

OUR TOWN

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MAYOR'S CORNER

February 2010

"I was just thinking, if it is really religion with these nudist colonies, they sure must turn atheists in the wintertime." ~Will Rogers

I would have to agree with Will Rogers. So far this winter has lent a new definition to Global Warming. There are however some things that do warm you even if it is only your heart that feels the warmth. One of those things is the fact that the December Christmas Tree Exhibit at the Shenvalee raised \$321.00 for Manor Memorial's "Loaves and Fishes" food bank. Many thanks to the businesses who participated with decorated trees and to all of you who voted with your pocketbooks. Casual Friday's tree won the voting for the best tree but it was the community who came together to help their neighbors in need and the food bank who were the real winners. WAY TO GO!!!

As we huddle in our homes during these cold winter days, there are some very important things going on in town now and in the coming months:

First of all there will be three town council positions coming up for election the 1st Tue. of May. If you would like to run for one of those positions, contact Lisa McDonald, Voter Registrar at 459-6195. Ms. McDonald will tell you how to go about getting your name on the ballot. If you don't want to run, at least mark your calendar and remember to get out and vote. As we found out in the last election, every vote counts.

Equally important is the Town Budget. During these winter months the Town Council, management, staff and the various committees will be working on the 2010 - 2011 Budget. As you know the budget is a planning tool which allows us to look at the funds available and decide how to best allocate these funds to make our town as responsive as possible to the needs of its citizens. Believe me, we welcome as much citizen input into the budgeting process as possible. We have tentatively scheduled a Public Hearing on the fiscal year 10 -11 budget for May 10th, 2010. The draft will be available for public review at both the town office and online prior to the public hearing. Please give us your input on this important task.

As the winter continues, so does the Force Main project with pipe being laid at both ends of Rt. 211. With a little cooperation from the weather the project will stay on schedule and be finished in a timely manner.

We are also continuing with the I&I project (sewer reline or replacement) during this winter season. This should help to control our sewer bills with the decrease in the amount of water seeping into the sewer lines.

Last, but truly not least, the streetscape program is on track to begin early this summer. As February wanes, let our thoughts turn to spring and our gardens

"Probably more pests can be controlled in an armchair in front of a February fire with a garden notebook and a seed catalog than can ever be knocked out in hand-to-hand combat in the garden."

~Neely Turner

SEWER PROJECTS MOVE FORWARD

Despite an early and very active winter season major projects in Town continue to make progress, although maybe not as quick as we all wish they could. The I&I project has moved into the more labor and time intensive sections of the project. The new waterline on Cadet Road has been completed and thousands of feet of sewer line have been relined or replaced. The work on Cadet will continue into the early Spring as crews will install a new sewer line. The wait will be well worth it as the new utilities and repaved roadway will serve this area of Town well. Other areas of Town will also experience further sewer line repairs.

The North Fork Pump Station & Force Main project is up and running at a very fast pace. Three different crews have been working on this project which will allow us to transfer all of the Town's wastewater to the Broadway Regional Plant. One crew has started installing the force main on Route 211 near the Broadway Plant, another crew is doing the same starting on the New Market side near the Shenandoah Valley Academy. The crews will meet somewhere near the middle to connect the two lines. The third crew is working at the existing New Market Wastewater Treatment Plant on the construction of a pump station that is necessary to convey our wastewater through the force main to the Broadway Plant. All of this work is expected to be completed sometime in the Fall of 2010.

It is important while discussing these two projects to discuss rainwater in our sewer conveyance system. One of the main objectives of the I&I project is to repair sewer lines that are allowing rainwater to infiltrate into our sewer lines. This is important because once the Force Main project is complete, the Town will pay Broadway a fee for the treatment of the wastewater we send them. The flows from New Market will be metered and we will pay by the gallon. Thus the more rainwater that gets into our system, the more we will have to pay Broadway. While the I&I project will help reduce these flows significantly, we need your help.

A number of the older homes in Town have sump pumps and roof gutter systems that illegally discharge directly into the Town sewer system. This situation results in clean rainwater having to go through the expensive treatment process that is now required by the Chesapeake Bay Agreement. Once we start sending our wastewater to Broadway, these illegal connections could cost the Town tens of thousands of dollars every year. If you live in one of these homes we ask that you have your illegal connection disconnected immediately. If you are not sure if your connection is legal or not, please contact the Town Office at 740-3432 and someone from our staff will meet with you to inspect your connection.

