

Town Hall
Upper Marlboro, Maryland



Board of Town Commissioners

Steve Sonnett, President
Joe Hourclé, Jim Storey

THE TOWN HALL IS OPEN WEEKDAYS

Monday–Friday: 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Contact Town Hall at:
(office) 301-627-6905
(fax) 301-627-2080

(e-mail) info@uppermarlboromd.gov
(cable channel) Verizon 19
OR VISIT US ONLINE AT:
www.uppermarlboromd.gov

Town of Upper Marlboro
14211 School Lane
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772

Mosquito Spraying has begun!

Testing has just started and spraying will take place, if needed, on Monday evenings through the summer

Foreclosure Prevention Workshop

Saturday, June 9th 9:00 am–3:00 pm

Learn the new Rules—Find a Housing Counselor

Wayne K Curry Sports & Learning Complex • Landover, MD 20785

Register online at: www.mdhope.org or call: 1-877-462-7555

Welcome to Landings . . .

A monthly newsletter from the Town of Upper Marlboro



A Monthly Newsletter from the Town of Upper Marlboro

June, 2012 vol. 7 no. 6

Next Town Meeting: June 5th at 7:30 pm

ON THE AGENDA . . .

The main item on the agenda is the adoption of the Town's Fiscal Year 2013 Budget. The total FY13 Budget introduced at the April 10th meeting was \$914,408. The total budget to be proposed for adoption at the June 5th meeting is now \$901,051. The "introduced" budget had overstated the Town's cost for employee health insurance by including the employee's contribution. Faced with a 36% increase in health insurance premiums, we have revised the Town's employee health insurance benefit and changed the offered health insurance plans. Under the new health insurance, plans rates will drop 34% for the HMO plan and 28% for the PPO plan when compared with the rate increase of 36% under the current plans. Under the Town's revised employee's health benefit, the Town's contribution will increase from \$600 per month to \$654 for the HMO, and to \$737 for the PPO.

Several other minor revenue and expenditures changes have also been made. There will be no change in the Town's tax rates. The Board will also be making final year-end adjustments to the FY2012 Detailed Budget.

The Town's "assessment of cable television needs", which will be used in negotiating a new Comcast franchise agreement, is due on June 7th and the Board will be soliciting your input during the next meeting. Also, developments concerning new sidewalks and the Old Elementary Schools will also be discussed.

Did You Know?

— OUR TOWN'S RICH HISTORY —

Of Mobile Homes and Newspapers ...

A former historic house in Upper Marlboro (the [Wilson Diggs House](#), c1704) that was located on Water Street next to where the wharf used to be, was moved to Lower Marlboro in the 1970s by Perry Van Vleck. The structure, which actually predates the Town and still exists today, was originally a tavern and then a store during the 1800s before becoming a permanent residence.

Another former historic house in Upper Marlboro (the [Ridgely House](#), c1790) was located on Elm Street near where the round house is today and was also moved to Lower Marlboro by Perry Van Vleck. The house was the residence of George W. Wilson, editor and publisher of the *Marlborough Gazette*. This weekly newspaper, established in 1836, later merged with the *Prince George's Enquirer* in 1925 to become the *Enquirer-Gazette*, which continues to publish and until only recently had offices on Pratt Street.

Notably, on Elm Street at the corner with Old Marlboro Pike is the Turner House, where lived Thomas J. Turner, editor and publisher of the *Planter's Advocate* (and some decades later, *The Prince Georgian*), a weekly newspaper established in 1853. Thankfully, this beautiful historic home remains in Town and is well-cared for today.

The last "mobile home" of note was technically outside of the Town's boundaries (just southwest of Upper Marlboro) but, is included in this writing due to its association with the Kingston estate. The Overseer's House (c1745) was located near Old Crain Highway and Route 4 on the old Bacon Hall Plantation. It was moved to South Osborne Road in 1993 and has been restored as a residence.

—Brian Callicott

Graduation Time • Expect Traffic Delays

The Showplace Arena will be the stage for High School Graduation ceremonies through June 12th. At the direction of the State Police, Water Street (beyond the Route 4 North exit) will be closed at approximately 4:30 pm on the graduation dates listed below.

1 (Fri)	Northeast HS Graduation	9:30 am
1	Broadneck HS Graduation	2:30 pm
1	South River HS Graduation	7:30 pm
3 (Sun)	Al Huda School Graduation	11 am
4 (Mon)	Westlake HS Graduation	9 am
4	Thomas Stone HS Graduation	2 pm
4	McDonough HS Graduation	7 pm
5 (Tue)	Lackey HS Graduation	9 am
5	LaPlata HS Graduation	2 pm
5	Old Mill HS Graduation	7 pm
6 (Wed)	Bladensburg HS Graduation	9:30 am
6	Huntingtown HS Graduation	2:30 pm
6	Patuxent HS Graduation	7:30 pm
7 (Thu)	Annapolis HS Graduation	9:30 am
7	Calvert HS Graduation	2:30 pm
7	Northern HS Graduation	7:30 pm
8 (Fri)	Southern HS Graduation	9:30 am
8	Glen Burnie HS Graduation	2:30 am
11 (Mon)	Meade HS Graduation	9:30 pm
12 (Tue)	Ernest Everett Just MS	7:30 pm

GO WITH THE FLOW

Our County's Department of Environmental Resources and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers are working on a flood study for the Town and conducting field surveys along the Western Branch of the Patuxent River in the month of June. This will require USACE personnel to access each flood-prone property to record elevation data for each structure. Results of this investigation will provide relevant, technical information to better formulate potential solutions.

