

**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

Let it Snow!

The Town's new tractor and snow blower will get the job done faster and easier than ever before



Welcome to *Landings* . . .

A monthly newsletter from the Town of Upper Marlboro



A Monthly Newsletter from the Town of Upper Marlboro

January, 2011 vol. 6 no. 1



2010 Town Holiday Party



The Decorating Committee (from left: Lewis Carroll, Ralph Hall, Barbie Sonnett, Ellen Storey and Antwon Harris) prepare for the December 5th celebration.

Top left: Cecelie and Edriene Cuthbert tell Santa what they want for Christmas as they pose for pictures.

Bottom left: Santa thanked the party's hosts, Jim and Ellen Storey, for all the delicious food, wonderful company, and great music.



Parking on Residential Streets When it Snows

During last year's snow storms, we asked residents to park in their driveways and not on the street. This greatly improved our ability to clear the residential streets of snow. This season, we are asking you again not to park on the street when snow is in the forecast. If you do not have room in your driveway, then please park on the **even-numbered side** of the street. It is not only important that we get the streets clear so you can get out, it is most important that emergency services can get to you.

WAR OF 1812 BICENTENNIAL UPDATE

Our Town Clerk will be attending a meeting of the Anacostia Trails Heritage Area (ATHA) on January 13th. As a member of the Governing Board, Mr. Williams plans to lobby for the inclusion of municipalities outside the battlefield sites into the planning process. Of special concern is how William Beanes' grave will be prepared and promoted as a tourist destination site. Accessibility and signage are currently an issue and now is the opportunity to take advantage of the funds available to improve this historic asset.

Below is an invitation from the National Park Service for interested persons to give their input and ideas . . .

The National Park Service and its partner, Chesapeake Conservancy, invite you to attend one of four regional meetings this month. We count on you to share your thoughts about how National Park Service projects impact you.

- Jan. 18 - Watermen's Museum • Yorktown, VA
- Jan. 20 - Susquehanna State Park • Havre de Grace, MD
- Jan. 25 - Kings Landing Park • Huntingtown, MD
- Jan. 27 - Trap Pond State Park • Laurel, DE

Meetings begin at 1:00 pm and end at 4:45 pm. and there is no registration fee.

To register, send your name and contact information to: emahoney@chesapeakeconservancy.org

New Real Property Assessments

Every year, on a rotating basis, the Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation reassesses one third of the taxable real property in the State. This is our year so if you are a property owner in Town you should have received a property reassessment by now. This notice from the State is not a bill but rather the assessed value of the property used by the taxing authorities to apply the appropriate tax rate. Make sure to look it over since there is a time limit on when you can appeal the assessment. If you qualify for the Homestead Tax Credit, make sure that your property assessment reflects that fact.

The Town will not know the impact of the reassessments on the Town's tax revenues until next month. However, since the previous assessment in January 2008, statewide residential values of our reassessment group have decreased 22%, while commercial property values have declined 1%. Within our group in Prince George's County, residential values have declined 35% while commercial values have increased 0.7% .



POLICE REPORT
DECEMBER 2010

Town Citations: 141
State Citations: 34

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

In-Town Incidents:

- 1 Theft
- 2 Recovered Vehicle
- 5 Vehicle Impound
- 1 Warrant Service

Out-of-Town Incidents:

- 7 Burglary
- 13 Theft
- 1 Assault
- 1 Auto Theft
- 4 Robbery
- 1 Car-Jack
- 1 Vandalism

New Addition to Town Hall

The current budget has some funds allocated for exploring the idea of building an addition to Town Hall. In order to start the discussion of what could be included in the new addition to Town Hall, I offer the following ideas based on my experience of working at Town Hall for the last three years.

- New Board Room to accommodate 100–150 people. To be designed as a multiple-purpose room that can be used for a variety of events and is also wired for broadcasting. The current Board Room has a rated capacity of only 50 people and was overcrowded at recent events. The current board room could then be used as office space for the Police Department
- Locker Room with bathroom and shower for Police Department, Public Works and Staff
- Break Room with small kitchen
- Storage Area(s)
- Small Conference Room
- Emergency Power
- Connected to Town Hall in a way that the current structure would be only for administrative offices.

A few citizens have expressed an interest in working on this project. In time, we will set up a formal committee. If you are interested in participating, please give us a call.

—Steve Sonnett

National Historic Register Nomination

We have forwarded to Park and Planning several questions raised by citizens and staff concerning the National Historic Register Nomination for part of the residential area of the Town. When we get a response, the Board will set up one or more public presentations. The time and date will be published in the Landings newsletter as well as the Town's website and letters will be sent to the properties included in the proposed District. If you have a preference that a meeting be scheduled for a weekend please let us know.

If the Board decides to sponsor the Nomination it will be sent to the County's Historic Preservation Commission for a public hearing. If approved, the nomination will then be forwarded to the State for review and then to the National Park Service.

Several people have expressed reservations about the Nomination because they were concerned that it would impose restrictions on what they could do with their property. I have reviewed the Federal regulations and found that the National Historic Register designation imposes no restrictions on the use of the property.

—Steve Sonnett

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

TOWN MEETING: Tuesday, January 11th, 7:30 p.m. at the Town Hall.

WORK SESSION: Tuesday, January 25th, 9:15 p.m. at the Town Hall.

DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR'S BIRTHDAY: Monday, January 17th. Town offices will be closed and will reopen Tuesday, January 18th at 9:00 a.m.

TRASH PICK-UP SCHEDULE FOR M.L.K. DAY Residential trash WILL BE picked up as usual on Monday. BUT, Bulk & Yard Waste will be picked-up on Tuesday.

PRESIDENT'S DAY: Monday, Feb. 21st. Offices will be closed and will reopen Tuesday, Feb. 22nd at 9:00 a.m.