

## THE MAYOR'S CORNER

*"I wish we could put up some of the Christmas spirit in jars and open a jar of it every month."*

*Harland Miller*

As you know, I'm a big proponent of shopping locally. In that light, I recently received a note from **Deborah Dralle**, a local New Market resident, with an e-mail attached called *Christmas 2011 - Birth of a New Tradition, Made in the USA*. The e-mail was full of ideas for gift giving. Simple things like a membership to a gym, gift certificates to your local school sporting event, golf course, shops or a local restaurant, rather than gifts made off shore or something novel that may or may not be used. I urge you to check out the web site [www.vibrantnation.com/work-money](http://www.vibrantnation.com/work-money) for other ideas. And while I'm on one of my favorite subjects, shopping locally, have you seen the "new" New Market t-shirts and sweatshirts at the **Valley Sports Connection**? **Cathy Donald** has put together a terrific design. Any one of them would make a great gift. Be sure and walk the streets of New Market on December 3rd, visit our shops, attend the parade and other local events including the evening Christmas Tree Lighting at the town hall. The local community of shop owners and organizations are going all out to bring joy to the start of your season.

*"I once bought my kids a set of batteries for Christmas with a note on it saying 'toys not included'."*

*Bernard Manning*

December also brings an end to 2011. New Years is a time that makes us remember the past and look to the future. A staff member recently noted an interesting fact while reviewing "Shadowed by the Massanutten", a history of New Market and the surrounding area by Bill Good. An article published by *The Shenandoah Valley* newspaper (the New Market based forerunner of *The Shenandoah Valley-Herald*) noted that the New Market Town Council set the 1880 real estate and personal property tax rate at \$0.12/\$100 of assessed value. It's worth noting that today's real estate tax rate remains the same as it was in 1880 at \$0.12/\$100. They say things never change in New Market, and in this case, whoever "they" are may be happily right. This steady rate is evidence of the prudent management of your town resources by the town staff and your council.

*If you see a fat man... Who's jolly and cute,  
Wearing a beard and a red flannel suit  
And if he is chuckling and laughing away,  
While flying around in a miniature sleigh  
With eight tiny reindeer to pull him along,  
Then let's face it...*

*Your eggnog's too strong!!!*

Or it's just your Mayor walking the streets of the town wishing each of you a Merry Christmas, Happy New Year and a Happy Holiday Season in whatever way you and your family celebrate.

## NEW MARKET AREA LIBRARY

The Library will be part of special "Holidays in New Market" events on December 3rd. After the Christmas Parade on Congress Street the Library will be open, hosting the reading of children's Christmas stories, light refreshments and small giveaway treats for the children. Guests will be able to do some seasonal shopping from a selection of holiday and gift quality books that will be available for sale. We are excited to announce that the SVA choir will be on hand to perform at 7:00 pm.

During this season of giving, please consider a gift in support of the New Market Library. Recent visitors from other libraries have been impressed by our beautiful state of the art facility that was built by the community and is staffed totally by volunteers. Donations can be mailed to the New Market Library at P.O. Box 452, New Market, VA 22844 or dropped off at the library during open hours which are: Monday 9:30 am - 6:30 pm, Tuesday-Friday 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm, Thursday evenings 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm and Saturdays 9:30 am - 1:00 pm.

### New Books:

Hotel Vendome, Danielle Steel  
Lost December, Richard Paul Evans  
The Prince of Ravenscar, Catherine Coulter  
The Wedding Quilt, Jennifer Chiaverini  
Zero Day, David Baldacci  
11/22/63, Stephen King  
Devil's Gate, Clive Cussler  
Kill Alex Cross, James Patterson  
V is for Vengeance, Sue Grafton  
Three Day Down, Margaret Maron  
Explosive Eighteen, Janet Evanovich  
Longing, Karen Kingsbury  
Micro, Michael Crichton  
The Drop, Michael Connelly

## NEW MARKET FIRE & RESCUE

The New Market Fire and Rescue elected the following officers for 2012:

President . . . . . John Blosser  
Vice President . . . . . Gary Biller  
Asst. Vice President. . . . . Sis Blosser  
Treasurer . . . . . Mike Scaboo  
Asst. Treasurer . . . . . Teresa Shifflet  
Secretary. . . . . Michelle Biller  
Board Members. . . Bill Rogers & Stephanie Seekford  
Chief . . . . . Robbie Smith  
Asst. Chief . . . . . Matt Hughes  
Capt. . . . . Chad Hensley  
Fire Lt. . . . . J.T. Thomas  
EMS Lt. . . . . Amber Dennison  
Comm. Lt. . . . . Seth Good

The Annual Installation Banquet will be held on December 10, 2011. Anyone interested in serving in any capacity please call 540-740-8904 for information.

