

## MAYOR'S CORNER

In last month's article I reviewed with you some of the basic statistics regarding our ageing population and the operating costs for our town. In this month's newsletter I want to spend some time bringing you up to date on a few of our major projects. Most of these have been in the planning stage for more than 10 years and will soon come to fruition. Part of the problems for the delay was onset of Covid-19. Ironically, this pandemic has left its financial footprint on each of our projects. As you well know, the cost of materials and labor has skyrocketed due to the temporary suspension of manufacturing during 2020-2021.

The Town has moved forward with construction of a much-needed maintenance building and workshop. As mentioned in past articles, our public works employees have been working in an antiquated, mold infested building that was built decades ago. When we first started to plan for this new facility its estimated cost was around \$500,000.00. With the delay in its construction due to Covid, the cost has risen to over \$800,000.00! The cost of a dozen eggs in 2019 was \$1.40 and now \$3.00. YES, inflation is stifling to our economy!

Another project long past due is the sidewalk along Hwy 211 from Congress Street to the Dollar General Store. This was planned back in 2012 but due to budgetary constraints it was never built. How pedestrians have avoided a loss of life over those years is a miracle in itself. During my first two years on council, we secured a cost sharing grant from VDOT to pay for half of the construction which was estimated to be

around \$450,000.00. Our share (\$225,000.00) has been set aside in our budget since 2021, but VDOT suspended activity during Covid and just gave us the "go-ahead" at the first of this year. It now looks like the total cost could be \$650,000.00. Will VDOT come up with their half of the inflated cost? Time will tell.

The largest and therefore the most expensive project is the water tank. This project has been discussed for at least 10-15 years. Our present tank has been in service since the 1960's and has far exceeded its life expectancy. During Covid we expected the construction cost to be around \$4 million and now we anticipate it to be around \$5-6 million. Not only is it the most expensive, but it is the most needed for the town's survival.

Add the cost of these projects to last month's article reviewing the cost of employees and equipment, then you start to understand the expense of operating even a small town like ours. I haven't even mentioned the Community Center project. I will address that in next month's article. Once again, there is great expense to operate a town and we citizens must pay for it. Proportionately, the more citizens, the less the cost per person.

Larry A. Bompiani, D.C.  
New Market Mayor

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## DROUGHT WARNING ADVISORY

Reminder: The Virginia DEQ has declared a drought warning advisory for Shenandoah County, as well as surrounding areas. Please be mindful of water usage to help conserve water.

A drought *warning* advisory indicates a significant drought is imminent and is in effect for the Shenandoah region, which includes Augusta, Rockingham, Shenandoah, Frederick, Page, Warren, and Clarke counties, and for the Northern Virginia Region which includes Fauquier, Loudoun, Prince William, Arlington, and Fairfax counties.

Tips to help conserve water during a drought:

Refrain from cleaning the following:

- Vehicles – including motorcycles, RVs, campers, golf carts, etc.
- Houses or other buildings
- Sidewalks, driveways and patios/decks

Reduce watering:

- Reduce lawn watering to 2 times or less per week between the hours of 9:00pm and 10:00am
- Reduce garden/flower bed, to include potted plants, watering only when needed between the hours of 9:00pm and 10:00am

Refrain from planting new landscaping/grass

Limit showers to 5-10 minutes per person

Use dishwashers only when full

Visit [DEQ.Virginia.gov](https://www.deq.virginia.gov) for more information.

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## LIBRARY NEWS

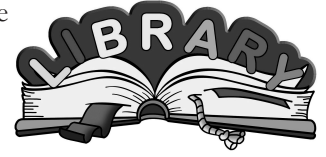
The Library Summer Reading Programs were a great success! Congratulations to all the children, tweens, teens, and adults who participated! Thank you to all the area businesses who donated reading incentive prizes!

The library will be participating in New Market's National Night Out at the Community Park, Tuesday, August 6th from 6:00 pm-8:00 pm. Come see us at our table!

We are gearing up for Books and Babies to start again Wednesday, September 4th! Preschool Story Time will be the 3rd Friday beginning September 20th. Programs will start at 10:00 am.

Adult program is Sunday, August 18, at 2 pm, with speaker Dr. Thomas Rhyme.

**BOOK SALE!** The library will hold its annual book sale, August 10th, 2024 in conjunction with the RT. 11 Yard Crawl. We will open at 7:00 am. Books and other materials are for sale! Organized by type of book! Name your price based on what the book is worth to you or what you'd like to give to support the New Market Area Library! The library is on E Lee Street; two blocks from Route 11 (which is Congress Street in New Market!)