Formula 2040 Master Plan

Parks + Recreation + YOU = Memorable Experiences

This new initiative by the M-NCPPC, Department of Parks and Recreation, will guide the future of parks and recreation in Prince George's County for approximately the next 30 years. The plan's mission is to determine the right combination of land, facilities and programs that will provide the most satisfying experiences for residents of, and visitors to, Prince George's County.

Voice your opinion in the coming months as the formal master plan and recommendations are finalized. There are several meetings planned for September (dates have yet to be determined). Your input and participation are essential in shaping the future of parks and recreation in Prince George's County. For up-to-date information, visit: www.pgparcs.com/formula2040, or call 301-446-3309.

POLICE REPORT

MAY 2012

Town Citations: 138
State Citations: 20



All In-Town incidents were in the downtown area and not in the residential areas.

In-Town Incidents:

- 1 Vandalism
- 1 Arrest (juvenile)
- 2 Vehicle Impound
- 1 Property Damage
- 1 Warrant

Out-of-Town Incidents:

- 7 Larceny
- 1 Burglary
- 2 Stolen Vehicle

Water Main Rehabilitation Project

This summer, the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC) is undertaking a large scale green initiative program to improve it's sewer system.

There are **4 locations** in Town that will be worked on: **1)** The intersection of Old Marlboro Pike and Old Mill Road, **2)** 5518 Old Crain Highway, **3)** 14507 Elm Street, and **4)** The intersection of Wilson and Rectory Lanes.

These mains have started to show their age and will be rehabilitated by using one of two methods; open cut excavation or lining. Lateral connections from the mains to individual buildings will also be evaluated.

Customers located at the 4 sites scheduled for work will be notified at least 48 hours in advance of the start date. The projects could take anywhere from 1-4 months to complete, and will be conducted during late evening and early morning hours when customer sewage flows are low.

There may also be some night time noise and bright lights associated with the "lining" process. If lateral replacement is required, there will be some unavoidable impact to existing vegetation (i.e. trees, grass and shrubs) and paving (i.e. roadway, sidewalk, driveway apron). All impacted areas will be restored after construction to as close to existing conditions as possible.

If problems develop in the course of the work you can deal directly with the on-site representative, Inspector Njoku at 301-206-4225, or Mr. Dinnis at 301-369-7772 (for after hours concerns, call the WSSC Radio Room at 301-206-4002 and refer to "sewer lining work").

History In the Making

A Public Forum • June 20th
Darnall's Chance House Museum

You are invited to join this ongoing dialogue on the impact of history in your community and the importance of heritage preservation at all levels of civil society. This forum brings together **citizens, preservation advocates, municipal and county government leaders, non-profit organizations** and other **stakeholders** to discuss the impact of heritage issues in the area and the best means for interpreting and honoring that legacy. **What's important?** With the upcoming anniversaries of the War of 1812, the Emancipation Proclamation and post-Civil War reconstruction just around the corner, how should we best focus our energies and limited resources?

The doors open at 6 pm. Program is from 6:30 to 8 pm.
Light refreshments provided. For more information, visit: <http://www.anacostiatrails.org> and click on 'events'

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

*** TOWN MEETING: NEW DATE** Tuesday, June 5th, 7:30 p.m. at the Town Hall. Fiscal Year 2013 Budget.

*** SPECIAL TOWN MEETING: NEW DATE** Tues., June 12th, 9:15am at Town Hall (Work Session canceled)

INDEPENDENCE DAY: Wednesday, July 4th. Town Offices will be closed and will reopen on Thursday, July 5th at 9:00 a.m.

JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION: Saturday, June 16th. 12 Noon to 5:00 p.m. (rain or shine) Watkins Regional Park. This family event features Live Music, Dance Performances, Exhibits, Food, Games, and exciting lectures and workshops on African American genealogy and history. Admission is FREE. Call 301-627-2270 for more info.

SAILABRATION: June 13-19, Baltimore Inner Harbor 1:00- 4:00 p.m. (*National launch of the Bicentennial of the War of 1812 and the writing of the Star Spangled Banner*) FREE tours of 40 Tall Ships & Naval vessels, Blue Angels Airshow. Visit: www.starspangled200.com