

A Monthly Newsletter from the Town of Upper Marlboro

January, 2017 vol. 12 no. 1

# Town Hall-iday Party A Hit !

t was a terrific get-together for the Holiday Season. Town residents enjoyed holiday music and a great menu put together by Ellen Storey that included 2 Soups (clam chowder & tomato bisque), Sandwiches, Fruit Salad, Veggies & Dips, Amish Chicken, Belgian Chocolate Cookies and Punch. All the kids got a special gift-bag directly from Santa himself, who dropped in by Police Escort at sunset. The kids also loved the creative activities that were organized and led by Historical Committee Chair, Patti Skews and Commissioner Linda Pennoyer. Patti and Linda later joined Ellen Storey for some caroling.



## TOWN HALL

14211 School Lane Upper Marlboro Maryland 20772



THE BOARD OF TOWN COMMISSIONERS President James Storey Commissioner Nancy Clagett; Commissioner Linda Pennoyer

> <u>OFFICE HOURS</u> Monday–Friday: 9 am – 5 pm

## CONTACT TOWN HALL

(office) 301-627-6905 (fax) 301-627-2080 (e-mail) info@uppermarlboromd.gov (cable access channel) Verizon 19

(on the web) www.uppermarlboromd.gov





Above: Commissioners Nancy Clagett and Linda Pennoyer assist Upper Marlboro's aspiring young artists as they make "Mini-Gingerbread Houses" and "Snow-Globe" Tree Ornaments (pictured at right).

Tony Storey gets the word from Santa that he made the "Good" list.





Download the free Ready Virginia app for alerts and more information.

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**Snow Removal Ops:** 

hen vehicles are left on the street, it not only slows down our snow removal process, it also prevents us from plowing curb to curb (which enables twoway traffic and better access for emergency equipment, mail delivery, etc.)

If you leave your car on the street, we have no alternative but to push the snow up close to it, which means you'll have more shoveling to do. Also, being parked on the street before and during winter storms, your car will get sprayed with salt, and you run the risk of other vehicles hitting your car. If you truly have no more room in your driveway, we ask that you park your car on the **ODD**-numbered side of the street until the even numbered side is cleared—then re-park across the street. NOTE: Our crews come through 2 or 3 times before they finish plowing and treating.

As a community, and for the common good, let's just agree **NOT** to park on the street when snow is predicted. If we cannot accomplish this goal, then the only alternative will be the Big Brother approach, which means enacting new laws, ticketing, towing and overall increased costs for everyone. We hope that you will discuss this issue with your neighbors who may not be signed up to receive our monthly town newsletter. This is not just a notice about safety or a suggestion for the convenience of others, but rather, a quality of life issue that every one of our residents should be concerned about.



# If there is a forecast for snow, follow these guidelines:

- Please move all vehicles off Town streets to allow the plows (and emergency vehicles) better access.
- Ensure you have enough food & water in case you get stuck.
- Check on you're neighbors! Volunteer to shovel out an elderly or disabled neighbor's driveway for them.

We would like to thank our Public Works staff in advance for the hard work they put into cleaning both the streets and sidewalks of snow and ice!





## Town Receives Third Community Legacy Grant Award for Downtown Façade Improvements

e are pleased to announce that The Town of Upper Marlboro has been awarded **\$50,000** by the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development's Community Legacy Program for fiscal year 2017—an increase of \$15K from previous year's awards. The Town has been working with the M–NCPPC Community



Planning Division to revitalize the downtown area though facade improvements, pedestrian safety improvements, and several other projects and these funds will enable us to continue this program. Almost \$3.5 million in awards went to 49 projects in 18 counties. The total allocation awarded to projects within Prince Georges County was \$940 thousand. local governments . . . with essential funding and gap financing for important projects that will strengthen local communities, supporting housing and homeownership goals and attracting and retaining buside improving commercial fatreetscaping activities, renovating

ENVIRONMEN

According to the State

website "The Community

Legacy program provides

nesses. Projects include improving commercial facades, greening and streetscaping activities, renovating historic buildings for conversion into service or community centers, and rehabilitating blighted properties in downtown areas. It is one of Maryland's most effective programs for promoting neighborhood revitalization, affordable housing, tourism, and economic growth."

**Beginning December 26, 2016 through January 30, 2017**, residents with Yard Waste Collection may place their undecorated, unbagged, live Christmas trees at the curb by 6:30 a.m. on their regularly scheduled yard waste collection day.

Residents may also bring unadorned trees, free of charge, to the following locations for recycling:

BROWN STATION ROAD PUBLIC CONVENIENCE CENTER

The Prince George's County Department of the Environment is making it easy for residents to recycle cut Christmas trees (no artificial trees) by offering convenient drop-off locations and curbside pick up.

3501 Brown Station Road Upper Marlboro, Maryland Monday through Saturday, 7 a.m. – 6 p.m.

#### For more information, please call





SOURCE REDUCTION TIP: Save bows, paper and boxes for future gift wrapping!

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY YARD

Upper Marlboro, Maryland (follow Maude Savoy

Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

WASTE COMPOSTING FACILITY

6550 SE Crain Highway

Brown Road to the facility)

\*Please remove all plastic bags, tinsel and decorations. No artificial trees

he Board of Town Commissioners will hold L their monthly Town Meeting on Tuesday January 10, 2017 starting at 7:30 p.m. at the Town that include: 1.) The Elm Street Repaving & Sidewalk Improvement Project; 2.) The Town Hall Addition & Renovation Project; 3.) The Water Street

Hall, 14211 School Lane, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772.