FOURTH ANNUAL LONGABERGER BASKET BINGO

WHEN: SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2010
Doors Open at 10:00 am • Bingo begins at 11:00 am

WHERE: NEW MARKET RESCUE SQUAD

BENEFITS: FORESTVILLE-QUICKSBURG RURITAN CLUB

TICKETS: \$20 IN ADVANCE/\$25 AT THE DOOR
OVER \$2500 IN BASKETS!!

Raffles, 50/50, Pre-Sale Ticket Drawing, Food!!

HELP US HELP OUR COMMUNITY

For tickets/information contact:

Charlie Haggerty: 540-740-8234

Jennifer Custer: 540-477-9321



BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

FEBRUARY 2010

“THE HOME STORE”

In 1978, Ralph Kokkonen fell in love with New Market and opened a furniture and flooring store on Congress Street. Today, 32 years later, The Home Store remains a family owned and operated retail store, located at 9369 Congress Street.

The Home Store is open Tuesday through Saturday from 9:00 am til 5:00 pm. Appointments are also available for your convenience. The phone number is (540) 740-8855. You will be amazed at the selection you will find right here in your town - living room groups, dinettes, bedroom sets, mattresses, recliners, bookcases, lamps, entertainment stands and a full lineup of flooring to include carpet, vinyl, laminate, hardwood, and ceramic. The Home Store offers a wonderful selection of accessories for your home decorating as well as gifts.

Mark and Karla invite you to stop in and see what's new. You are always welcome to browse in the relaxed, no pressure atmosphere which The Home Store has always provided. Perhaps you've never made it in to the store. Stop by and say hello. You just may be surprised at what's sitting right here in your town. Hope to see you soon at The Home Store!

NEW MARKET FIRE DEPARTMENT

The New Market Fire Department would like to thank all who have given donations and supported us in any way. The members are currently giving our building a makeover. We are painting, replacing tile in the ceiling, and doing an overall cleaning. As soon as the weather breaks we will be going outside and cleaning up around the building, making things look nice for all of the supporters to see that we take pride in our community.

Our Saturday night Bingo games are doing as well as can be expected considering the state of the economy. We open doors at 4:30 pm and the first game starts at 6:30 pm. The Auxiliary is doing very well with food concessions during Bingo. There has been strong support in the way of donations of desserts which are sold at the Bingos. The Auxiliary gave back to the membership by paying the building payment for the month of January. By carefully managing their spending, the Auxiliary is able to help out with the bills when needed. We really appreciate the generosity of our supporters which makes all of this possible.

Our Annual Sportsman Show will take place March 26 - 28, 2010. This is a joint fundraiser with the Rescue Squad to get things started for the Annual Fall Fling. The event begins on Friday, March 26th at 6:00 pm and continues until 9:00 pm. On Saturday and Sunday, March 27th and 28th the hours will be from 9:00 am - 4:00 pm. There will be a raffling of a \$250 Visa Gift Card, door prizes every hour, and food served by the Fire Department Auxiliary. Admission cost is \$5.00 per person. Please come out and enjoy the weekend with us. We appreciate your support.

NEW MARKET LIONS CLUB

Our annual distribution of holiday fruit basket gifts to selected residents in New Market and the surrounding area took place on December 18 - one day earlier than scheduled because of the impending snow storm. That same snow storm caused a cancellation of our club Christmas Party on December 20.

The closing of the I-81 southbound rest area required us to join forces with Broadway and Timberville on New Years weekend and provide free coffee, sodas, milk and donuts for travelers at the northbound rest area.

Now would be a good time to become a Lion. We are gearing up for our summer schedule which will include our annual auction at the Community Park on July 4th. We meet the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month and we would like to have you join us. Call our club secretary at 540-740-4257 for meeting locations and membership information. Visit the Lions International website at www.lionsclubs.org. The New Market Library also has copies of the latest Lions magazine for your enjoyment.

LIBRARY NEWS

The following activities will be taking place at the library in February:

Thursday, February 18th - 10:00 am: Preschool story time. Since February is “Responsible Pet Owner Month”, the theme will be “My Favorite Pets!”. Come enjoy stories about puppies, kittens, and maybe some unusual pets.

Saturday, February 20th - 11:00 am: The Winter Olympics will come to the New Market Library! Children are invited to come for an hour of Olympic fun that will include stories, crafts, indoor ice skating and other activities.

February 26th - 6:30 - 8:30: Friday Family Game Night. Folks of all ages have been enjoying a wide variety of games. Snacks are provided.

