

OUR TOWN

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THE MAYOR'S CORNER And So It Begins

As Thomas Paine said in December of 1776 "These are the times that try men's souls". With the present economic situation facing every American, these words echo true again today.

You may have noticed the survey work has begun for the upcoming wastewater pipeline which will run from New Market's pumping station (the current sewer plant) to Broadway's treatment facility. Preliminary engineering will soon follow with bids to be let as soon as possible in order to meet the contract deadline of September 2010. The Town Government is also working on the finances, and of course the inevitable rise in the water and sewer rates, needed to pay for the project. We will advise you, the citizens, once the final numbers are in place.

In the mean time we should all be thinking "CONSERVATION". My mother always said that it was her generation, the one that lived through the great depression, who were the original conservationists and recyclers. It's time to heed our ancestors' good advice and follow their example. We need to adopt ways of cutting down the amount of wastewater we are sending to Broadway. The less we send, the less we pay.

In early 2009 the Town will begin to repair its aging sewer pipes (Inflow and Infiltration) which will help all of us. As individual households we need to become a part of the solution and not a part of the problem. If remodeling, you may want to consider ideas such as "low flush" toilets that use less water per flush. If you're not in the market for new toilets you can use the 70's trick of putting a brick in the toilet tank to decrease the water used with each flush. Consider collecting rain water to water indoor plants and small gardens. There are many things all of us can do to save and better use our water resource and in the long run save all of us money.

As a Town we need to join together to lessen the impact on our sewer and water system so the increased rates, which are inevitable, will have as little impact as possible on the budgets of all our citizens. Town officials will continue to take seriously their commitment to operate in a fiscally responsible manner and to continue to provide excellent services at the lowest possible cost to all of our citizens.



NEW MARKET AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Chamber of Commerce office has a guest book for people to sign when they visit the Chamber office. From September 2007 to the present, we have had 106 guests sign our book. Most of them commented that they loved the area and they found the local people to be warm and friendly. One group of visitors was from New Market, England.

The Chamber will hold meetings on the following **Tuesdays** in 2008:

November 11th Hometown Café 12:00 noon - 1:00 pm
December 9th Dr. Burns Office 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm
(Business Social)

These meetings are open and we welcome attendance from both members and nonmembers. We extend our thanks to the businesses that host our meetings.

NEW MARKET HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The New Market Historical Society will hold its next regular meeting on Thursday, November 20, 2008 at 7:30 pm. Priscilla Blosser-Rainey, Shenandoah Valley Fiber Artist will be speaking about "Traditional Textile Expressions in Everyday Use". Election of officers whose terms are expiring and brief officer reports will follow the program. For more information call Caroll Douglas at 740-2740 or visit our website at www.newmarkethistoricalsociety.org. Guests are welcome.

NEW MARKET POLICE BLOTTER OCTOBER 2008

During the month of September the Police Department responded to 415 calls for service. There were 3 physical arrests, 2 of which were DUI's and 1 was a warrant from another jurisdiction. The Officers worked 4 motor vehicle crashes and responded to 37 Mutual Aid calls to other agencies. The Police Department made 151 traffic stops and issued 47 summonses for traffic violations.

The next neighborhood Watch Meeting will be held on November 6, 2008 at 7:00 pm at the Town Hall. Everyone is invited to attend. Come and meet your neighbors and share information that will make your community safer.

LIBRARY NEWS

Everyone is invited to come visit the new library! We are now open at our Lee St. location behind the Town Hall. Hours: Monday 11:00 am - 6:30 pm, Tuesday through Friday 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm, Saturday 9:30 am - 12:00 noon.

We offer a full array of library services including reference books, computer/internet & WI-FI access, periodicals, a growing collection of CD's, audio materials, and local history. All of these may be enjoyed in the comfort and beauty of our new facility! Stay tuned for announcements of extended library hours and the GRAND OPENING CELEBRATION in December.

Applications for new volunteers are being accepted. If you have any questions call the library at 740-8650.

You will find the display of new books to your left as you enter the library. Here are some new best selling fiction titles available in November:

A Cedar Cove Christmas by Debbie Macomber

The Longing by Beverly Lewis

The Right Mistake by Walter Moseley

A Most Wanted Man by John LeCarre

Grace by Richard Paul Evans

Hardly Knew Her by Laura Lippman

The Quilter's Kitchen by Jennifer Chiaverini

The Brass Verdict by Michael Connelly

A Wallflower Christmas by Lisa Kleypas

Rough Weather by Robert B. Parker

Testimony by Anita Shreve

Dark Summer by Iris Johansen

Ghost at Work by Carolyn Hart

Burn Out by Marcia Muller

The Widows of Eastwick by John Updike

Stonefather by Orson Scott Card

The Gate House by Nelson Demille

Bones by Jonathan Kerterman

A Christmas Grace by Anne Perry

Extreme Measures by Vince Flynn

A Good Woman by Danielle Steel

Murder Inside the Beltway by Margaret Truman

Nonfiction:

A Member of the Family: Cesar Millan's Guide to a Lifetime of

Fulfillment with Your Dog by Cesar Millan

How Not to Die by Jan Garavaglia

Called Out of Darkness by Anne Rice

O's Big Book of Happiness: The Best of O, the Oprah Magazine

Pregnancy & Childbirth Secrets by Gail J. Dahl

Black & Decker Complete Photo Guide to Home Repair: With

350 Projects & 2000 Photos

Sarah: How a Small Town Girl Turned Alaska's Political

Establishment

on Its Ear

Bob Shieffer's America

Cavalryman of the Lost Cause by Jeffrey D. Wert

The Forever War by Dexter Elkins

Reagan: The Hollywood Years by Marc Eliot

1960 - JFK VS. LBJ Vs. Nixon by David Oietrusza

Real Life by Phillip C. McGraw

Breakthrough by Suzanne Smers

Juvenile Books

Inkdeath by Cornelia Funke

If You Give a Cat a Cupcake by Laura Numeroff

Drummer Boy by Loren Long

Bear Stays Up Late For Christmas by Karma Wilson

Bee & Me by Elle McGuiness

Jon Scieszka's Trucktown: Melvin Might by Jon Scieszka

The Way We Work by David Macaulay

Ten Little Fingers and Ten Little Toes by Mem Fox

A Very Marley Christmas by John Grogan

Doomwyte: A Novel of Redwall by Brian Jacques

THE NEW MARKET COMMUNITY CENTER, INC.

The New Market Community Center is a non-profit corporation operating under the IRS designation of 501©(3). The Center is managed by a Board of Directors who serve on a volunteer basis. All contributions to the Center are tax-deductible. We will be mailing our annual fund-raising letter within the next month. We depend on donations from the citizens of New Market and the surrounding area to supplement our rental fees. Rental fees alone do not generate enough income to operate the Center. Our natural gas bill alone is \$15,900 per year. Your support is needed and greatly appreciated.

Weight Watchers meet at the Center on Tuesday evenings at 5:30 pm. You may call 800-651-6000 for further information.

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. 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.

GARDEN CLUBS

COHEE GARDEN CLUB NEWS

The Cohee and New Market Garden Clubs met at 7:00 pm in the Council Chambers of the New Market Town Hall on Tuesday, October 7, 2008. Cindy Frenzel, Education Coordinator for the Friends of the North Fork, gave a presentation entitled "My River, My Community, My Choice". It was a very informative program and well received by all. We are all inspired to do more to help clean up our river.

The Cohee Garden Club will meet November 3, 2008 at 1:30 pm in Farrow Hall at Manor Memorial United Methodist Church. Vivian Myers will give a program on Christmas Decorating. We will also discuss plans for judging Christmas decorations in New Market at that meeting. Details and the date of judging will be in next month's news article.

If anyone would like more information about membership or activities, please call Ruth Garretson at 740-4243.

OCTOBER COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Finance & Personnel: The Committee had three agenda items to consider for action. The first one was consideration of amending Section 2-33 of the Town Code which would change the order of business for Town Council Meetings. Following discussion of the issue, the committee voted unanimously to recommend to full Council the new proposed order of business. The primary change that would result from the passing of this amendment would be having the Committee Reports before the Action items. The Committee also requested that minutes from the committee meetings be included in the Council's packet for each Council meeting.

The second agenda item was discussion and consideration of amendments to the Town Personnel Manual concerning driver safety and Town vehicle use. The purpose of these amendments is to bring the Town in compliance with the VML insurance guidelines. The first amendment provides that any employee who drives town vehicles will be required to take a driver improvement course if it is discovered that that employee has minus points on their driving record. The next amendment involves vehicle use and requires all current and prospective employees who drive or will drive a Town vehicle to have a valid Virginia driver's license appropriate for the vehicle they will operate. A valid Virginia driver's license is also required if an employee uses his/her personal vehicle for Town business for which mileage is reimbursed or an allowance is paid. It also states that employees using their personal vehicles for Town business are required to have a minimum of \$300,000 liability coverage on their personal vehicle. An employee's personal insurance will be responsible for paying claims resulting from accidents when the employee uses their personal vehicle for Town business. Town vehicles may be taken home only with prior authorization, during times of emergencies, when "on call", or such other circumstances as deemed necessary by the Town Manager. Under no circumstances are Town vehicles to be driven for personal business or by non-employees.

The final amendment states that the Town Police Department shall implement a Driver Training Program for all employees assigned driving duties. The Committee voted to recommend the proposed Amendments to the Personnel Manual to Full Council with part of the first amendment, that which stated that the Town would pay for a driver improvement course for an employee with minus points on their driving record, deleted.

The third agenda item was discussion and consideration of a loan application with the Virginia Resource Authority for the \$2.25 million that the Town will owe Broadway as part of the regional sewer agreement. The Committee's packet included a payment schedule. However, Mr. Boies stated that the amortization schedule presented is several weeks old and those rates fluctuate daily. We won't know our definite interest rate until November. Mr. Boies told Committee members that they need to decide the length of the term, either twenty or thirty years. A lengthy discussion ensued after which the Committee voted unanimously to recommend to full Council the approval of a thirty year loan application with the Virginia Resource Authority for \$2.25 million.

