve and in the January newsletter as well as receive a certificate and letter of appreciation. For more information, contact Sallie Holder at 301-864-9264 or slholder410@gmail.com.

*Sponsored by the University Park Woman's Club.*



# RAIN CHECK

## REBATE PROGRAM

Prince George's County is committed to improving the quality of life for its communities by promoting green solutions to stormwater runoff. Stormwater runoff occurs when rain (or snowmelt) flows over the land picking up pollutants such as oil, grease, sediment, and nutrients which make their way into local streams and rivers. The Rain Check Rebate Program allows property owners to receive rebates for installing Rain Check approved stormwater management practices. Homeowners, businesses, and non-profit entities (including housing cooperatives and churches) can recoup some of the costs of installing practices covered by the program.

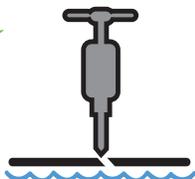
### Rebate-Eligible Practices



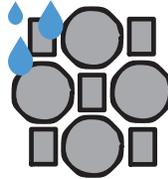
**CISTERNS**  
\$250–\$2,000



**GREEN ROOFS**  
\$2,000–\$20,000



**PAVEMENT REMOVAL**  
\$600–\$5,000



**PERMEABLE PAVEMENT**  
\$1,200–\$5,000



**RAIN BARRELS**  
\$50–\$100



**RAIN GARDENS**  
\$1,200–\$2,500

If your property is located within a Homeowners Association (HOA), you must submit documentation of approval by the HOA with application.

Every practice must meet criteria established by the Department of the Environment (DoE). All practices except rain barrels require pre-approval to qualify for the rebate. Rain barrel rebate applications do not require pre-installation inspections.

A successful rebate applicant will use the website to follow these steps:

1. Assess their property and select the appropriate practice from the list of eligible practices.
2. Review the County's practice guidelines.
3. Submit a project application to DoE. Upon approval the County will send an agreement form and assign a County project coordinator.
4. If applicable, work with a project coordinator to schedule a pre-installation site visit.
5. Complete the project according to DoE standards within 12 months.
6. If applicable, schedule a post-installation site visit.
7. Submit receipts and rebate request to DoE.
8. Receive rebate check.

More information about the Rain Check Rebate Program including detailed information on rebate amounts can be found on the program website.

#### Rebate amounts are determined by:

- **Type of practice**
- **Project cost:** The rebate amount cannot exceed the total project cost
- **Applicant type:** Rebate ceilings are set at \$2,000 for residential practices, and \$20,000 for commercial, multi-family dwellings, nonprofit entities, and not-for-profit organizations.

#### Need Help?

Find out if a community workshop is planned for your area by visiting the calendar of events on the program website.

You can also learn about certified contractors and where to find supplies you'll need to install the practices.



Rushern L. Baker, III  
County Executive



# December 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>6</p> <p><b>Curbside Leaf Vacuuming Continues</b></p> 		<p>1</p> <p><b>Trash</b></p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p> <p><b>Recycling</b></p>	<p>4</p> <p><b>Trash</b></p> 	<p>5</p> <p><b>For All Good Causes Holiday Sharing Fair, 9:30 AM-3 PM</b>  <b>Annual UPCA Holiday Party &amp; Tree Lighting, 4:30-7 PM</b></p>
<p>13</p> <p><b>UPWC Home Decorating Contest, 5-8 PM</b></p> 	<p>7</p> <p><b>Yard Waste</b></p>	<p>8</p> <p><b>Trash After 8 Book Group, 8-10 PM</b></p> 	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p> <p><b>Recycling</b></p>	<p>11</p> <p><b>Trash UPWC Holiday House Tour, 7-10 PM</b></p>	<p>12</p> <p><b>Ivy League, 9-11 AM</b></p> 
<p>20</p>	<p>14</p> <p><b>Yard Waste Town Council, 7:30 PM</b></p>	<p>15</p> <p><b>Trash</b></p>	<p>16</p> <p><b>Development Overview Committee, 7:30 PM</b></p>	<p>17</p> <p><b>Recycling</b></p>	<p>18</p> <p><b>Trash</b></p>	<p>19</p> <p><b>Qigong &amp; Tai Chi Lessons, 8-9:30</b></p> 
<p>27</p>	<p>21</p> <p><b>Yard Waste</b></p>	<p>22</p> <p><b>Trash</b></p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p> <p><b>Recycling</b></p>	<p>25</p> <p><b>Town Holiday</b>  Town Hall closed, no shuttle service, no waste pick up</p>	<p>26</p> 
	<p>28</p> <p><b>Yard Waste</b></p>	<p>29</p> <p><b>Trash</b></p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p> <p><b>Recycling</b></p>	<p>January 1</p> <p><b>Town Holiday</b>  Town Hall closed, no shuttle service, no waste pick up</p>	<p>2</p>



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

**Presorted Standard**  
**US Postage**  
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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	202-531-5347
4	Linda Verrill	301-927-6743
5	David Caskey	301 699-8785
6	Michael Cron	301-277-4718
7	Roy Alvarez	301-779-6746

**NEWSLETTER**

The December newsletter deadline is Saturday, December 5. 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 ww.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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