

MAYOR'S CORNER

"Christmas gift suggestions: To your enemy, forgiveness. To an opponent, tolerance. To a friend, your heart. To a customer, service. To all, charity. To every child, a good example. To yourself, respect." - Oren Arnold

The Holiday season is upon us and it's great to ride through town to see all the decorations and lights. It puts a smile on the faces of the young and old and brightens the season. I hope all of you will visit and vote on the decorated Christmas trees at the Shenvalee. They are inside and out so don't be afraid to venture out of your car to get a good look. Remember, all of the proceeds from the voting (any amount, large or small, is appreciated) will be donated to the Food Bank.

It has been brought to my attention that some citizens who attend our Town Council meetings feel the council members have already made their decision on issues prior to the meetings and therefore do not listen to citizen input. Nothing could be further from the truth, yet I can see how it may be perceived that way as we often move fast during council meetings. It is true that the council members are already aware of the issues being brought before them because they have received their council packets and have attended committee meetings. These committees (*Finance and Personnel, Public Works, Public Safety, and Tourism, Economic Development and Historic Preservation*) meet at 6:30p.m., on the first Monday of each month, and are open to the general public. They are usually attended by all the council members who often ask questions and join in the discussion. Therefore, by the time of the scheduled town council meeting the council members have already had an opportunity to discuss and digest the issues and are generally ready to proceed unless, at that time, they hear further discussion from citizens that they feel is pertinent to the issue at hand.

If a citizen wants to stay aware of Council Actions they should:

- Read the issues coming before the committees on the Town Web page (if you do not have a computer, you may use one at the New Market Library). Follow up on the committee actions taken at the meeting on the Town Web site.
- Read the agenda and support materials that are provided for the

Town Council Meeting. These may also be found on Town Web Site.

- Attend the **Town Council meeting (7:30 p.m. - 3rd Monday of each month) at Town Hall.** Citizens may participate in discussion during "Citizens Petitions and Comments", at a public hearing, or during other discussion only if recognized by the Mayor.

If you, as a citizen, have an issue for the Town:

- Contact the Town Manager and discuss the issue. The Mayor and the Town Manager will then decide whether the issue may be handled by staff or needs to go to Council. The Town Manager will then contact the appropriate committee chairman and discuss putting the issue on the agenda for the Committee meeting. You will then be contacted as to the disposition of the issue.
- If the issue is placed on a Committee Agenda, plan to attend the **Town Council Committee meetings (6:30 p.m. - 1st Mon. of each month) at Town Hall.** You may be called upon by the Committee Chairman to comment during discussion of the issue.
- If the issue is sent to the full Council, plan to attend the Council Meeting as you may be asked to comment during discussion on the issue during this meeting also.

Decisions made by your Council must be made in a public forum in line with the Virginia Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), and you by law, as a citizen, have access to all minutes, notes and other information that lead to any decision made by your elected representatives. Your Town Council believes in the spirit of FOIA and operates under its guidelines.

When the people become involved in their government, government becomes more accountable, and our society is stronger, more compassionate, and better prepared for the challenges of the future. - Arnold Schwarzenegger

Give yourself a gift this year, become involved in and with your Town. Have a great Holiday Season!!

JOIN THE FUN HELP FEED THE HUNGRY

Throughout the year, and especially during the holiday season, many of us recognize the fact that we have neighbors in need and question what we can do to help. Some of us are affiliated with civic organizations, churches, school groups, etc. that give us avenues to help. Others of us are not members of these organizations yet we still have the desire to assist our neighbors in need. Here is a chance for everyone to join together, help to the extent we are able and celebrate the season all at the same time.

Several of the local New Market businesses have decided to participate in a Christmas Tree Decorating Contest. The trees will be lit the evening of December 5th immediately following the Tree Lighting Celebration held at the Town Hall at 6:30 pm. After the carols, led by the senior youth group of Reformation Lutheran Church have been sung and the cookies eaten, we will proceed to The Shenvalee to view the business community trees. These trees should be a delight to see, as

they will be creatively decorated to represent the individual businesses. They will be placed in the lobby, the dining rooms, sports bar and on the porch of The Shenvalee, and be on display from December 5th through January 3rd. The public is invited to come by, view the trees and vote for their favorite by placing \$1.00, or whatever you are able to give in the appropriate envelope available in the lobby. You can come by once, twice, or as many times as you wish to enjoy the trees and share the fun with your family and visiting friends. The tree with the most donations wins, and the best part is that ALL DONATIONS FROM EVERY TREE WILL BE GIVEN TO MANOR MEMORIAL METHODIST FOOD BANK.

It is our hope that this will become an annual event so all of us in New Market can help feed the hungry, add some additional joy to the season and brighten New Market in the process.

