



**TOWN OF MIDDLETOWN**  
7875 Church Street ♦ Middletown, VA 22645  
(540)869-2226 ♦ Fax (540)869-4306  
Volume 7, Issue 1  
January 15, 2015

***From the Mayor***

Charles Harbaugh, IV

I hope everyone had a safe and joyous holiday season. Our Christmas parade on Sunday December 7th was a major hit and the start of another community event for the Town. I look forward to the Christmas parade becoming an annual tradition. Our lovely Town is featured in a new book from the Images of America Series titled, Middletown which comes out Monday, January 19, 2015 and is co-authored by myself and Councilman Jeff Pennington. Please contact me if you would like a copy and I can direct you where to pick one up. I would like to thank town residents for their stories and pictures for the book, including John Owings, Ray Steele, Mary Dicks, Harold Gardenhour, Jr., Nancy Keaton, Helen Lee Fletcher and the Middletown Heritage Society. I'm certain I missed some names in this hastily written newsletter update but Jeff and I are sincerely thankful for the help and support.

Lastly, mark your calendars for my next Town event, The 2nd Annual Heart and Soles 5k, last year over 300 people participated in the inaugural event and this year promises to be bigger! The date for the event is Valentine's Day Saturday, February 14, 2015. Please watch out for runners in our town on that day!

***From the Zoning Administrator***

Fred Wharton

**Town Code section 14-4 Removal of snow from sidewalks**

It shall be unlawful for the occupants of any building and where there is no occupant, for the owner of such vacant building or any unimproved lot or land lying on any street, alley or public place within the town where there is a brick or cement sidewalk, or any other walk so named by the Mayor or Town Council, to permit snow to remain on such a sidewalk longer than 6 hours after the snow has ceased to fall; except, that if the snow shall cease to fall in the night time, it shall be cleaned away by noon the following day. If the occupant or owner of the premises, as the case may be, fails or refuses to clear off the snow after being duly notified, it shall be the duty of the Town Sergeant to cause such pavement or sidewalk to be cleaned at the cost plus 10% to such occupant or owner of the premises. All bills for cleaning ice or snow from pavements are due payable when presented, which shall be in addition to any fine imposed. (10-3-55, ch.17, S 55.)

Penalty – Any persons violating the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and subject to arrest, and upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$25.00 nor more than \$100.00 or the discretion of the court trying the case.

**Town Code section 3-8 Littering**

No person shall allow feces deposited by his/her animal to remain on any public highway, street, sidewalk, part of other public property, or on private property without written consent of the owner thereof or his agent.

Penalty – Any person who knowingly violates this Ordinance shall be guilty of a littering infraction and shall be subject to a fine of not more than \$25.00 per occurrence.

### *From the Treasurer*

Rebecca Layman

- Business License Renewal deadline January 31, 2015.
- Personal Property & Real Estate Tax deadline January 31, 2015. **DMV stops and liens will take place if not paid in full by the deadline.**
- If water service has been disconnected due to non-payment there will be a fee of \$50.00 to turn off and a fee of \$50.00 to turn on for a total of \$100.00. If it is after hours there will be an additional fee of \$50.00.
- Middletown Residents, if you are having contracted work done at your home such as roofing, plumbing, building additions, these are just to name a few; the contractor(s) must obtain a business license from the Town of Middletown.
- The Town of Middletown accepts credit cards (Visa, MasterCard, and Discover) there is no convenience fee at this time.
- If the Town Office receives 3 returned checks from an individual, all further transactions must be paid by debit or credit card, money order, or cash. The return check fee is \$45.00

### *From the Clerk*

Christina Smith

All utility payments are due by the due date indicated and, if late, penalties will be applied. If the bill is not paid in full by the cut-off date, service will be disconnected for non-payment and there will be a \$100.00 cut-off/on fee added to your bill. Only those individuals with bona fide emergencies will be considered on a case-by-case basis for a **one-time** deferment. There will be **no payment arrangements**. If you have any question regarding this policy please contact the Town Office 540-869-2226 ext. 1

### *Middletown Volunteer Fire & Rescue Company*

- The Middletown Volunteer Fire and Rescue Auxiliary will have a **Pancake Breakfast** on Saturday, February 28<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 a.m. until noon at the Fire Hall. Please come out and support your local Fire & Rescue Company!
- **BINGO** is held every Tuesday night at 7 p.m. in the Social Hall. Doors open at 5 p.m. and concessions are sold by the Company Auxiliary.

