

#### TOWN OF MIDDLETOWN 7875 Church Street ♦ Middletown, VA 22645 (540)869-2226 ♦ Fax (540)869-4306 Volume 8, Issue 3 May 16, 2016

#### From the Mayor

Charles H. Harbaugh, IV

I would like to cordially invite you to our annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration on Monday July 4, 2016. We have a full day of events scheduled and several special guest which will include Miss Virginia Savannah Lane, State Senator Jill Vogel, Congresswoman Barbara Comstock, State Delegate Chris Collins and Sheriff Lenny Millholland are just to name a few. Our annual softball tournament will kick the day off. There will be a full day of games, food, crafts and of course activities for kids of all ages. We will have 2 bands at this year's festivity. Southern Governor known for their dirty guitars, monstrous drumming, deep bass grooves and soulful vocals will start at 1:00 p.m. and the "Award Winning Entertainer" known for his uncanny ability to thrill audiences young and old Robbie Limon at 6:15 p.m. As always both bands will perform in the park at the pavilion. Fireworks will be at dusk and are scheduled to go off around 9:15 p.m.

I am honored to announce that Middletown Fire Department will host this year's parade and the Town will host the "Fun in the Park". Let's all welcome back Megan Bowers as our parade director. Her expertise and knowledge makes for an amazing event. We would like to thank Robin Simon for her hard work and dedication as our parade director for the last 3 years. She will be missed by all. Thank you for your outstanding service to the community Robin. I would also like to thank the 4<sup>th</sup> of July committee Councilor Scott Fink, Councilor Jeff Pennington, Jeffrey Albright, and Tom & Tammy Batcha. We could not pull off such an event without our loyal and dedicated volunteers.

Lastly our 6<sup>th</sup> annual Car and Truck show will be Sunday August 21, 2016 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. I look forward to seeing each and every one of you at our upcoming community events.

## From the Zoning Administrator

Fred Wharton

#### Town Code Section 6-1

Grass season is here. 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

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 help 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

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 and must be <u>tied in bundles</u> (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. 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

When you buy, trade, sell or dispose of a vehicle you must notify Frederick County 540-665-5681 extension 1. The Town of Middletown <u>receives all billing information</u> 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 <u>www.middletownva.gov</u>

# Middletown Volunteer Fire & Rescue Company

The Middletown Volunteer Fire and Rescue Auxiliary will have a Turkey or Oyster Supper on Saturday April 23, 2016 at 4:30 p.m. at the Fire Hall. Dinners are \$15 for adults and \$7 for children under 12. Takeouts will be available. Please come out and support us! Many thanks to all that came out for our Pancake Breakfast on March 5, 2016. We greatly appreciate the support of our citizens!

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

#### May

May 17 – Committee Meeting 7:00 p.m.

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

May 30 – Memorial Day (Town office closed)

# <u>June</u>

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

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

June 21 – Committee Meeting 7:00 p.m.

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

# <u>July</u>

- July 4 Independence Day (Town office closed)
- July 5 Work Session Meeting 7:00 p.m.
- July 11 Town Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.
- July 19 Committee Meeting 7:00 p.m.
- July 25 Planning Commission Meeting 7:00 p.m.



# Veterans Memorial Coming to Middletown

Plans are currently underway to build a Veterans Memorial at 8050 South Main Street in Middletown. Design plans are currently being developed and we are hopeful that we can have a groundbreaking ceremony by late spring/early summer.

This project will honor <u>ALL</u> Veterans from <u>ALL</u> wars. We hope that it will become a source of education to future generations. This Veterans Memorial is open to any veteran who proudly served 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(s). Checks can be made out 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.