



From the Mayor

Charles H. Harbaugh, IV

Please welcome our newest member to the Town Council, Shayla Rickard. Councilor Rickard proudly joins us and is anxious to take on her new role and continue to serve the community. Shayla previously served on the Planning Commission and is the current Chairman of the Beautification Committee. Welcome Shayla.

If you are looking to enjoy a day outdoors please plan to attend Kite Flying Day on Saturday April 18, 2020 at Cedar Creek Battlefield from 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Bring your own kite or buy one there. This is a free event and guaranteed fun for the whole family. For more information please call 540-869-2064.

I would like to invite the community to Middletown's Annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday April 11, 2020 at 11:00 a.m. in the Middletown Park. The Easter Bunny will visit so parents please be sure to bring your camera. Most importantly do not forget to bring your own Easter basket. The event will be held rain or shine.

From the Police Chief

Gary Benedict Jr.

If you have police matters please do not call the Town office staff. This creates confusion, possible miscommunications and takes up unnecessary time in having an officer respond to the complaint. For all non-emergency police issues please contact the Middletown Police Department directly Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at 540-868-0535. Only leave a voice message at the Middletown Police Department if the return call is for administrative purposes or information only.

All non-life-threatening matters which require an officer please contact Frederick County non-emergency dispatch at 540-662-6162. If you have an emergency please call 911. All calls for service must first go through Frederick County dispatch. Frederick County dispatch will contact the officer/deputy on duty who will be handling the complaint. This will ensure that all calls are handled properly and in an efficient & timely manner.

From the Clerk

Christina Smith

If you have any changes in your contact information please contact the Town office so we can update your record. Telephone numbers are very important to the Town staff in case we need to contact you in the event of an emergency or to discuss your account.

Homeowners please remember if you are having work done at your home please make sure the business has a valid Town of Middletown business license. This helps ensure you are dealing with a legitimate business. And no one should be soliciting business door to door in the town without a Town of Middletown business license.

As always, 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. There will be no payment arrangements. The Town will offer a onetime payment deferment on a case by case basis due to unforeseen circumstances. If you have any question regarding this policy please contact the Town Clerk 540-869-2226 ext. 1

From the Town Manager/Treasurer

Rebecca Layman

Reminder 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.

DMV stops have been issued. If you have not paid your personal property taxes please stop by the Town office before heading to DMV and pay your delinquent taxes so we can remove the stop. There is an additional fee of \$40 to remove the stop. The stop will not be removed until the entire balance is paid in full.

From the Planning & Zoning Administrator

Eric Bittner

As a reminder, permits must be secured through the Town office prior to any work. All renovations to buildings need a zoning permit. All accessory buildings such as sheds and/or outside storage containers also need a zoning permit. When in doubt please call the office and speak with me. 540-869-2226 ext. 4

With spring fast approaching, please take a minute to review the Town's ordinance on grass, weeds or like vegetation as well as littering. When mowing or weeding it is unlawful to leave your grass clippings on the sidewalks and roadways.

Town Code section 6-2 / Duty of owners, etc., of premises - To cut and remove tall grass and weeds.

- a.** It shall be unlawful for any person owning, occupying or having charge of any real estate or an interest therein, located within the corporate limits of the town, where the parcel is one acre or less, to allow grass, weeds, or like vegetation grow on the property to a height of no more than 10 inches.
- b.** Parcels greater in size than one acre that lies within 25 feet of the right of way boundary of a public roadway (except for interstate highways) must also keep the grass, weeds or like vegetation to a height of no more than 10 inches.
- c.** If any owner, occupant or person in charge of such land or interest therein shall fail to have such illegal growth of grass or weeds on his land cut or otherwise removed within 7 days written notice of violation of this section, the town shall have the right to cut or remove such unlawful growth at the expense of the landowner, and such expense may be collected by the town as taxes are levied and collected. In addition, the owner shall pay a penalty of \$50.00 as a fine of this section.
- d.** Each day that any owner, occupant or person in charge of such land or interest shall fail to have such an illegal growth of grass or weeds on his land cut or otherwise removed after the above mentioned 7 days has run shall constitute a separate offense. Subsequent offenses in the same calendar year shall double until the fine reaches \$200.00. The fine per calendar year is capped at \$2000.00.
- e.** This section shall not apply to any land used for agricultural or industrial purposes.