#### **Announcement:**



The MVFRD is excited to announce our 2015 Miss Middletown Honorary Fire Chief, Miss Audra Smelser. She is the daughter of Heather Smelser and Billy Smelser. She will be crowned at the annual Company banquet, to be held in late January. She will represent the Company in the Miss In-Town Honorary Fire Chief Pageant, part of the Shenandoah Apple Blossom Festival, to be held on March 28. She will ride with the Company in the Firemen's Parade on May 1 and will ride on the Miss In-Town float during the Grand Feature Parade on May 2. She will also attend other local parades with the Company.

## Come Join Our Family!



The Middletown Volunteer Fire and Rescue Company, Inc. will celebrate our 74th year of serving our community in April 2015. We are committed to providing the citizens of Middletown and Frederick County with competent and professional fire, rescue, and emergency services while ensuring the safety, education, and well being of our members. We take pride in our commitment by maintaining our skills, knowledge, and abilities.

We are always looking for new members, especially those who live in Middletown and our first-due area. Our members are everyday people like you: landscapers, students, mechanics, sales clerks, truck drivers, career firefighters and EMTs, high school students, parents, and retirees. Whether it's responding to emergencies, writing grants, helping with fundraisers or assisting with building or vehicle/equipment maintenance...**there's a spot for you in our 'family'.**

### **Requirements:**

- at least 16 years of age
- be fingerprinted and pass a criminal background check
- maintain at least 24 hours of service to the Company per year
- Firefighter and/or EMS training and equipment is provided
- No previous experience is needed
- **Membership for the Auxiliary** – must be at least 16 years of age and pass a criminal background check.

To learn more, you can find the membership application and further information on the Company's website at <http://middletownfire.com/recruitment/> Applications are also available at the station.

### *Middletown Children First Lions Club Upcoming Schedule*

January 13th Tuesday 4:30 p.m. at Middletown Elementary School

January 15th Thursday 6:00 p.m. at Stephens City United Methodist Church

January 22nd Thursday 6:00 p.m. at Middletown Elementary School

February 10th Tuesday 4:30 p.m. at Middletown Elementary School

February 19th Thursday 6:00 p.m. at Stephens City United Methodist Church

February 26th Thursday 6:00 p.m. at Middletown Elementary School

March 10th Tuesday 4:30 p.m. at Middletown Elementary School

March 19th Thursday 6:00 p.m. at Stephens City United Methodist Church

March 26th Thursday 6:00 p.m. at Middletown Elementary School

If you have any questions please call President Linda McCauley 540-869-7333 or Marge Davis 540-869-4809

### *Calendar of Events*

#### **January**

January 16 – Lee-Jackson Day, office closed

January 19 – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, office closed

January 20 – 7:00 p.m. Committee Meeting

January 26 – 7:00 p.m. Planning Commission Meeting

#### **February**

February 2 – 7:00 p.m. Work Session Meeting

February 9 – 7:00 p.m. Town Council Meeting

February 16 – President's Day, office closed

February 17 – 7:00 p.m. Committee Meeting

February 23 – 7:00 p.m. Planning Commission Meeting

#### **March**

March 2 – 7:00 p.m. Work Session Meeting

March 9 – 7:00 p.m. Town Council Meeting

March 17 – 7:00 p.m. Committee Meeting

March 23 – 7:00 p.m. Planning Commission Meeting