

**TOWN OF MIDDLETOWN NEWSLETTER
7875 CHURCH STREET
MIDDLETOWN, VA 22645
(540)869-2226/FAX (540)869-4306
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NOVEMBER 15, 2012**

FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

Charles H. Harbaugh, IV

First and foremost, I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of the voters in the Town of Middletown. I would also like to congratulate all of the elected Town Council Members. I look forward to working with each and every one of these members.

The recent Pyrotechnics display held in Middletown was a huge success with, a great turnout, considering the rather chilly weekend weather. With the Holidays fast approaching, I would like to wish everyone a Safe and Happy Holiday season and a Happy New Year.

FROM THE TOWN TREASURER

Sharon K. Fadely

If the Town Office receives three or more returned checks from an individual, all further transactions will be by money order or cash ONLY. The return check fee has increased from \$30.00 to \$45.00.

This is a reminder that the Town has to **charge a 3% convenience fee for our credit card machine** to offset the fees added on by the card processing company.

This is a reminder that the Town Office will **not** accept large amounts of unrolled change. If you must use change it must be rolled in coin wrappers.

FROM THE MUNICIPAL CLERK

Rebecca Layman

The 2012 Real Estate and Personal property tax bills will be due Wednesday December 5, 2012 by the close of business. To avoid penalties please pay these bills on time. Any delinquent personal property tax bills as of December 10, 2012 will have a registration renewal stop placed on them by the DMV with additional fees.

To all residents of Middletown please update contact information with the Town office staff. Telephone numbers are very important to the Town staff in case we need to contact you for purposes of water leaks.

As a reminder if water service has been disconnected due to non-payment there will be a fee of \$50.00 to turn off and there will be 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.

Reminder to Middletown residents if you will be having contracted work done at your home such as roofers, tree trimmers, plumbers and building additions just to name a few. The contractor needs to obtain a business license from the Town of Middletown.

FROM THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Donald Riffey, Superintendent

The last day for yard waste collection will be Monday November 26, 2012.

Remember, any and all questions pertaining to water, water meters, water leaks, trash collections, road conditions can be answered by calling 869-7731 (fax 869-7734). All billing and payment queries are handled by the Town Office.

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

Fred Wharton

I've noticed driving through Town that many yards brush it would greatly be appreciated. The Town picks up 4' long bundled brush either in disposable paper grass and brush bags or tied up in reasonable bundles. During periods of appropriate weather (not times when dry conditions exist such as now) 4' X 4' piles of bush may be burned once you notify the Middletown Fire Department. (This can be done without a permit) any piles in excess of the above must be done under a permit and inspected.

During the Holidays please practice safe use of electrical extension cords. Use extension cords only temporarily, unless a Ground Fault Interrupter is being used. Use UL approved lighting. Live Christmas trees need to be used for short periods of time and need to be kept watered. Keep them away from heating devices. Please call Fred Wharton should you have further questions 540-869-2226 extension 22.

MIDDLETOWN VOLUNTEER FIRE AND RESCUE

- **Blood Drive**--December 26, 2-7 pm, Social Hall
- **Bingo** is held every Tuesday at 7 pm (doors open at 5 pm) in the Social Hall. **Bingo WILL be on January 1, 2013.**
- **2013 Honorary Fire Chief:** Applications will be available at the station and online (<http://middletownfire.com/HFC.htm>) beginning December 1. Application deadline is January 4 by 5 pm.

We wish to thank the Middletown community for all of their dedicated and continuous support during our Fund Drive and our other fundraisers throughout the year.

We are always looking for new members; whether you want to run emergency calls, help with fundraising or with administrative duties. Applications are available at the station or on the Company's website: www.middletownfire.com/recruitment.htm. Membership requirements are available on the application and the website.

MIDDLETOWN GARDEN CLUB

The Middletown Garden Club's Holiday House Tour will be held on Sunday, December 9, 2012 from noon to 5pm. This year's tour features two of the area's most interesting Victorian homes - Monte Vista in Middletown, and the Gruver-Wright home in Reliance. In addition, ticket holders may visit the historic Hoffman House in Middletown, The Inn at Vauclose Spring, Grace Methodist Church, and St. Thomas Chapel. All guests of our tour will also receive a half-price admission to Belle Grove Plantation for that day. Tickets are \$15.00 and are available at Middletown's Town Hall on Church Street or from Garden Club members. Alternate Snow Date will be December 16. Should you have questions or for additional information please contact one of the Garden Club members: 869-3342 or 869-1805

VALLEY ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Kidz Club meets every Sunday evening from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the church located at 2376 4th Street in Middletown. This is for children ages 4-12. We would like to invite your children to explore the Christian faith as we teach a weekly bible study, play games, and make arts and crafts. For more information on our children's programs please call 540-664-7882.

Middletown Children First Lions club meets at Middletown Elementary School. We have work sessions with 3-5 year olds to prepare them for kindergarten ("Little Lions).We have two one hour sessions per month usually the second Tuesday at 4:30 and the 4th Thursday at 6:00.The school calendar can make the days vary. It's time for "Little Lions" again. We will meet on Thursday, October 25th at 6:00 at Middletown Elementary School in Kindergarten classroom.

We will be working with the 3-5 years old and their parents to prepare the children for kindergarten. Our theme will be leaves; we will read a book or two on leaves, sing songs about falling leaves. We will count, sort and match patterns with leaves. We have a leaf craft and will serve a snack. This is all free and we would like to invite everyone. For questions contact Jean Turner 540-868-8516.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November 20 – 7:00 p.m. Committee Meeting
November 21 – TOWN OFFICES CLOSE AT NOON
November 22 – TOWN OFFICES CLOSED
November 23 – TOWN OFFICES CLOSED
November 26 – 7:30 p.m. Planning Commission Meeting

December 3 – 7:00 p.m. Work Session Meeting
December 9 – 12:00 – 5:00 p.m. Holiday House Tours
December 10 – 7:00 p.m. Town Council Meeting
December 18 – 7:00 p.m. Committee Meeting
December 24 – TOWN OFFICES CLOSED
December 25 – TOWN OFFICES CLOSED

January 1 – TOWN OFFICES CLOSED
January 7 – 7:00 p.m. Work Session Meeting
January 14 – 7:00 p.m. Town Council Meeting