LIBRARY NEWS

A very special evening is planned at the library for Monday, December 7, 2009 at 7:00 pm to celebrate the first anniversary of the new, New Market Library. The evening will feature a concert by the Shenandoans of the Shenandoah Valley Academy. This will be an opportunity to come together in celebrating a small town's big accomplishment!

The morning of Saturday, December 5th, children are invited to drop in for breakfast with Santa Claus! Santa will be at the library from 10:00 am - 12:00 noon to greet the children. Stories, crafts, and activities will be provided for the children during that time along with a bite of breakfast. Our regular preschool story hour will be December 17, 2009 at 10:00 am and will be another occasion for Christmas fun.

The library has Christmas books for all ages. Stop in soon for some great holiday selections. Following are some new books for December:

For Young Readers: (E - easy, JF - Juvenile Fiction)

The Lost Conspiracy by Frances Hardinge JF

Hook by Ed Young E

Princess Hyacinth: The Surprising Tale of a Girl Who Floated

by Florence Parry Heide E

The Small Adventure of Popeye and Elvis by Barbara O'Connor JF

For Adults:

Merry, Merry Ghost by Carolyn Hart

Kindred in Death by J.D. Robb

The Lacuna by Barbara Kingsolver

Rainwater by Sandra Brown

Ford County by John Grisham

A Quilter's Holiday by Jennifer Chiaverini

No Less Than Victory by Jeff Shaara

A Blue and Gray Christmas

by Joan Medlicott

Wishin' and Hopin' by Wally Lamb

New York by Edward Rutherfurd

Under The Dome by Stephen King

Ice by Linda Howard

The Wrecker by Clive Cussler

I, Alex Cross by James Patterson

Breathless by Dean Koontz

Hollywood Moon by

Joseph Wambaugh

Pirate Latitudes by Michael Crichton

NEW MARKET LIONS CLUB

Our club participated in a Sight and Hearing Mobile Screening Unit activity in October, which screened 379 students at Shenandoah Valley Academy, North Fork Middle School, and Stonewall Jackson High School. 127 of those tested were referred for additional sight and/or hearing evaluation.

We conducted our semi-annual road cleanup project on October 10th. Not only did it improve the roadside appearance along 211 west to the county line, but we also retrieved a drivers license and credit cards. We turned the findings over to the New Market police department who returned the items to a very grateful Broadway resident.

Our broom sale fundraiser at the New Market Community Center Craft Show in October was very profitable. Many visitors to the show expressed their appreciation for our community efforts by purchasing one of our famous brooms.

The month of December will find us participating in a New Years weekend activity at the northbound I-81 rest area that will feature free coffee, cold drinks, and snacks for travelers on their way to or returning from holiday activities. We will be co-hosting the event with the Broadway and Timberville clubs.

A thought for December from our Lions Code of Ethics: TO REMEMBER *that in building my business it is not necessary to tear down another's; to be loyal to my clients or customers and true to myself.*

We welcomed new member George Makely of New Market. Should you have an interest in joining, Membership Chairman Harry Lam (540-740-3977) is the person to contact. Visit Lions International at www.lionsclubs.org.

AMERICAN LEGION NEWS

The American Legion will be hosting a Christmas Craft Show December 5th & 6th at the Legion. Anyone interested in setting up call Tom at 740-4189.

We will also host our annual Christmas parade on Saturday, December 5, 2009 at 2:00 pm. All are encouraged to enter line up at 1:00 pm in front of the Legion. Santa will also visit with children at the Legion following the parade.

The Legion has homemade apple butter available for \$5.00 per quart and \$3.00 per pint. It comes in regular or sugar free varieties. Mmmm... good and makes great Christmas gifts!!

We still have the box at the top of the parking lot for those tattered flags to be disposed of properly.

Our Social Hall is available for rentals. If you're looking for a place to hold that special event, call Tom at 740-4189 for more information.

Anyone interested in joining the Legion call 740-3437; for joining the Ladies Auxiliary call 740-3032; for joining the Sons of Legion call 740-4189.

Our shrimp suppers are held the 3rd Friday of each month and are open to the public.

Remember when enjoying your freedom you can thank a veteran!

NEW MARKET VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

The New Market Volunteer Fire Company has recently been offering various training classes for our members. On October 7th five members took part in a CPR class taught by Dawn Broy of Shenandoah County Fire & Rescue. A LZ (Landing Zone) class was held on October 14th which several members attended. This class was taught by AirCare who did a fantastic job. All of our members are currently trying to attend as many classes as possible in order to sharpen and update their skills.

Hearty congratulations go to firefighter Amos Silvius for completing his class 1, 2, 3 emergency vehicle operator course (EVOC).