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## INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION

The New Market Independence Day Committee thanks the Town of New Market for helping put on our Independence Day Celebration. The committee raises funds for the activities in the park, and the Town hires and pays for the fireworks and Town employees help with the set up and clean-up. The best small towns in America work because the town and the citizens pull together to make things happen.

Thanks to Nathan Garrison and the Town Council for agreeing to pay for the fireworks and providing workers to make the day possible. Not having to raise the money to pay for the fireworks allows our committee to focus on putting on the activities in the park. Thanks to the office staff for answering questions about the event and providing support.

Thanks to JD and Ron for the support from the town crew. They put out signs directing people to the event, brought out cones for lining parking areas, moved picnic tables for extra seating, mowed all the lawns, put out extra trash receptacles, moved the stage into the park, provided workers to keep the trash cans from overflowing during the event, and picked up not only the park, but also the debris in the field where the fireworks were shot off. We asked and they came through with a smile.

Chris Rinker and his officers along with officers of the Sheriff's Department were on hand to visit and be available if someone needed help or were hurt. Our officers are a friendly bunch and it was great to see the kids interact with them.

Thanks to the Fire Department for filling our Dunk Tank.

Thanks to the New Market Rotary Club for providing a parking crew for the event as well as free watermelon slices to everyone who attended.

A big thank-you to the crowd who showed up on the day. Thanks for coming out and enjoying the day with us.

Finally, thanks to the committee: Janet Dellinger, Barbara Whistler, Harry Durrett, Houston Toman, Carol Hughes, Peter Hughes, and Tim & Charity Hansberger. They work together, laugh together, and get the job done.

Jim Douglas & Savannah Frazier

Co-Chairs New Market Independence Day Committee.

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## ONLINE PAYMENTS NOW AVAILABLE!

The Town of New Market is now accepting online payments for those customers who prefer the convenience of paying electronically with their debit/credit card. There will be a small service fee associated with making payments online. The Town will not profit from this fee.

Other payment options available to customers at no charge include in person via cash, check, money order or debit/credit card; by mail; or by depositing payment in the drop box located to the right of the entrance to the Town Office. In addition, water/sewer/trash customers can make payment through automatic monthly deductions from their bank account. Forms are available on our website or at the Town Office. We are no longer able to take your payment over the phone by calling the office. To pay via phone, call Paystar directly at 540-744-3614. There will be a service fee for doing so, which again, The Town will not profit from.

For more information regarding the online payment process, please check our website at [www.newmarketvirginia.com](http://www.newmarketvirginia.com).

## SUMMER'S END PUPPY POOL PARTY

This is the 11th annual Puppy Pool Party hosted by the Town of New Market. A fun event for your canine friends to swim, play, and socialize.

Venue: New Market Community Pool

Fee: \$3.00 per dog OR food donation brought for the Shenandoah County Animal Shelter

Date: September 8th, 2024

Time: 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Pre-registration is highly encouraged for easier check-in. Please go to our website [newmarketvirginia.com](http://newmarketvirginia.com) OR our Facebook page for details on requirements, rules, and how to register.



## CROSS ROADS MUSIC FEST 2024

We are excited about our August concert! All concerts will be held

at the Rebel Baseball Park and highlight musical

talent and offer a relaxing evening.

Bring chairs/blankets for comfort. Food and beverages are available for purchase, and there is also a beer/wine garden.

**Band Performing: Bottle Shock**

**Date: August 16th, 2024**

**Time: 6:30pm-9:00pm**

**Where: Rebel Baseball Park**

## MOVIE NIGHTS IN THE PARK 2024

Enjoy a movie under the stars in the New Market Community Park! We will have movies offered once a month through October.

Bring chairs/blankets/snacks for your viewing comfort.

**Showing: The Avengers**

**Date: August 17, 2024**

**Sundown: approx. 7:50 pm**

**Cost: FREE**

Sponsored by: Southern Kitchen, New Market Poultry, and Sheila Hall, Realtor with Coldwell Banker Premier



## LOAVES AND FISHES FOOD PANTRY



Loaves and Fishes food pantry is located in the basement of Manor Memorial Methodist Church (9320 North Congress Street). The basement entrance is located in the back of the Church along John Sevier Road.

The pantry is open to all on the 3rd Thursday of every month from 1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

The next food pantry pick up is Thursday, Aug 15th, 2024.

