

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

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

VETERAN'S DAY (November 11th): Observed on Monday, November 11th. Offices will be closed and will reopen on Tuesday, November 12th at 9:00 am.

TRASH PICK-UP FOR VETERAN'S DAY: Residential Household trash will be picked up on MONDAY November 11th as usual. However, Bulk AND Yard Waste trash will be picked up on TUESDAY, November 12th.

THANKSGIVING DAY WEEKEND: Offices will be closed Thursday and Friday (28th & 29th) and will reopen on Monday, December 2nd at 9:00 am.

NO RECYCLE PICK-UP ALL THANKSGIVING WEEK

Welcome to *Landings* . . .

A monthly newsletter from the Town of Upper Marlboro



A Monthly Newsletter from the Town of Upper Marlboro

November, 2013 vol. 8 no. 10

TOWN ELECTION • JANUARY 6

3 Commissioners to be elected for a 2-year term

deadline to submit your name as a candidate: December 9

POLLS OPEN 1:00–8:00 PM • TOWN HALL

DEADLINE TO REGISTER TO VOTE: DECEMBER 6

*If you are already registered to vote with the County, you are already registered to vote in the Town Election
If you prefer not to be registered to vote in the County, you can still vote in the Town Election by registering at Town Hall
Residents who are registered out-of-state (i.e.; military, etc.) and are at least 18, can register to vote in the Town*

Questions? . . . call the Town Hall at 301-627-6905

Town Hall-iday Party



Make plans now to gather around our holiday tree at Town Hall on **December 8th** at 5:00 p.m. for our annual holiday celebration. This event gets bigger and better every year, so make sure not to miss out on the fun! Bring the whole family to see Santa's arrival by police escort and the lighting of the tree at dusk. There will be **music and caroling** and plenty to **eat and drink**. Santa will have goodies for the kids and hopes you'll want your picture taken with him this year.

Honoring Dr. Beanes' Contribution

On 15 October 2013, the Town of Upper Marlboro was invaded! At approximately 10:30 that morning, a tour bus full of elegantly dressed U. S. Daughters of 1812 pulled into the parking lot of the Old Marlboro Elementary School as part of their annual national convention. The ladies traveled to the gravesite of Dr. William Beanes and his wife, the former Sarah Hawkins Hanson, in order to unveil a new plaque commemorating Dr. Beanes' contributions to the War of 1812. The Town's Historical Committee assisted in



County Executive, Rushern Baker speaks to the crowd that assembled at Dr. William and Sarah Beanes' gravesite for the U.S. Daughters of 1812 plaque dedication ceremony on October 15th.

(continued on next page)

NEXT Historical Committee MEETING

Quarterly Meeting & Archiving Session

Saturday, November 23 • 9:00–11:00 a.m.

Town and area residents are urged to bring in items of local historical significance to be scanned for the Town's archives. Oral histories can also be conducted or scheduled for a later date. Meeting is open to the public.

Dr. Beanes *(continued from first page)*

the coordination and logistics for the event which was well attended by over 75 guests.

Born near Upper Marlborough in 1749, Dr. Beanes provided medical care to soldiers during the Revolutionary War following the battles of Lexington, Concord, and Saratoga. Upon his return to Upper Marlborough, he became the owner of a mill in the town and continued to practice medicine. However, he reached the apex of his fame following an incident during one of two occupations of Upper Marlborough by the redcoats.

After the British landed troops in Benedict in August 1814, they marched through Upper Marlborough (Aug 22). When they reached the town they realized that, except for the presence of Dr. Beanes, it was largely deserted. The British Commander decided to use Dr. Beanes' home, then located on the hilltop near his gravesite, as the his headquarters for the night. Because Beanes chose not to fight against the occupation of his home, he was believed to be sympathetic to the British cause.

On August 27, 1814, following the burning of Washington, D.C., British troops retreated through Upper Marlborough. After a few British stragglers were found looting properties of Upper Marlborough citizens, Dr. Beanes joined several other notable residents and arrested the trouble makers. When the British learned of the incident, they returned to Upper Marlborough and took three Americans hostage (one of them being Dr. Beanes) and threatened to destroy the town if their soldiers were not returned. Eventually, two of the American hostages were released, except Beanes, who was taken to a ship in the Chesapeake Bay.

