Letter From the Mayor

The month of February has been designated as African-American history month. In 1926 Dr. Carter G. Woodson, an outstanding person during that period, who was intensely dedicated to spreading knowledge of the contributions of African Americans to society; initiated the February observance of Afro-American history week. He chose February for the observance because February 12th was Abraham Lincoln's birthday and February 14th was the accepted birthday of Frederick Douglass, a leader in the abolitionist movement and among other things a U.S. government ambassador. By the 1970's African-American history week expanded to become African-American history month.

The following are some of the items invented by African-Americans that play an important role in our society.

Air Conditioning Unit- Frederick Jones
Almanac- Benjamin Banneker
Auto Cut-Off Switch- Granville T. Woods
Auto Fishing Devise- G. Cook
Automatic Gear Shift- Richard Spikes
Baby Buggy- W. H. Richardson
Bicycle Frame- L.R. Johnson

Biscuit Cutter- A.P. Ashbourne
Blood Plasma Bag- Charles Drew
Cellular Phone- Henry T. Sampson
Chamber Commode- T. Elkins
Clothes Dryer- G.T. Sampson
Curtain Rod- S.R. Scranton
Curtain Rod Support- William S. Grant
Door Stop- O. Dorsey
Dust Pan- Lawrence P. Ray
Egg Beater- Willie Johnson
Electric Dump- Lewis Latimer
Elevator- Alexander Miles
Eye Protector- P. Johnson
Fire Escape Ladder- J.W. Winters
Folding Bed- L.C. Bailey
Folding Chair- Brody & Sargwar
Fountain Pen- W.B. Purvis
Furniture Caster- O.A. Fisher
Gas Mask- Garrett Morgan
Golf Tee- T. Grant
Guitar- Robert F. Flemming, Jr.
Hair Brush- Lydia O. Newman
Hand Stamp- Walter B. Purvis
Horse Shoe- J. Ricks
Ice Cream Scooper- A.L. Craile
Improv. Sugar Making- Norbet Rillieux
Insect Destroyer Gun- A.C. Richard
Ironing Board- Sarah Boone
Key Chain- F.J. Loudin
Lantern- Michael C. Harvey
Lawn Mower- L.A. Burr
Lemon Squeezer- J. Thomas White
Lock- W.A. Martin
Lubricating Cup- Elijah McCoy
Lunch Pail- James Robinson
Mail Box- Paul L. Downing
Mop- Thomas W. Stewart
Motor- Frederick M. Jones
Peanut Butter- George Washington
Carver
Pencil Sharpener- J.L. Love
Record Player Arm- Joseph H. Dickenson

Town Hall offices will be closed on Monday, February 20th in observance of the President's Day Holiday.
Refrigerator- J. Standard
Riding Saddles- W.D. Davis
Rolling Pin- John W. Reed
Shampoo Headrest - C.O. Bailiff
Spark Plug- Edmond Berger
Stethoscope- Imhotep
Stove- T.A. Carrington
Straightening Comb- Madam C.J. Walker
Street Sweeper- Charles B. Brooks
Phone Transmitter- Granville T. Woods
Thermostat Control- Frederick M. Jones
Traffic Light- Garrett Morgan
Tricycle- M.A. Cherry
Typewriter- Burridge & Marshman

The Councilmanic District 3 meeting held at the Landover Hills Town Hall on Thursday, January 26, 2006, regarding development at Capital Plaza and Wal-Mart was very successful in terms of community participation. Contrary to what was reported in other media sources, there were more than seventy-two (72) persons in attendance. The presentation by the Nellis Corporation owners of Capital Plaza and the Wal-Mart representatives was very effective in providing information about development plans at Capital Plaza.

Mayor Lee P. Walker

Town Council Calendar

Town Meetings
Tuesday, Feb 21, 2006@ 7:30p
Monday, March 20, 2006@7:30

Council Workshops
Monday, March 6, 2006 @ 7pm
Monday, April 3, 2006 @ 7p.m

Upcoming Events
And the Struggle Continues,
Friday, February 24, 7-9 p.m This year's annual Black History Showcase, hosted by Myklar the Ordinary, features dancing, singing and dramatic and liturgical acts from the metropolitan area. All ages welcome. Fee Public Playhouse, 5445 Landover Road, Cheverly MD 301-277-2124.

The Life of Benjamin Banneker, Tuesday, Feb. 28, 4-5 pm. Actor Bob Smith portrays Benjamin Banneker, an African American born near Baltimore in 1731, who was the son of a slave and a free woman. He became a mathematician, a self taught astronomer, an inventor, and the writer of a yearly almanac. All ages welcome. FREE. South Bowie Community Center, 11717 Pittsfield Lane, Bowie. 301-249-1622

Neighborhood News

Our sympathies are extended to the Chapman family of 70th Avenue on the loss of Kenneth M Chapman, who passed away on January 31, 2006. Kenneth Chapman was the beloved husband of the late Annie L.C. Chapman; father of Loraine Johnson, Lionel Matthew and the late Kelvin Chapman. He is also survived by one sister, one brother, 10 grandchildren; daughters-in-law, Jennifer and Darlene Chapman; son-in-law, Robert Johnson, other relatives and many friends. The Chapman’s are long time residents of Landover Hills and Mr. Chapman will be greatly missed.

