



### *From the Mayor*

*Charles H. Harbaugh, IV*

Middletown enjoyed another July 4<sup>th</sup> celebration of our nation's independence. The weather definitely "rained on our parade". It was a decision that no one wanted to make but the rain was not going away so we had to cancel the parade. Fortunately all 5 bands were able to perform in the park as scheduled and the fireworks display was able to go off without a hitch. I would like to thank everyone who supported and/or participated in our 4<sup>th</sup> of July festivities. I would like to thank our Public Works Department for their help in preparing for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July event. I would also like to send a huge thank you to our sponsors, First Bank, Carmeuse, Jim Stutzman, Middletown Courts and Handy Mart. Their donations helped make our event possible. Thank you to the Middletown Police Department for providing traffic control and ensuring that everyone had a safe day.

The Middletown Veterans Memorial is underway. We are all excited about this amazing addition to Middletown's already incredible history. The memorial will honor all service men and women from all military branches who have served or are currently serving our country. For more information about the memorial please feel free to contact the committee chair Ray Steele or the Town office. Bricks can be purchased in honor of your loved one for \$75. Tax deductible contributions can also be made in any denomination if you do not have someone personally that you would like to honor. The forms are available on the Town's website or can be picked up at the Town office.

We have a few more community events coming up in August. The Yard Crawl will be on Saturday August 13, 2016 and our 6<sup>th</sup> annual Car and Truck Show will take place on our historic Main Street in Middletown on Sunday August 21, 2016 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

I hope everyone has a great summer and I look forward to seeing all of you at our upcoming community events.

### *From the Zoning Administrator*

*Fred Wharton*

#### **Town Code Section 6-1**

Residents within the Town corporate limits shall cut, trim and maintain grass growth, weeds and like vegetation at all times, and for any parcel of one acre or less, the maximum height of such grass, weeds, and like vegetation shall **not exceed 10 inches** except for open fields that haven't been developed, they must be cut once a season.

**It shall be unlawful for any person to deposit grass clippings upon the sidewalks and the streets within the corporate limits of the Town of Middletown and not retrieve same.**

Penalty – Any person found in violation of this section shall be issued a ticket and or arrested and upon conviction be fined not less than \$10.00 nor more than \$100.00.

#### **Town Code section 3-8**

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 Chief of Police*

Philip Breeden

There have been several complaints from citizens regarding speeding and not stopping at the stop signs in Town. We have been monitoring these complaints closely and have issued several citations. Please obey the speed limit and STOP at all stop signs to avoid receiving a citation. I hear from folks that my officers should find more important things to do but remember if you are breaking the law, no matter who you are you, will receive a ticket. Speeding in Town is unacceptable as well as not stopping at stop signs. We have citizens out walking or children playing and we all need to slow down and be considerate of those around us.

Cars parked in the wrong direction, facing the flow of traffic will be ticketed as well. We have numerous people that pull in front of the Town office facing the wrong direction. This is against the law and all violators will be ticketed if you are not parked properly. It takes less time to obey the law than it does to break the law.

Once again as a reminder inoperable vehicles or vehicles that are not highway/street legal sitting in yards and/or driveways is prohibited. This is a violation of our Town Code. The vehicle(s) can be determined as abandoned and towed by the Town at the owner's expense. The owner can also be fined for this violation. Please put these vehicles in a garage or behind a hide-a-way fence so they cannot be seen. Remember to be neighborly and keep your property neat and free of clutter.

If you see something, say something! We will be glad to check it out. Together we can keep our community safe. Contact the Middletown Police Department at 540-868-0535. After 5 p.m. contact Frederick County Non Emergency Dispatch 540-662-6162 and request a Middletown officer.

## *From the Maintenance Department*

*Donald Welsh*

We are noticing a lot of water meters that are covered by overgrowth of bushes, grass and other debris. Please make sure that you find the meter on your property and remove all materials that is covering/blocking the meter. This benefits all parties involved in case of an emergency. If your water needs to be cut off at the meter due to a water leak/break and we have to search for a meter that is covered due to over growth there could be that much more property damage that could have been prevented had the meter been visible.

If you notice a street light out please contact the Public Works Department at 540-869-7731. Please provide the following information. Your name, your phone number, the street light address and the pole number if possible. We will then contact Rappahannock Electric regarding the outage.

