

**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](mailto:info@uppermarlboromd.gov)  
(cable channel) Verizon 19  
OR VISIT US ONLINE AT:  
[www.uppermarlboromd.gov](http://www.uppermarlboromd.gov)

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

**LOOKING GOOD! . . .**

 ur Public Works crew has been busy sprucing up the Town Hall and grounds and it shows! With flowers in bloom, hedges and bushes professionally trimmed and pruned, the place has never looked better! —Thanks!

We also want to thank those residents who have worked with our Public Works personnel as part of the team, to help make the Town look its best. It's clear that we make the most progress when we work together.

Welcome to *Landings* . . .

A monthly newsletter from the Town of Upper Marlboro



A Monthly Newsletter from the Town of Upper Marlboro

September, 2013 vol. 8 no. 8

**Town-wide “Day To Serve”  
Yard Sale & Food Drive**

**D**ay to Serve is a unique annual event that transcends politics and religious differences. It unites people of all faiths, races, cultures, and backgrounds with the shared goal of helping those in need and improving our communities.

The program began in 2012 as a collaboration between the governors of MD, VA, WV and the mayor of DC. By working together, over 14,000 volunteers carried out 750 community service projects, collecting more than 600,000 pounds of food.

Our Town will hold a **Town-Wide Yard Sale at Town Hall on Saturday, September 28th from 8 am to 12 noon.** The set-up fee for those wanting to sell is \$15 and can be paid all or in part with non-perishable food items—all of which we will donate to a local food bank. Set-up time for sellers is 7:00 a.m. Please call (301) 627-4037 for more information.



PHOTO: JOE PLENZLER

**A**t the monthly Town Meeting in August, Senator Mike Miller, President of the State Senate, presented the Town with a photograph of the Robert Crain Highway Dedication Ceremony from 30 September 1922. He shared that he had purchased the photograph at an antiques store and, recognizing its significance to the town, had the panoramic view of the ceremony lovingly restored. The Town of Upper Marlboro Historical Committee plans to display the gift and hopes that it will inspire memories and stories from those town residents who remember the historic event.



**Report 2013  
JULY & AUGUST**

Town Citations: 236 ❖ State Citations: 42

<u>In-Town Incidents:</u>	<u>Out-of-Town Incidents:</u>
3 Property Damage	9 Burglary
3 Warrant	28 Larceny
3 Vehicle Impound	3 Stolen Vehicle
2 Theft	2 Robbery
1 Robbery	1 Assault
1 Vandalism	
2 Accident	

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

**GRAVESITE GETS GROOMED**

**D**r. William and Sarah Beanes' gravesite had seen better days until last month, when masonry restoration and conservation was finally completed. Some minor landscape maintenance was also conducted as part of the agreement between the County's Office of Central Services and the Historic Preservation Section of the Park & Planning Department.

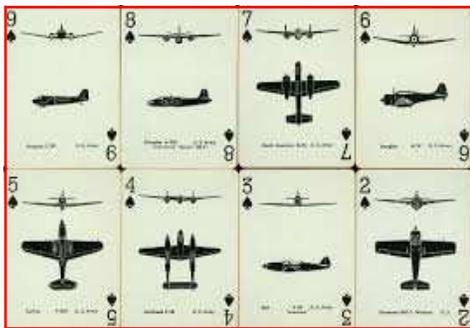


## Upper Marlboro Residents Share Precious Childhood Memories

In July, the Town's Historical Committee (TUMHC) held an Oral History Session with some cherished local residents. During the meeting, guests and committee members discussed what it was like growing up and going to school in Upper Marlboro. The goal was for the committee to capture the memories of the attendees in order to transcribe the interview notes and save them in the online digital archives.

During the meeting, guests shared memories about Uncle Charlie, who owned a candy store just across from the elementary school. Mrs. Rose Pumphrey Hoffman also shared her recollections of attending the May Day celebration as a second grader. Apparently, May Day was a big deal for all of the county's second graders, who all attended a special event at the University of Maryland. Rose also talked about what it was like to attend dances at the local schools on Friday nights, stating that she attended her first dance when she was 13 years old, and that the girls had to dress up for the events in their best Sunday dresses. In those days, Rose recalled, it was frowned upon for women to wear pants.

Mr. Ghiselin Sasser shared some especially entertaining stories of his boyhood in Upper Marlboro. In the late 1930s after Hitler's rise to power, young Ghiselin, who wanted to be a boy scout,



World War II Plane Spotting playing cards, courtesy [www.thechildrenswar.blogspot.com](http://www.thechildrenswar.blogspot.com)

signed up to be an airplane spotter. At the time, plane spotting was a popular hobby, and one that made kids feel that they were contributing to the national defense (comic books provided playing cards and charts to help distinguish the enemy aircraft from the friendly kind). So, he joined a friend on the roof of the school, where they were provided a hand crank phone. Soon, they heard the sound of an airplane overhead. Feeling ever so official, they eagerly cranked up the phone to make their report. An adult answered the call and they stated excitedly, "We hear a plane!" The voice at the other end asked, "Direction flying?" They stated officially, "Towards the swimming hole on the Western Branch", the voice then asked, "What kind?" to which he stated, "An airplane." He and his friend were never asked to return.