Our president, Dale Dodson, is running the administrative side of the department at a full blown pace. At this time of the year things get hectic with bills, taxes and other mundane tasks, but with his leadership and direction he and his staff are getting things done quickly and efficiently.

The New Market Volunteer Fire Company has had a few fundraisers since our last report to the newsletter. On October 24th & 25th, which was Heritage Days weekend, we set up a food stand on Congress St. and raised \$313.00 - thanks to the Rescue Squad who let us use their food trailer. Our annual Ham Potpie dinner on Election Day was a huge success and raised us \$950.02. We appreciate the community coming out and supporting us at these events.

At Halloween we passed out candy to all the children and had a display of pig brains, cow stomachs and other gory goodies to thrill the kiddies.

Upcoming events include our Annual Banquet on December 11th. We plan to have a float in the Christmas parade on December 5th, and Santa will be at the Fire Department to meet the kiddies on December 18th at 7:15 pm. He will have goodies for the kids and hot chocolate will be served. Be sure to bring the children to this fun event.

Fire Chief Matt Hughes reports that for the month of October the NMFD ran the following calls: 8 motor vehicle crashes, 3 automatic fire alarms, 2 structure fires, 2 field fires, 2 vehicle fires and 1 forced entry for a child locked in a vehicle.

The NMFD would again like to thank the community for your continued support which is greatly appreciated.

THE NEW MARKET COMMUNITY CENTER, INC.

The Center wishes to thank everyone for supporting our Craft Show in October. We had a higher than expected turn-out, both in crafters and visitors. Remember to mark your calendars - the 4th weekend in October next year for the Craft Show.

Our annual Fund-Raising Campaign is now underway. Please remember the Community Center as you make your end-of-the-year donations. We depend on your generosity to assist us in keeping the doors open for New Market and the surrounding area. You may mail your tax-exempt donations to the Center at PO Box 1377, New Market, VA 22844. A receipt will be mailed upon request.

In 2010, the RMH Mammography Van will be at the Center on April 9; June 22; September 7; October 12; and November 30. You may call 540-433-4641 or 800-277-1021. Ladies, call and schedule your mammogram and save yourself a trip to Harrisonburg.

Weight Watchers meet at the Center on Tuesday evenings at 6:00 p.m. You may call 800-651-6000 for further information.

Shenandoah Valley Banjo and Fiddle Club will be at the Center at 7:00 pm on Friday nights. Admission is free and refreshments are available for a donation. Their "picking parties" are held at the Center every Friday night from October through June.

Kathy Hurd-Corillo operates a dance studio Monday, Thursday and Friday nights at the Center. Her telephone number is 540-856-2214. New students are welcome.

For rentals at the Center, please contact **Claudia Gray at 540-740-4257**. We rent the cafeteria/kitchen and the gymnasium, as well as the classrooms. Check with us before you book your party elsewhere. We have a family-friendly atmosphere at the Center. Call for rental prices. The cafeteria will comfortably seat 100. For an additional fee, the kitchen is also available.

The Board Members have voted to offer, on a limited basis, space for public-service organizations to hold special events. The Center Board must approve these events in advance. Requests for meeting space are to be mailed to the Center at P.O. Box 1377, New Market, VA 22844. This is offered to assist those organizations needing a large meeting area.

Thank you for your continued support of your Community Center.

NEW MARKET AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The five Shenandoah County Chambers of Commerce will be celebrating "Christmas Along the Old Valley Pike" on December 5, 2009. New Market's theme this year will be "Old Fashioned Candy Christmas". There will be a Christmas Parade at 2:00 pm sponsored by the American Legion. Following the parade Santa will greet the children at the Legion Hall.

Some of the local businesses are sponsoring a Christmas Tree Decorating Contest, representative of and decorated by various businesses in Town. The trees will be on display throughout the month of December at The Shenvalee. You may cast your vote for your favorite tree for a donation of \$1.00. Businesses will pay a \$10.00 entry fee and all proceeds will go to benefit the local food pantry.

The Chamber helped to host the annual Bridgebuilders Scholarship Banquet at Stonewall Jackson High School by taking and selling tickets at the door.

The number of volunteer hours last month at the Chamber was approximately 91.

POLICE BLOTTER

During the month of October the New Market Police Department responded to 462 calls for service. Among them there were 4 physical arrests, 2 DUI's and 2 for being Intoxicated in Public. Officers worked 3 motor vehicle crashes. The Auxiliary Officers volunteered 30 hours for the month.

We are fast approaching the holiday season, a time for people to have gatherings with family and friends. Please look out for your guests if alcohol is served. We don't want anyone to get hurt or killed any time, especially during such a happy time.

