



*From the Mayor*

*Charles H. Harbaugh, IV*

The 153<sup>rd</sup> Battle of Cedar Creek Reenactment will be held on Saturday October 14<sup>th</sup> and Sunday October 15<sup>th</sup>. The lighting of the luminaries will take place on Saturday evening starting at the traffic light on Main Street headed south of town to the Timeless Wines shop. We are asking for volunteers to help fill, set up and light the luminaries. If you are interested in helping us commemorate the 964 fallen soldiers please let me know.

I'm proud to say we had our most successful Car & Truck Show thus far. There were a total of 208 participants that lined Main Street. The total raised was well over \$3,000.00 which will benefit our annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration that we host each year. As always I would like to thank everyone who sponsored, supported and/or participated in the event. We could never pull this off without the help of each and every one of you. We had some pretty amazing sponsors for this year's Car & Truck show. City National Bank was by far our largest and most generous sponsor. We are so grateful to have the continued support of our local businesses that so graciously donate each and every year to help make our events possible.

*From the Zoning Administrator*

*Fred Wharton*

**Town Code section 3-8**

Permits must be secured through the Town office prior to the following: All renovations to buildings need a zoning permit. All accessory buildings such as sheds and/or outside storage containers also need a zoning permit. As well as pools that are deeper than 24 inches. When in doubt please call the office and speak with me. 540-869-2226 ext. 4

No person shall allow feces deposited by his/her animal to remain on any public highway, street, sidewalk, part of other public property, or on private property without written consent of the owner thereof or his agent.

Penalty – Any person who knowingly violates this Ordinance shall be guilty of a littering infraction and shall be subject to a fine of not more than \$25.00 per occurrence

**Town Code section 6-2**

**a.** It shall be unlawful for any person owning, occupying or having charge of any real estate or an interest therein, located within the corporate limits of the town, where the parcel is one acre or less, to allow grass, weeds, or like vegetation grow on the property to a height of no more than 10 inches.

**b.** Parcels greater in size than one acre that lies within 25 feet of the right of way boundary of a public roadway (except for interstate highways) must also keep the grass, weeds or like vegetation to a height of no more than 10 inches.

**c.** If any owner, occupant or person in charge of such land or interest therein shall fail to have such illegal growth of grass or weeds on his land cut or otherwise removed within 7 days written notice of violation of this section, the town shall have the right to cut or remove such unlawful growth at the expense of the landowner, and such expense may be collected by the town as taxes are levied and collected. In addition, the owner shall pay a penalty of \$50.00 as a fine of this section.

**d.** Each day that any owner, occupant or person in charge of such land or interest shall fail to have such an illegal growth of grass or weeds on his land cut or otherwise removed after the above mentioned 7 days has run shall constitute a separate offense. Subsequent offenses in the same calendar year shall double until the fine reaches \$200.00. The fine per calendar year is capped at \$2000.00.

**e.** This section shall not apply to any land used for agricultural or industrial purposes.

## *From the Treasurer/Town Manager*

*Rebecca Layman*

Real Estate and Personal Property bills should be mailed no later than mid October and will be due by December 5, 2017. Please remember if you have sold, traded, disposed of and/or purchased a vehicle you must update your information with Frederick County so that the Town of Middletown can bill you correctly. This helps save time for all parties involved. The Town can only bill what Frederick County reports to our office.

## *From the Police Chief*

*Gary Benedict Jr.*

Please be aware that there is an IRS phone scam circulating. The IRS will never initially contact you by telephone; they will first contact you by registered/certified mail or in person. If you were to receive a phone call from someone claiming they are from the IRS please hang up and most importantly never give any of your personal information out over the phone.

Trick or Treat will be held on Tuesday October 31, 2017 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. If you will be passing out treats please make sure your front porch and walkway areas are well lit to ensure everyone's safety. Please be aware and courteous when walking or driving along the roadways and make sure there is adult supervision for children at all times to avoid any accidents. Flash lights or reflective clothing are always a good idea.

## *From the Clerk*

*Christina Smith*

Please update your contact information with the Town office. Telephone numbers are very important to the Town staff in case we need to contact you in the event of an emergency.

All utility payments are due by the due date indicated and, if late, penalties will be applied. If the bill is not paid in full by the cut-off date, service will be disconnected for non-payment and there will be a \$100.00 cut-off/on fee added to your bill. Only those individuals with bona fide emergencies will be considered on a case-by-case basis for a ONE-TIME deferment. **There will be no payment arrangements.** If you have any question regarding this policy please contact the Town Clerk 540-869-2226 ext. 1

## *From the Maintenance Department*

*Donald Welsh*

**\*\*\*\*FINAL DAY OF YARD WASTE PICK-UP WILL BE MONDAY NOVEMBER 13, 2017\*\*\*\***

Reminder to please make sure the water meter in your yard is free and clear at all times. This is the property owner/tenant's responsibility. The meter should be visible at all times. Please remove any and all over growth including but not limited to; grass, weeds, bushes, etc. The meter needs to be clear of snow, and never blocked by vehicles, boats, trailers, etc. This can cause a serious problem in the event of an emergency if we are unable to find and/or access the meter. Please take the time to make sure the water meter in your yard is accessible.