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.

Please remember to be courteous and do your duty as a responsible pet owner and clean up after your pet(s).

From the Public Works Department

Les Morefield

Yard Waste pick-up will begin Monday March 30, 2020. And will end on Monday November 16, 2020. Please take a moment to review the yard waste guidelines. We will no longer pick up any yard waste that does not meet the required guidelines. Yard waste pick-up is every Monday, and must be curbside by 8:00 a.m. Yard waste consists of grass trimmings and leaves which CANNOT weigh more than 40 lbs. per bag. Branches or twigs can be **NO LONGER** than four (4) feet in length and **NO LARGER** than twelve (12) inches in diameter 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. This helps keep the community neat and free of clutter. Please never place the paper bags out in the rain the night before pick up.

We have begun renovations at the town park and the parking lot to help improve the site, please excuse our mess, as we complete these renovations. As always please pick up trash and place it in the trash cans provided around the park. Any problems or concerns at the park please see the contact information which is posted on the bulletin board at the park located near the bathrooms.

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.

Please make sure the water meter in your yard is free and clear at all times. The meter should never be covered or buried by anything. Please make sure the meter is not covered with grass, weeds, bushes, vehicles, boats, trailers, ice, snow etc. This can cause serious problems in the event of an emergency if we are unable to find and/or access the meter. The meter should be visible and most importantly easy to access. Please take the time to make sure the water meter in your yard is accessible at all times and clear from all debris and/or obstructions.

Middletown Veterans Memorial

Raymond Steele

Please save the date for Monday May 25, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. for our Memorial Day Remembrance & Wreath Laying Ceremony. Our guest speaker this year will be Frederick County Sheriff Lenny Millholland.

Remembrance bricks are still available for purchase. For details or to purchase a brick please contact our town office staff. Forms to purchase a brick can also be found on the town website www.middletownva.gov

Middletown Heritage Society

Tess Klimm

The Middletown Heritage Society meets at noon at The Wayside Inn on the second Thursday of the month except January and July. MHS is dedicated to preserving artifacts and stories about Middletown and is excited to have a new museum area in The Wayside Inn. If you have stories to tell or interest in Middletown's history, please come. Any knowledge of our area's past is greatly appreciated.

Our meetings are informal with no need to RSVP as we order off the menu. MHS began as a committee during the town's bicentennial in 1996 and then became a nonprofit, to fund the effort, to achieve the historic district recognition by the Virginia Department of Historic Resources. MHS hosts "Merrimint" in December and other activities. Any questions please call Tess Klimm (540) 247-2211. Hope to see you!~

Middletown Volunteer Fire & Rescue Company

We are looking for photos of the first and second president of the Fire and Rescue Company for a picture project. We are hoping someone can help us find some! The first president was George R. Clark(e), 1942-1944. The second president was Charles L. Wright, 1944-1948. If anyone knows a relative of these men, please contact Lisa Beauchamp (540) 336-3513. If you have a photo that you would like to share with us, please contact Lisa as well.



Pictured above is William and Howard Shull who were the first two Fire Chiefs of the Company (Howard 1944-1955, William 1955-1959).

Congratulations to our Miss Middletown Honorary Fire Chief, Kaitlyn Schraff! She will represent our Company in the Miss In-Town Pageant on March 28, 2020 in the Apple Blossom parades and other local parades in the area.

The Auxiliary will be holding a Pancake & Sausage Breakfast on Saturday, April 18, 2020 from 7:00 a.m. - 11 a.m. at the Fire Hall. The cost is \$7 for adults, and \$4 for children. We hope you will come out and support the Fire and Rescue Company!

Bingo is every Tuesday! There are early bird games, followed by regular Bingo at 7:00 p.m. Concession is available. We have free tea, coffee, and water. A smoking area is provided. And a ATM is available on site.

WE NEED YOU! We need new members for fund raising, EMS, and/or firefighting. Stop by the fire hall and visit to find out more!