Throughout the end of the year the New Market Police Department will be conducting DUI Checkpoints and saturation patrols day and night to help curb people from drinking and driving. If you are going to drink, please be responsible, have a designated driver, call a friend or stay wherever you are. But DON'T DRIVE. Remember the Police will be out in force looking.

The December Neighborhood Watch meeting will be held on December 3, 2009 at 7:00 pm at the Town Hall. Don't forget to come by the Town Hall on December 5th for the Christmas Tree Lighting at 6:30 pm.

NEW MARKET REBELS

Safe at Home: A Season in the Valley, the book that was written about the New Market Rebels is due out in early December. Many of you are Rebel fans and had a chance to meet and talk with author Austin Gisriel as he covered the team this past season. The book will make a great Christmas gift, and the Rebels urge you to keep an eye on their website <http://www.rebelsbaseball.biz> to find out when and how to purchase *Safe at Home: A Season in the Valley*.

NEW MARKET GARDEN CLUB

The New Market Garden Club held its monthly meeting November 16, 2009 in the New Market Seventh-Day Adventist Church Fellowship Hall with the Cohee Garden Club as guests. Hostesses were Marion Jorden and Virginia Thompson.

Gordon Olson, Chief of Resource Management in the Shenandoah National Park presented a very interesting and informative program. Virginia Thompson reported on the Fall Shenandoah District meeting.

Members plan to participate in the National Garden Club "golden days" project for senior garden club members no longer active in the Club.

Other upcoming events include the Annual FCE/New Market Garden Club Christmas party on December 8th with Cohee Garden Club members as our guests. We will also sponsor the New Market Christmas Decorating contest. Homes, churches and businesses within Town limits of New Market are eligible to enter. Judging will begin at 6:30 pm on Thursday, December 17th. Those wishing to register to be judged should call 740-8405 or 740-3941 by Wednesday, December 16, 2009.

Those receiving blue ribbons on horticulture were Caroline White, 1 and Dot Johnson, 3.

FREE CLOTHING

Free clothing for needy people is available on Wednesdays from 8:30 am - 5:00 pm and Thursdays from 8:30 am - Noon at the Seventh Day Adventist Community Services Center located at 62 West Lee Highway. Questions? Call 740-8550.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



December 2009

- | | | |
|--------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| 3 | Neighborhood Watch Meeting
At the Town Hall | 7:00 pm |
| 5 | Christmas parade sponsored by
The American Legion | 2:00 pm |
| 5 | Real Estate & Personal Property
Tax Bills due | |
| 5 | Christmas tree lighting at the Town Hall
along with caroling led by Senior Youth
group from Reformation Lutheran Church | 6:30 pm |
| 7 | Council Committee Meetings in the
Following Order: (1) Finance & Personnel
(2) Public Works (3) Public Safety
(4) Tourism, Economic Development
& Historic Preservation | 6:30 pm

To

7:30 pm |
| 7 | Planning Commission Meeting | 7:30 pm |
| 15 | Water/Sewer Bills due | |
| 21 | Town Council Meeting | 7:30 pm |
| 24 & 25 | Town Office Closed in Observance of
Christmas | |

January 2010

- | | | |
|-----------|---|----------------------------------|
| 1 | Town Office Closed in Observance of New
Years Day | |
| 4 | Council Committee Meetings in the
Following Order: (1) Finance & Personnel
(2) Public Works (3) Public Safety
(4) Tourism, Economic Development
& Historic Preservation | 6:30 pm

To

7:30 pm |
| 4 | Planning Commission Meeting | 7:30 pm |
| 7 | Neighborhood Watch Meeting
At the Town Hall | 7:00 pm |
| 15 | Water/Sewer Bills Due | |
| 15 | Town Office Closed in Observance
Of Lee/Jackson Day | |
| 18 | Town Office Closed in Observance of
Martin Luther King Day | |
| 19 | Town Council Meeting
(This is Tuesday, not Monday) | 7:30 pm |

Town of New Market
Office Hours: Monday-Friday 7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
(540) 740-3432 • www.newmarketvirginia.com
9418 John Sevier Road • P.O. Box 58 • New Market, VA 22844

TOWN COUNCIL

Larry M. Smith, Mayor • John H. Blosser, Vice-Mayor
Harry Durrett • Ripley R. Click • Gary D. Comer • Troy Fadeley • Charles E. Litten
Jason J. Ham, Town Attorney

ADMINISTRATION

Chris Boies <i>Town Manager</i>	Michael Ritchie <i>Public Works Director</i>
Charles Peery <i>Police Chief</i>	Teresa Green <i>Treasurer</i>
Jeanne K. Rinker <i>Town Clerk</i>	Donna Lohr <i>Administrative Assistant</i>
Chad Neese <i>Town Planner/Zoning Administrator</i>	

An Equal Opportunity Community

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