Yard waste season is here. Please take time to review the guidelines. **We will no longer pick up any yard waste that does not meet the required guidelines.** Yard waste collection will be every Monday, and must be placed curbside by 7:30 a.m. Yard waste consists of grass trimmings and leaves which CANNOT weigh more than 40 lbs. Branches or twigs can be **NO LONGER** than four (4) feet in length and **NO LARGER** than two (2) inches in diameter (per branch or twig) and must be  **tied in bundles**  (no wire or plastic string). Yard waste must be placed in biodegradable or paper yard waste bags only **NO PLASTIC BAGS.** **Yard waste should not be placed curbside until the morning of collection.** Yard waste will not be picked up if bag(s) tear because they have been curbside for days and become rain soaked or wet. Thank you for your continued cooperation.

## *From the Treasurer*

*Rebecca Layman*

- Effective January 1, 2016 there will be a 3% convenience fee for all debit and credit card payments.
- The Town of Middletown accepts Visa, MasterCard, and Discover.
- 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
- The Town cannot accept large amounts of unrolled change. If you must pay in change it has to be rolled in coin wrappers.
- 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.

## *From the Clerk*

*Christina Smith*

Reminder, if you have delinquent personal property tax and a DMV stop has been placed on your registration the stop will not be removed until all delinquent taxes are paid in full. A DMV stop is an additional \$40 that will be added to your balance. Delinquent real estate tax will result in a lien on the property which will not be removed until the delinquent amount is paid in full.

When you buy, trade, sell or dispose of a vehicle you must notify Frederick County 540-665-5681 extension 1. The Town of Middletown receives all billing information from Frederick County therefore they must have the correct information on file in order for the Town of Middletown to bill you correctly.

To all Middletown residents, please update your contact information with the Town office. It is imperative that we are able to contact you in the event of an emergency. If any of your information has changed please take the time to contact the Town office with the updated information.

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 Clerk 540-869-2226 ext. 1

For information regarding the Town of Middletown please visit the Town's website [www.middletownva.gov](http://www.middletownva.gov)

## *Middletown Volunteer Fire & Rescue Company*

The Auxiliary will be selling breakfast and lunch items during Middletown's 6<sup>th</sup> annual Car and Truck Show on August 21, 2016. Come see us in the Social Hall at the fire station!

Mark your calendars for our upcoming Pancake Breakfast on September 24, 2016 and our Fall Turkey and Oyster Supper on October 22, 2016.

Bingo is every Tuesday night at 7 p.m. in the Social Hall. Doors open at 5 p.m. Concessions are sold by the Company Auxiliary. Smoke free facilities.

## *Calendar of Events*

### **July**

July 19 – Committee Meeting 7:00 p.m.

July 25 – Planning Commission Meeting 7:00 p.m.

### **August**

August 1 – Work Session Meeting 7:00 p.m.

August 8 – Town Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.

August 16 – Committee Meeting 7:00 p.m.

August 22 – Planning Commission Meeting 7:00 p.m.

### **September**

September 5 – Labor Day (Town office closed)

September 6 – Work Session Meeting 7:00 p.m.

September 12 – Town Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.

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

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

## **Veterans Memorial Coming to Middletown**

***Our ground breaking ceremony held on July 11, 2016 was a success. We are moving along to build the Veterans Memorial at 8050 South Main Street in Middletown. Design plans are currently being developed.***

***This project will honor ALL Veterans from ALL wars. We hope that it will become a source of education to future generations. This Veterans Memorial is open to all veterans who proudly served our country or who is currently serving our country, not just Middletown Veterans.***

***Fund raising has begun and as soon as the design is finalized site work will begin. If you would like to make a tax deductible contribution or buy a brick to honor a veteran please stop by the Town office and obtain the necessary form. You can also find the form on the Town's website [www.middletownva.gov](http://www.middletownva.gov) Please make checks payable to the "Town of Middletown" with "Veterans Memorial" in the memo line.***

***If you have any questions you may contact Ray Steele, Chairman of the Veterans Memorial Committee 540-869-2430 or stop by the Town office and speak with our office staff.***

***God Bless our Country, God Bless our Veterans and God Bless Middletown.***