These kinds of stories are priceless! If you are interested in sharing your own memories of growing up in Upper Marlboro, the Historical Committee would love to see you at the next **Saturday Archiving Session on October 19th**.

—Kate Germano/ Chair, TUMHC

### Historic Preservation Exploration Meeting

On Saturday, 7 September, the Town's Historical Committee will be holding a special meeting to explore possible future involvement in initiatives related to the preservation of several notable landmarks in decline. The meeting will be held at the Town Hall at 9 a.m.

While no policy decisions will be made on Saturday, during the meeting we hope to be able to assess how much local support exists in terms of the preservation of various historic sites in Town. We also plan to discuss what the group may be able to do, to actively influence the historic preservation process with the county and state.

This needs to be a grass roots effort, so please help us pass the word about the meeting and our intent. Hope to see you there!

## On the Agenda

When a disaster occurs in a municipality, other government entities are often called upon to render aid. A classic example of this was when a tornado devastated the Town of La Plata several years ago. In cases where FEMA declares an area a disaster, it not only provides federal funds for the cleanup of the ravaged municipality, but it also helps to reimburse other government groups that had rendered aid. FEMA now requires that there be a Mutual Aid Agreement (MAA) between the parties in order for FEMA to reimburse the aid-giver for its costs. The Maryland Municipal League in conjunction with the Maryland Municipal Attorneys Association have drafted a standard MAA. The agreement does not require the Town to render aid but rather permits reimbursement if it does render aid, as well as, to those who may have rendered aid to the Town. The Board will have the MAA before it for discussion and adoption.

Due to the new Federal health law and our joining the Maryland Local Government Health Cooperative (MLGHC) we have to adopt some new policy statements. While we don't believe the Town will be receiving any Protected Health Information (PHI), the penalties for improper disclosure of PHI are high. Therefore the Board will have before it for adoption, regulations and procedures to insure any PHI is handled properly. The Board will also have before it, expanded policy statements for disability leave, worker's compensation and military leave. While our Employee handbook covers these areas, the statements supplied by MLGHC are more informative especially with reference to the group health plan.

After many setbacks, our Sustainable Communities application should be ready for adoption. The application sets forth the Town's approach to the State's Smart Growth and Green mandate. If approved by the State, the Town and others in the Town will be eligible to apply for loans and grants for improvements to the Town.

We also will be talking about the Town's participation in the "Day To Serve" event planned for September 28th.

### UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

**2013 PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY FAIR:** Thursday—Sunday, September 5–8th . Equestrian Center/The Show Place Arena. Entertainment, rides, attractions and much more! For more info visit: [www.countyfair.org](http://www.countyfair.org). or call: 301-952-7999; TTY 301-952-7998.

**TOWN MEETING:** Tuesday, September 10th, 7:30 p.m. at Town Hall. Open to the public & public comment.

#### AT THE LIBRARY / TEEN ADVISORY BOARD:

We need to hear what you want at the library. Meet friends, have fun, help plan and run events, and EARN VOLUNTEER HOURS. Snacks provided. Ages 13-18. Thursdays, September 12 & October 10, 2013 - 5:30 pm Call: 301-627-9330 for more info.

**WORK SESSION:** Tuesday, September 24th, 9:15 a.m. at Town Hall. Board discussions. Open to the public.

**WISE HIGH SCHOOL HOMECOMING PARADE:** Saturday, Sept. 28th, 10 a.m. to 12 noon—Main Street.

**TRINITY CHURCH ANNUAL FALL FESTIVAL:** Saturday, Sept. 28th, 2:00–7:00 pm. Ham & Oyster Dinner, Bake Sale, Antiques & Collectables, Silent Auction.

**"DAY TO SERVE" TOWN-WIDE YARD SALE:** Saturday, Sept. 28th, 8 a.m. to 12 noon—Town Hall. Call: 301-627-4037 for more details and to reserve your spot. Also visit the events website at: [www.daytoserve.org/](http://www.daytoserve.org/)

**"OUR STYLISH KIDS" CONSIGNMENT SALE:** Saturday, October 5th, 12 noon—1 pm. at the Marlboro Volunteer Fire Department. Fall/Winter SALE 50% OFF! For more info visit: [www.facebook.com/OurStylishKids](http://www.facebook.com/OurStylishKids)