Income Tax Information

When filing your income tax forms, please indicate that you reside in the Town of Landover Hills. Your subdivision number 1726, should appear on the forms. This allows the State of Maryland to share local income taxes with local governments. Your efforts will not increase your tax obligations but will ensure that Landover Hills receives its appropriate share.

Cable Channel 71

Channel 71 is temporarily off the air. Once we locate the problem, it will be back up and running!

Snow

Winter is here and already we’ve had our first snow. There are a few things that residents need to remember.

1. The first and most important is to get as many cars as possible off the street, so that the plows can clear as wide a path as possible.

2. On one-way streets all cars should be parked on the right side of the roadway.

3. On all other streets cars should park on the odd side.

4. Keeping cars parked on one side of the road will allow the plows to plow to the curb. Once this plowing is complete, vehicle owners should move their cars to the opposite side of the street so plowing can be completed.

5. When shoveling walkways and driveways, DO NOT throw the snow back into the street. The plows will just come along and pile it back up.

Rest assured we will do our best to keep the streets cleared and ice free. When the plows are out during a snow, please remember that they do not have the maneuverability or stopping ability
of a regular car, so please stay out of their way.

Drive carefully and have a safe winter!

Trash Pick-up Schedule
Tuesdays:
PG County recycling collections.
Town Household waste collection

Wednesdays: Bulk Trash pick-up and yard waste.*

Fridays:
Town Household waste collection

Re-cycling
Any questions or concerns regarding recycling pick-ups in Town should be directed to 301-952-7630.

Yard Waste
Beginning the week of January 15th, yard waste pick-up on Wednesdays will be discontinued until April 15th. From January 15th to April 15th, yard waste will be picked up with regular trash pick-up on Tuesdays and Fridays. Bulk trash will remain on its normal Wednesday schedule.

LH Decals

Have you gotten your LH decal for your vehicles? The decals will be made available to any resident living within the incorporated area of the Town of Landover Hills. The decal will not give you special parking privileges, but it does help the police by indicating that the vehicle belongs to a Landover Hills resident. If your vehicle is ever stolen, this reflective decal will help the vehicle stand out at night for identification by the police.

The decals are absolutely free! All you need to do is to bring all your vehicle registrations to the police department. We ask that you place the decal either on your rear bumper or on your back windshield in the lower left corner. For further information call: 301-773-6400.

The Talking Badge
by Chief Henry Norris

Over the past several months, area police departments have been experiencing an increase in gang related incidents. The area police departments would like to encourage parents and guardians to talk with their children about gangs. This may not be a topic that you think you need to discuss with your child, but we encourage you to do so before we have to. We have enclosed an information sheet which has been provided by the Regional Area Gang Enforcement Task Force. This sheet lists possible warning signs of gang involvement. If you have any questions after reading this insert please call our office at 301-773-6400.

Cold Weather Reminder - please do not leave your car unattended when you are warming it up in the mornings. This is not only illegal, but it is an open invitation to car thieves. Don't forget to keep a simple emergency kit in your trunk. This kit should contain: a flashlight, jumper cables, first aid kit, flares, a bright colored cloth to signal for help, a blanket, small shovel and a bag of kitty litter.

What Should I Do If I Get Pulled Over?
1. Follow the officer's directions.

2. Pull over as soon as possible.
3. Leave the officer enough room to walk up to your car on the shoulder.
4. Put your car in Park.
5. Turn the engine off.
6. Turn on the flashers.
7. Turn off your radio.
8. Roll down your window.
9. Stay in the vehicle unless you are directed to get out.
10. Turn on the interior light.
11. Keep your hands where the officer can see them. Do not look in your glove compartment until you are directed to do so.

Operation Identification
This is a program that has proven to be effective in reducing burglary in communities where it has been properly implemented. To participate in Operation ID you need to do the following three steps: 1) mark all your easily stolen valuables so they can be identified as yours; 2) make a list of your valuables, which should include a description, serial number, or identification markings; 3) display an Operation ID sticker in your windows. The Operation ID sticker tells would be burglars that the items in this house are marked.

If you would like to participate in Operation ID, please call the Landover Hills Police Department at 301-773-6400. We have engraving tools that you may check out for use and an officer can make a security check of your home to assist you with the types of items which should be marked.

Calls to the police department:
If you need the police, and it is an emergency dial 911. If you need to see the police to make a report call 301-333-4000 and a police officer will be dispatched. Our department is dispatched by Prince George's County Police Department radio.