After his arrest, one of Dr. Beanes' friends enlisted the assistance of Frances Scott Key, a lawyer, and John Stuart Skinner, a U.S. Prisoner Exchange Agent, to broker for his release. Following the negotiations with the British, Key, Skinner and Beanes remained aboard a British warship throughout the bombardment of Fort McHenry, not knowing who was winning the battle. At daybreak, Key, Skinner and Beanes witnessed the American flag still waving over the battered fort, inspiring Key to pen the words of the now famous *Star-Spangled Banner*.

The Town of Upper Marlboro Historical Committee was happy to assist the U.S. Daughters of 1812 in holding the event and in drawing attention to Dr. Beanes and our town's unique and rich history. Many thanks to Susan Reidy for coordinating the cleanup of the gravesite and to Patti Skews, Brian Callicott and Joe Plenzler for coordinating the seating, set-up and press release!

—Kate Germano/ Chair, TUMHC



We would like to welcome aboard Antwan Lewis to the Town Police Department, as our new full-time police officer. Antwan comes to us from Forest Heights with six years experience serving the community. He says he loves the Town, and we consider the addition of Officer Lewis to our team to be a great asset to the Town.

On the Agenda . . .

At our next Town Meeting Tuesday night, our new police officer, Antwan Lewis, will formally take his oath of office. Also on the agenda is the approval of the Town's fiscal year 2013 audit. As required by State law, the Town has contracted for and received an independent audit of the Town's fiscal year 2013. The Board will be reviewing the highlights of that audit.

This is "Municipal Government Works!" month in Maryland (MGW). At the November 12th meeting the Board will enact a proclamation declaring November as "Municipal Government Works!" month in the Town. During the month, Town Hall will be flying the MGW flag in place of the County flag.

The County has printed and sent out for comments "Plan Prince George's 2035", its proposed update to the County's General Plan. There will be a briefing and discussion of its contents and discussion of the Town's proposed comments on this plan.

As usual, there will be reports on events and other Town business, and time for you to bring your ideas and thoughts to the Boards attention.



Report 2013 OCTOBER

Town Citations: 121 • State Citations: 10

In-Town Incidents:

- 1 Stolen Vehicle
- 2 Theft
- 1 Hit & Run
- 1 Property Damage
- 1 Recovered Property
- 2 Vehicle Impound

Out-of-Town Incidents:

- 3 Assault
- 2 Burglary
- 12 Larceny
- 1 Stolen Vehicle

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

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

GINGERBREAD HOUSE CONTEST & SHOW:

Vote on your favorite entries! 12:00 noon–5:00 pm at Darnall's Chance House Museum. Fee: \$1 per person. Call 301-952-8010 for more information. Fri–Sun: Nov 29–Dec 1, Dec 6–8 and Dec 13–15

NATIVE AMERICAN HARVEST CROPS:

Friday, November 15th, 10:15–11:00 a.m. Discover the history of crops of the Native American culture. Reservations required. Resident \$2; Non-Resident \$3 Ages: 5 & up. Old Maryland Farm 301 Watkins Park Dr, Upper Marlboro Call: 301-218-6770 for more info. SMARTlink #1269323

BOARD WORK SESSION: Tuesday, November 26th, 9:15 a.m. at the Town Hall. Meeting is open to the public.

ST. MARY OF THE ASSUMPTION SCHOOL

CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR: Saturday, December 7th, 10 a.m.–4:00 p.m. at 4610 Largo Road Upper Marlboro MD. Call 301-627-4170 for more information.

WINTER'S EVE: Saturday, December 7th, 4–7:00 p.m. at National Colonial Farm 3400 Bryan Point Rd Accokeek 18th Century Seasonal Tour, Caroling, Green Crafters Fair, Warm Treats! \$2 admission, or canned food donation. Call 301-283-2113 for more information.