With no business items or legislation up for the Board to vote on, the meeting will primarily consist of reports and updates on various Town projects

provement Program project(s). All meetings of the Board are open to the public and time is allotted for public participation and comment.

# The End of the Line

Water Street Bus Stop Becomes History



he County's Department of Public Works & Transportation made a decision to remove the Water Street bus stop, located across from the 7-11 convenience store. As of Monday, January 23, 2017, this bus stop will longer be active for boarding and drop offs for "The Bus". Passengers can still access transit services on Judges Drive at the Courthouse Circle and on Elm Street near Governor Oden Bowie Drive. DPW&T posted public notices at the Water



Street bus stop to provide their patrons with sufficient notification about the change. By Friday, January 20th, the bus shelter will be removed and the bus stop sign will be removed from the Water Street bus stop. In the meantime, DPW&T will continue to work with the SHA and the M-NCPPC on their pedestrian improvement projects on Water Street, including

moving the Water Street crosswalk further down towards Judges Drive. Since this bus stop has posed major safety issues for quite some time, the Board of Town Commissioners applaud DPW&T's decision.



ur sincerest gratitude to the members of the Forest Garden Club for their generous contribution to the beautification of our Town.

Bus Stop; and, 4.)

The Façade Im-

We especially want to thank them for the beautiful holiday wreathes that were made for our Town Hall, the Robert Crain Highway Monument and the Albert M. Cahn Memorial. We also very much enjoyed working with Forest Garden Club members Nancy Clagett, Mary Benson, Rhea Clagett, Maggie Sliker and Joan Walker on this and other decorative projects throughout this past year as well. Many Forest Garden Club members live outside of the Town limits, and so we consider ourselves very fortunate that they have chosen us to showcase their talents, and that they honor our Town as their own.

## CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT December 2016

Hazardous Situation (vacant property) -1Trash / Litter (commercial) -1Rental Property (permitting Issue) -1

In 2017, the Town will expand its Code Enforcement Program by identifying & tracking both Vacant & Rental housing units within the Town, as well as, developing a 'Commercial Property Standards" Ordinance.

### **UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER**

## AT THE LIBRARY (Upper Marlboro Branch):

**READY 2 READ STORYTIME:** Monday January 9th, 23rd & 30th; 11:15 a.m.–11:45 a.m. (ages 3–5). Bring your preschooler and join us for stories, songs, finger plays and more!



**TOWN MEETING:** Tuesday, January 10, 2017 at 7:30 p.m. at Town Hall. All Town Meeting are open to public participation.

MARLBORO FOOD BANK: Wednesday, January 11, 2017 —Volunteers needed to unload food bank truck at Trinity Church —14515 Church Street. Call: 301-627-2636 for more information.

**RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE:** Tuesday, January 12, 2016 at Trinity Church, 14515 Church Street, 1–6:30 p.m. Call: 1+800-733-2767 to schedule donation.

**TOWN CERT MEETING:** Saturday, January 14, 2017 at 9 a.m. at Town Hall. Meeting is open to public.

**TOWN OFFICES CLOSED:** Monday, January 16, in observance of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr's Birthday. Town Offices will reopen on Tuesday, Jan 17 at 9 a.m.



not in the residential areas—unless indicated with an

TRASH WILL BE PICKED-UP on MLK DAY: January 16 <u>HOUSEHOLD TRASH ONLY</u>. However, YARD WASTE & BULK TRASH will be picked up on the following day on Tuesday, January 17.

## The Town of Upper Marlboro HISTORICAL COMMITTEE

## Archiving Session Saturday, January 21 starting at 10:00 a.m.

R esidents of the Town and surrounding area are encouraged to bring items of historical interest (such as letters, drawings & photos) to be scanned for the <u>Town's Archives</u>. Contributors will receive a copy of the scans free of charge. Visit the TUMHC on their website at: <u>www.tumhc.com/</u>

The TUMHC is always looking for new members and volunteers to help out with events, research and archiving our Town's rich history—<u>And, you do not have to</u> be a researcher or a historian to join in on the fun!

#### **BOARD of Commissioners WORK SESSION:**

Tuesday, January 24, starting at 9:15 a.m. at the Town Hall. Board discussions — Work Sessions are open to the public, however, public participation is at the Board's discretion.

#### **BURNS NIGHT SUPPER-DARNELL'S**

**<u>CHANCE</u>**: Saturday, January 28, 2017, 6-8 p.m. You don't have to be Scottish to enjoy our Burns Night Supper, just come for a smashing good time! Dine and experience the atmosphere and flavor of one of Scotland's oldest and most cherished traditions. Celebrate the life and works of Robert Burns, Scotland's National Poet. Program includes dinner, music, poetry, bagpipes, history and fun! *Reservation & payment required in advance*. For more information call: 301-952 -8010; TTY 301-699-2544.

HOME BUYING & SELLING SEMINAR: (1 hour) Saturday, February 4, 2017 –10:00 a.m. at Town Hall. Join Town resident Tonga Turner as she provides public information regarding the current real estate market, mortgage loans, property values and answers to Frequently Asked Questions residents may have. FREE.