State aid to libraries is being cut by 10%. The New Market Area Library continues to operate the library with volunteers. The Edinburg library provides professional library services to New Market through paid staffing which is vital to New Market. Please continue your support of the library. Despite budget cuts, the library has expanded hours, including the addition of Sunday afternoons from 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm. If you have computer skills and would like to give some hours to the library, please call 540-740-8650. As always, donations can be dropped off at the library or sent to P.O. Box 452, New Market, VA 22844.

The library is building its collection of DVD's. We are accepting donations of movies for children and adults that are in good condition.

New Books for February:

Safe at Home, A Season in the Valley
by *Austin Gisriel* (New book about the
New Market Rebels)
The Burning Land by *Bernard Cornwell*
Sizzle by *Julie Garwood*
Noah's Compass by *Anne Tyler*
Not My Daughter by *Barbara Delinsky*
Unfinished Desires by *Gail Godwin*
Impact by *Douglas Preston*

Remarkable Creatures by
Tracy Chevalier
Death of a Valentine by *M.C. Beaton*
A Fair Maiden by *Joyce Carol Oates*
The First Rule by *Robert Crais*
Treasure Hunt by *John Lescroart*
Kisser by *Stuart Woods*
The Wolf at the Door by *Jack Higgins*

AMERICAN LEGION NEWS

We will be starting our famous “Bob Branner” chicken BBQ's the 2nd Saturday in March, so get those appetites ready!

We would like to apologize for cancelling the Christmas Parade. Old man winter didn't cooperate the Saturday we had it scheduled, and scheduling conflicts didn't permit us to reschedule. We are very sorry this happened, but on a positive note, start planning for this year's parade which will be on December 4, 2010 at 2:00 pm with the lineup starting at 1:00 pm. If you know anyone who would like to enter, encourage them to do so.

Plans are being made for our Spring Crafts Show to be held on March 20 & 21, 2010. Mark your calendars now so you can be sure to get those Easter goodies.

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

We would like to thank all those who helped support our Legion activities throughout 2009 and look forward to seeing you this year. We have our home-made apple butter for sale at \$5.00 per quart and \$3.00 per pint. These are available in regular and sugar-free and can be picked up Tuesday - Sunday after 4:00 pm. Or you may call **Tom Wilkins at 740-4189** to make other arrangements for pickup.

The Legion has an upright piano in our social hall which is **free** for the taking. Anyone interested may call Tom Wilkins at the above number.

The social hall at the Legion is available to rent for birthday parties, wedding receptions, parties, or anything for which you need a large room. Just contact Tom Wilkins at the above number.

Remember, our freedom was paid for with a high price, and sometimes even life, so thank a veteran!

VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT

The Town Council is assisted by a number of advisory boards and commissions that perform specific functions for the Town government. The Council makes appointments to these bodies as vacancies arise. A volunteer application is required to be considered for an appointment and is kept by the Town staff for future consideration. If you are interested in serving your Town, volunteer applications are available at the Town Office. There is currently a vacancy on the Planning Commission. The Planning Commission reviews development proposals, ordinance changes, and prepares the Town's Comprehensive Plan. The Commission meets on the first Monday of every month at 7:30 p.m. If you have any questions about this vacancy or any of the other boards and commissions, please feel free to contact Chris Boies at 740-3432.

NEW MARKET AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Chamber's Annual Banquet will be held Thursday March 11, 2010 at the Quality Inn. Our theme this year will be "The Luau." There will be a social hour starting at 6 pm and dinner will be at 7 pm. Tickets are \$25.00 per person and may be purchased by contacting the Chamber office at 540-740-3212 or by mailing your check to the New Market Area Chamber of Commerce, P.O. Box 57, New Market, VA 22844. Remember to cast your vote for Citizen, Business and Organization of the year. During our banquet you will also have the opportunity to bid on one of our many, unique, silent auction items.

Any members who may have a special event coming up, please contact our office and we will be glad to post it on our website www.newmarketcoc.net.

NEW MARKET REBEL UPDATE

The New Market Rotary Charitable Foundation has initiated a fund raising cruise to raise funds to purchase a new field tarp for Rebel Park. This activity is also supported by the Shenandoah Valley Grandstand Managers Club. The current tarp was damaged by a spring hail storm in 2009. The goal is to raise \$7,000 for the tarp and other Rotary community projects. The cruise is a 5 night cruise to Bermuda out of Baltimore with Royal Caribbean Cruise Line on "The Enchantment of the Seas". The cruise is scheduled for September 18, 2010. For more details and/or to make a reservation for this cruise, please contact Larry Strawderman at 540-740-3173 or mobile 540-335-5831, or email Larry at larstraw@shentel.net.