Please remember the Open Burn Law. Open burning is only allowed between 4:00 p.m. and 12:00 a.m., per the Department of Forestry. Please visit www.dof.virginia.gov for further details.

Calendar of Events

March

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

March 30 – First day of Yard Waste Pick-Up, curbside 8:00 a.m.

April

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

April 11 – Easter Egg Hunt 11:00 a.m.

April 13 – Town Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.

April 27 – Planning Commission Meeting 7:00 p.m.

April 27 – Spring Clean-Up, curbside 7:00 a.m.

May

May 1 – Apple Blossom – office closing at 12 noon

May 4 – Work Session Meeting 7:00 p.m.

May 11 – Town Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.

For information regarding the Town of Middletown please visit the Town's website at www.middletownva.gov



Kite Flying Day!

FREE and FUN

for the whole family!

Bring your own kite or buy one there.

Cedar Creek Battlefield
Middletown, VA
Saturday, April 18, 2020
10 AM to 3 PM

Hosted by:
**CEDAR CREEK
BATTLEFIELD
FOUNDATION**

Questions: 540-869-2064 or www.CCBF.us

SPRING CLEAN UP

**THE ANNUAL SPRING CLEAN UP WILL BE MONDAY APRIL 27, 2020
ALL ITEMS MUST BE PLACED
CURBSIDE by 7:00 a.m.**

***THE COLLECTED ITEMS MUST BE LANDFILL
ACCEPTABLE ITEMS, INCLUDING FURNITURE***

**IF IT IS NOT LANDFILL
ACCEPTABLE IT WILL
NOT BE PICKED UP**

***EXAMPLES OF NON-ACCEPTABLE ITEMS:
APPLIANCES, TV'S, COMPUTERS,
COMPUTER MONITORS, MICROWAVE OVENS, PAINT, HAZARDOUS
WASTE, TIRES OR
LAWN EQUIPMENT***

**REMINDER:
PLEASE KEEP YARD WASTE SEPARATE.
YARD WASTE SHOULD BE PLACED IN
BIODEGRADABLE OR PAPER YARD WASTE BAGS ONLY
NO PLASTIC BAGS**

Yard waste will be picked up by the Public Works Department. Spring clean-up items will be picked up by our trash service, Evergreen Waste Management. Please keep these items separate to ensure pick up.



New Residents: Welcome to the Town of Middletown

- Water billing is bi-monthly and is due on the 15th of the following months: February, April, June, August, October and December. It is important to pay your bill on time or by the cut-off date. If service is disconnected for nonpayment there is a \$50 cut-off fee and \$50 cut-on fee for a total of \$100.
- Trash service is provided through the town. Trash service is every Wednesday, curbside by 7:00 a.m. You must purchase your own trash can(s). No trash should be placed curbside outside of a trash can. No specific trash can is required. This is for regular household trash only.

Recyclables can be taken to the Frederick County Convenience Center located at 6671 Valley Pike, Middletown, VA 22645. And large items to the Frederick County Landfill located at 280 Landfill Road, Winchester, VA 22602.

- Please report all vehicles, motorcycles and trailers to the Personal Property Division of Frederick County at **540-665-5681 ext. 1**. The town bills real estate and personal property taxes once a year due in December. The county bills taxes twice a year due in June and December. When you buy, sell, trade or dispose of a vehicle please report this information to Frederick County. We receive all real estate and personal property billing information from Frederick County. You will receive tax bills from both the town and the county.
- The town office is opened Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (540)-869-2226
- Forms of payments accepted: check, cash, money order, debit or credit over the phone or in person there is a 3% convenience fee. Visa, Mastercard and Discover are accepted. No online payment at this time.
- Please visit the town's website at www.middletownva.gov for additional information for upcoming events, calendar of meetings, staff and town officials contact information, newsletter etc.
- Town meetings are held on the first, second and fourth Monday of every month. Work Session meetings are held on the first Monday of every month. Town Council meetings are the second Monday of every month. The Planning Commission meetings are the fourth Monday of every month. Every meeting begins at 7:00 p.m. and is held in the Council Chambers located in the town office at 7875 Church Street. Please enter at the rear of the building. The public is welcome at all meetings.