The Committee went into closed session to discuss the performance and employment of specific local government personnel. The closed session lasted about 11 minutes after which Mr. Fadeley adjourned the meeting.

Public Works: All members were present for the regular October 2008 meeting of the Public Works Committee. There was only one item on the agenda, that of scheduling another meeting to discuss a

proposed contract with Douglas Aquatics to perform a study of the Town pool facilities. Mr. Boies stated that Town staff had met with Douglas Aquatics last week to discuss this proposed contract. They were not able to have the contract prepared by Friday when the Committee Meeting packets were distributed. Mr. Boies reported that Douglas Aquatics would like to see the pool both when it is up and running and when it is empty. Since the Town is getting ready to winterize and shut down the pool for the season, it is important to have Douglas Aquatics make a site visit as soon as possible. Committee members agreed to meet on Tuesday, October 14, 2008 at 4:00 pm to discuss the proposed contract.

The Committee reconvened on October 14, 2008 with all members present. The proposed contract called for Douglas Aquatics making 2 visits to the Town pool, one while it is up and running and one after it has been drained. They will then prepare a report that will indicate what repairs are necessary immediately, what repairs will be needed within five years, and what repairs will likely be needed within the next ten years. The report will include a cost estimate of what it will take to get that work done. The cost of this report and the 2 visits will be \$4000. The Committee felt that this is a very reasonable price and voted unanimously to recommend approval of the contract to full Council.

Tourism, Economic Development, and Historic Preservation: Chairman Harry Durrett called the Committee meeting to order and established that a quorum was present. The only item on the agenda was a discussion concerning the Downtown Streetscape Committee. Mr. Boies stated that there have been no meetings of the Downtown Streetscape Committee at this point. Land Planning and Design Associates has been hired to do the work. They plan to work with the Streetscape Committee to develop the plan for the downtown. That plan will be presented to the Town Council for their approval. The Streetscape Committee, as was previously approved, consisted of Tom Constable, who was mayor at the time, Mary Alice Burch, Eddie Litten, Gary Comer, Scott Harris (Battlefield Foundation), Faye Peery (business owner), and Mark Kokkonen (business owner).

A lengthy discussion ensued involving both Committee and Council members as well as Town citizens. Councilman Comer stated he thought the Public Works Committee should handle it all because the Council will be making the final decision. The general consensus was that some input from business owners and citizens was needed, but there were too many people on the Streetscape Committee. Mr. Fadeley stated that all citizens would be welcome to attend the meetings. A motion to involve citizens on the Committee died for lack of a second. The Committee then voted to table the issue.

The first Streetscape meeting was scheduled for October 14, 2008. Mr. Boies agreed to go ahead with this meeting, allowing the Consultants to give their presentation as planned.

With no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned.

Public Safety: There was no Public Safety Meeting for the month of October.

Planning Commission: The New Market Planning Commission met on Monday, October 6, 2008. Discussion was held on proposed zoning regulations for a medium density traditional neighborhood development district. This is one of the districts proposed in the previously adopted "New Market Growth and Annexation Area Concept Plan". No action was taken by the Planning Commission.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



November

- 3 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
- 3 Planning Commission Meeting
- 7:30 pm
- 4 Election Day
- Polls Open 6:00 am & Close at 7:00 pm
- 6 Neighborhood Watch Meeting at The Town Hall
- 7 Leaf & Grass Pickup
- 7:00 pm
- 11 **Town Office Closed in Observance Of Veterans Day**
- 14 Leaf and Grass Pickup
- 15 **Water/Sewer Bills Due**
- 7:30 pm
- 17 Town Council Meeting
- 7:30 pm
- 20 New Market Historical Society Meeting at the Town Hall
- 21 Leaf and Grass Pickup- Last one for this year
- 27 & 28 **Town Office Closed for Thanksgiving**

December

- 1 Council Committee Meetings
in the following order: (1) Finance & Personnel (2) Public Works (3) Public Safety (4) Tourism, Economic Development, & Historic Preservation
- 7:30 pm TO
- 7:30 pm
- 7:00 pm
- 1 Planning Commission Meeting
- 4 Neighborhood Watch Meeting at the Town Hall
- 15 **Water/Sewer Bills Due**
- 7:30 pm
- 15 Town Council Meeting
- 25 - 26 **Town Office Closed in Observance of Christmas**

Town of New Market

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
(540) 740-3432 • www.newmarketvirginia.com

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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 *Town Manager*
Charles Peery *Police Chief*
Jeanne K. Rinker *Town Clerk*
Chad Neese *Town Planner/Zoning Administrator*

Michael Ritchie *Public Works Director*
Teresa Green *Treasurer*
Donna Lohr *Administrative Assistant*

An Equal Opportunity Community