POLICE BLOTTER

In December, the New Market Police Department responded to 477 calls for service. There were 4 physical arrests and 4 DUI's. Officers worked 18 motor vehicle crashes. The Police Department assisted another agency 22 times during December.

The Police Department would like to remind all drivers to make sure their windshields are completely clear before operating their vehicles. Driving while your windshield is covered with snow, ice or frost can be very dangerous to you and other motorists.

With the upcoming events of the Super Bowl and St. Patrick's Day, please remember to have a designated driver or contact a friend to drive you to your destination. During these events, the Police Department will have Officers conducting saturation patrols for intoxicated drivers.

The next New Market Area Neighborhood Watch meeting will be February 4, 2010 at 7:00 pm at the New Market Town Hall. We are looking for topics and suggestions regarding improving our Neighborhood Watch program. Please email Sgt. Rinker at cdrinker@shentel.net or contact Sgt. Rinker at 540-740-3776 with your ideas or suggestions.

If anyone needs to have a Child Safety Seat checked, please call the Police Department at 740-3776.

"Please Remember to Buckle Up".

"Drunk Driving: Over the Limit, Under Arrest".

PAYMENT PROCESSING POLICY

The Town of New Market processes payments on the day they are received. Any payments in the drop box are processed the next business day. Our office processes hundreds of payments a month which makes it difficult to handle any special payment requests. If you are making payment by check, please insure funds are in your bank account when payment is made. **We will not be able to hold your check until a later date.** Any check returned for insufficient funds will be assessed a \$25 returned check fee. If you have any questions, please contact the Town Office at (540)-740-3432.

THE NEW MARKET COMMUNITY CENTER, INC.

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.

Our annual fund-raising letters were mailed in December. We depend on your support to keep the Center open for New Market and the surrounding area. Please mail your tax-exempt donations to the Center at P. O. Box 1377, New Market, VA 22844. A receipt will be mailed upon request.

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 p.m. on Friday nights. Free admission. 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.

VALLEY BASEBALL LEAGUE

The New Market Rebels are proud to announce that President and General Manager Bruce Alger has been elected Executive Vice-President of the Valley Baseball League for 2010.

"I am humbled by my recent election and I look forward to serving with my fellow officers and the Board of Directors as we strive to make a great product even better," said Alger, who will replace outgoing Vice-President Todd Thompson of Winchester.

Ken Newman, General Manager of the Rockbridge Rapids has been elected the new secretary, replacing Linda Keen of Front Royal.

"I am looking forward to following in the footsteps of current and past Valley Baseball League officers and board members," said Newman.

Keen, who has been involved in Valley League Baseball in one capacity or another for 25 years stated that, "the new officers coming in are great people and I think the VBL will go forward in a very positive way."

Alger noted that increased marketing is an important goal for the VBL, in order to, as Keen put it, "create a happening place so that both locals and visitors will want to take in a game."

Dave Biery, will return as President of the VBL, while Jim Phillips of Winchester will return as Treasurer.

All four officers are eagerly looking forward to the start of the 2010 season.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



February 2010

- | | | |
|-----------|---|--------------------------------------|
| 1 | 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 |
| 1 | Planning Commission Meeting | 7:30 pm |
| 4 | Neighborhood Watch Meeting
At the Town Hall | 7:00 pm |
| 15 | Water/Sewer Bills Due | |
| 15 | Town Office Closed in Observance
Of President's Day | |
| 16 | Town Council Meeting (Tuesday) | 7:30 pm |

March 2010

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|-----------|---|--------------------------------------|
| 1 | 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 |
| 1 | Planning Commission Meeting | 7:30 pm |
| 4 | Neighborhood Watch Meeting
At the Town Hall | 7:00 pm |
| 14 | Daylight Savings Time Begins | |
| 15 | Water/Sewer Bills Due | |
| 15 | Town Council Meeting | 7:30 pm |
| 25 | New Market Historical Society Meeting
At the Town Hall | 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> Charles Peery <i>Police Chief</i> Jeanne K. Rinker <i>Town Clerk</i> Chad Neese <i>Town Planner/Zoning Administrator</i>	Michael Ritchie <i>Public Works Director</i> Teresa Green <i>Treasurer</i> Donna Lohr <i>Administrative Assistant</i>
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An Equal Opportunity Community

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