**We will no longer pick up any yard waste that does not meet the required guidelines.** Yard waste collection is on Monday, and must be placed curbside by 7:30 a.m. Yard waste consists of grass trimmings and leaves which CANNOT weigh more than 40 lbs. Branches or twigs can be **NO LONGER** than four (4) feet in length and **NO LARGER** than two (2) inches in diameter and must be tyed in bundles (no wire or plastic string). Yard waste must be placed in biodegradable or paper yard waste bags only **NO PLASTIC BAGS**. Yard waste should not be placed curbside until the morning of collection.

If you notice a street light out please contact the Public Works Department at 540-869-7731. Please provide the following information. Your name, your phone number, the street light address and the pole number if possible. We will then contact Rappahannock Electric regarding the outage.

## Middletown Volunteer Fire & Rescue Company

### Pancake Breakfast

The Middletown Volunteer Fire and Rescue Auxiliary will have a Pancake Breakfast on September 23, 2017 from 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at the Fire Hall. Adult will be \$6 and children under 3, \$3.

### Turkey-Oyster Supper

The Middletown Volunteer Fire and Rescue Auxiliary will have their annual Fall Turkey or Oyster Supper on October 28, 2017 beginning at 4:30 p.m. at the Fire Hall. Adults will be \$15 and children under 12, \$7.

### Annual Company Memorial Service

Please join us Sunday October 8, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. at Middletown Presbyterian Church as we remember and honor the members who have gone before us. The community is welcome.

### Bingo

Every Tuesday at 7:00 p.m., doors open at 5:00 p.m. Concession is available.

*Please come out and support your local volunteers!*

### Fire Prevention - Week 2017 October 8 – 14

In a fire, seconds count. Seconds can mean the difference between residents of our community escaping safely from a fire or having their lives end in tragedy.

That's why this year's Fire Prevention Week theme: "Every Second Counts: Plan 2 Ways Out!" is so important. It reinforces why everyone needs to have an escape plan. Here's this year's key campaign message:

- [Draw a map of your home](#) (PDF) with all members of your household, marking two exits from each room and a path to the outside from each exit.
- Practice your home fire drill twice a year. Conduct one at night and one during the day with everyone in your home, and practice using different ways out.
- Teach children how to escape on their own in case you can't help them.
- Make sure the number of your home is clearly marked and easy for the fire department to find.
- Close doors behind you as you leave – this may slow the spread of smoke, heat, and fire.
- Once you get outside, stay outside. Never go back inside a burning building.

For more resources and information, please visit [www.firepreventionweek.org](http://www.firepreventionweek.org).

We will be visiting Middletown Elementary School during Fire Prevention Week to help reach fire safety to our little ones.



The banner features the NFPA logo in the top left corner. The main text reads "EVERY SECOND COUNTS" in large, bold, blue letters. Below this, a red banner with white text says "PLAN 2 WAYS OUT!" with a red arrow pointing right. In the center, Sparky the dog, wearing a yellow helmet with "SPARKY" on it, is holding a tablet displaying a floor plan with red arrows indicating escape routes. To the right, the text "FIRE PREVENTION WEEK" is written in large, bold, white letters, followed by "OCTOBER 8-14, 2017" in white. At the bottom right, a red arrow points left towards the website "firepreventionweek.org". The bottom right corner contains the copyright notice: "©NFPA 2017. Sparky® is a trademark of the NFPA®".

## *Middletown Veterans Memorial*

*Raymond Steele*

You are cordially invited to attend the Veteran's Day Remembrance Ceremony at the memorial on November 11, 2017 at 4:30 p.m. Our guest speaker will be Retired US Army Colonel Julius Jones.

Our latest construction project involved the installation of a water line and faucet. We will install newly engraved bricks in the very near future and in plenty of time for our Veteran's Day Ceremony.

Bricks are still available for purchase. This is a great way to remember a loved one, past or present. Forms can be obtained at the Town office or on the Town's website [www.middletownva.gov](http://www.middletownva.gov). The cost is only \$75.00 for a 4 x 8 brick or an 8 x 8 brick for a minimum of a \$500.00 contribution/donation.

Please mark your calendars now and plan to attend this wonderful ceremony and pay tribute to our men and women who have served or are currently serving our great country.

## *Middletown Heritage Society*

*Tess Klimm*

### *Happy 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary to Middletown's Historic District!*

David Edwards, Regional Director of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources presented a program about the nomination process Saturday September 16<sup>th</sup> at the Wayside Inn while unveiling the new district signs donated to the Heritage Society by former Mayor Ray Steele & his wife Barbara. Extra copies of the map and the nomination noting the Town's history are available at the Town office.

The Middletown Heritage Society celebrates its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year. We meet at noon on the second Thursday of each month at the Wayside Inn. Anyone with an interest in Middletown's history is welcome. Sometimes we have a guest speaker, but at the October and November meetings we will be planning the second "**Merrimint in Middletown**" for December when the Hoffman House opens for tours and businesses join in festivities. Everyone is welcome and no RSVP necessary.

## *Calendar of Events*

### **September**

September 25 – Planning Commission Meeting 7:00 p.m. – CANCELLED

### **October**

October 2 – Work Session Meeting 7:00 p.m.

October 9 – Columbus Day, Town office closed

October 10 – Town Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.

October 23 – Planning Commission Meeting 7:00 p.m.

October 31 – Trick or Treat 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

### **November**

November 6 – Work Session Meeting 7:00 p.m.

November 11 – Veterans Day, Town office closed

November 13 – Town Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.

\*Just a reminder all meetings are now held in the Council Chambers at the Church Street office. Please enter through the rear entrance of the building.