## HEAVY TRASH PICK-UP AUGUST 2024

The Town's Public Works Crews will be collecting heavy trash items **TWO MORE TIMES THIS YEAR (see dates below)**. This month, they will be out picking up your heavy trash items from Monday, Aug 12th through Friday, Aug 16th. Please place all heavy trash curbside. Crews will not go onto private property to make collections. This service is provided to our residential customers only. Crews will pick up trash by item type during the week and will have all trash picked up by the end of the day on Friday, Aug 16th, 2024. Brush and limbs must be tied in bundles no longer than four feet in length. To ensure removal, all heavy trash should be placed curbside **no later than 7:00 am on Friday, Aug 16th, 2024**. Due to State laws governing the operation of the Shenandoah County Landfill, the Town is unable to remove old TVs, computers, tires, or hazardous materials such as pesticides, herbicides, paint, paint thinner, etc. For instructions on where to take the aforementioned items, you may call the Shenandoah County Landfill at 540-984-8573. Thank you for your cooperation.

**This year's heavy trash pick-up schedule is:**

- **Aug 12-16**
- **Oct 15-18**

## NEW MARKET FIRE AND RESCUE NEWS

We hope everyone is enjoying your summer. With the water restrictions that have been put in place by the DEQ, please be mindful and conserve your water usage.

For the month of June, our crew ran a total of 137 calls. Of those calls, 90 were for EMS services, 47 were for fire service and a total of 62 were within town limits.

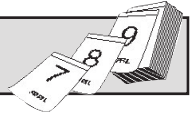
**Upcoming events:**

- August 6th: National Night Out at the park from 6:00pm-8:00pm
- August 17th: Bingo! Doors open at 4:30pm and games start at 6:30pm. Come have a good time playing Bingo! While you're playing, we will have a dinner special along with other items on the menu to choose from.
- September 11th: Blood drive. Stop by and donate. Remember, the life you save may be your own.
- September 28th: Fall Fling! Over \$100,000 in prizes to be given away. Tickets are \$25 each. Doors open at 9:00am, food is served from 10:00am – 2:00pm. During the event, we will have pull tabs for cash prizes and other great items throughout the day to take chances on.

For more information on our events, find us on Facebook under New Market Fire and Rescue, then like and follow our page.

We are always looking to add to our membership, whether volunteering to run calls or help with fundraising. Please stop by our station and see any member for information.

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS



## August 2024

- 2 Lawn and Leaf Pickup
- 6 **National Night Out at New Market Park** 6:00-8:00 pm
- 9 Lawn and Leaf Pickup
- 16 Lawn and Leaf Pickup
- 10 **New Market Pool Open Weekends Only**
- 10 **Route 11 Yard Crawl**
- 15 **Water/Sewer Bills Due**
- 16 **Crossroads Music Fest at Rebel Park-Bottle Shock** 6:30-9:00 pm
- 17 **Movie Night in the Park at sundown (approx. 7:50 pm)**
- 19 **Town Council Meeting** 6:30 pm
- 23 Lawn and Leaf Pickup
- 30 Lawn and Leaf Pickup

## September 2024

- 2 **Town Office closed in observance of Labor Day**
- 2 **Pool closes for the season**
- 6 Lawn and Leaf Pickup
- 8 **Puppy Pool Party at the Community Pool** 1:00-4:00 pm
- 13 Lawn and Leaf Pickup
- 14 **Movie Night in the Park at sundown (approx. 7:30 pm)**
- 15 **Water/Sewer Bills Due**
- 16 **Town Council Meeting** 6:30 pm
- 20 **Crossroads Music Fest at Rebel Park-The Seven Bends** 6:30-9:00 pm
- 20 Lawn and Leaf Pickup
- 27 Lawn and Leaf Pickup
- 28 **New Market Fall Festival** 9:00 am-4:00 pm

## TOWN OF NEW MARKET CONTACT INFORMATION

### Emergency Services:

Emergencies: 911  
 Shenandoah County Dispatch: 540-459-6101  
 Police Department: 540-740-3776  
 Fire and Rescue: 540-740-8904

New Market Town Office: 540-740-3432

Dispatch: 540-459-6101  
 (After-hours and weekend Water/Sewer Emergencies)

### 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 Bompiani, Mayor • Peggy Harkness, Vice Mayor  
 Scott Wymer • Daryl Watkins • Bob King • Janice Hannah • Peter Hughes  
 Jason J. Ham, Town Attorney

### ADMINISTRATION

Nathan Garrison ..... *Town Manager*  
 Chris Rinker ..... *Police Chief*  
 Teresa Green ..... *Town Treasurer*  
 J.D. Fadley ..... *Public Works Director*

Savannah Frazier ..... *Events & Marketing Director*  
 Amber Smoot ..... *Executive Assistant*  
 Lindsey Kipps ..... *Office Assistant*  
 De Prunka ..... *Office Assistant*

*An Equal Opportunity Community*

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