## NEW MARKET REBELS

*New Market, VA-November 5, 2011.* The New Market Rebels are pleased to announce that Joanne Burns, Katie Getz, and Anna Kipps have joined the team's Board of Directors.

"I'm excited about the addition of these three ladies to our Board," said President and General Manager Bruce Alger. "They've already contributed a great deal to our organization and their enthusiasm is fantastic."

In other personnel news, John Combs will be the new head coach for the 2012 season. John has served as an assistant coach for the past four seasons. He will be joined by assistant coach Blayne Fuke who spent his first summer in New Market last year.

At this point, five Rebels from last year's squad including pitchers Alex Boshers and Eric Ford, infielders Matt Ford and Jaren Sustar, and outfielder T. J. Kuban are expected to return.

The Rebels are in the process of renovating the team office and locker room and would like to thank G. B. Foltz Excavation, Hughes Electric, and Mountain Valley Home Comfort for donating time and materials toward this effort.

Another big "thank you" goes out to the volunteers, host families, and coaches who contributed so much to a successful 2011 season, which for the first time included several promotional nights. A number of promotional nights filled with fun and prizes are being planned for the 2012 season!

Finally, the Rebels would like to invite any and all fans to the annual Christmas party to be held at the Alger's residence at 182 E. Lee Highway in New Market on December 10th from 7:00-9:00 p.m. Contact Bruce or Lynne at 540-740-4247.

The New Market Rebels are members of the website at [www.rebelsbaseball.biz](http://www.rebelsbaseball.biz).

## NEW MARKET ROTARY PLAYS GOLF TO HELP OTHERS

The New Market Rotary Club held their annual benefit golf tournament on September 14, 2011 at The Shenvalee Golf Resort. The tournament included 48 golfers, members and guests of the New Market club. Co-chairs of this year's event were Bernie Brown and Larry Strawderman. These gentlemen presented checks of \$1,500 each to Sharon Collette of the Shenandoah County Free Clinic and Brownie Ritenour and Carol Driver, co-directors of the Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry of New Market.

## NEW MARKET CLUB NEWS

The New Market Garden Club met on November 21, 2011, at 1:00 pm at the Seventh-Day Adventist Church Fellowship Hall. The hostess was Mrs. Ingrid Flowers. President Ginger Ramsdell opened the meeting with the reading of Gail Roses's article on Gardening. The room was filled with the smells of greenery with many branches of spruce, cedar, juniper, arbovitae, pine and holly. Mrs. Lillian Thomas from the Hanover Garden Club in Hanover, PA demonstrated how to make Christmas swags.

Our next Meeting will be our Christmas Party and luncheon on December 6, 2011, at 11:00 am, at the Seventh-Day Adventist Church Fellowship Hall. The Club wishes all a safe and blessed holiday. There will be no meeting in January of 2012.

## RAIN BARRELS:

### ANOTHER WAY YOU CAN HELP IMPROVE THE HEALTH OF SMITH CREEK

#### What's a rain barrel?

A rain barrel is a system that collects and stores rainwater from your roof that would otherwise be lost to runoff and diverted to storm drains and streams. Usually a rain barrel is composed of a large plastic or wooden container (55 gallons or more), a vinyl hose, PVC couplings, a screen grate to keep debris and insects out, and other off-the-shelf items. A rain barrel is relatively simple and inexpensive to construct or can be purchased ready-made. It sits conveniently under any residential gutter down spout.

#### What are the benefits of installing rain barrels?

Lawn and garden watering make up nearly 40% of total household water use during the summer. A rain barrel collects water and stores it for when you need it most -- during periods of drought -- to water plants, wash your car, fill bird baths, or to top a swimming pool. It provides an ample supply of free "soft water" to homeowners, containing no chlorine, lime or calcium making it ideal for gardens, flower pots, and car and window washing.

A rain barrel will save most homeowners about 1,300 gallons of water during the peak summer months. Saving water not only helps protect the environment, it saves you money and energy (decreased demand for treated tap water). Therefore, a rain barrel is an easy way for you to have a consistent supply of clean, fresh water for outdoor use, FREE.

Rain barrels also help improve water quality because they divert storm water from drains and ditches that can carry a variety of pollutants to Smith Creek and its tributaries.

#### Where can I get a rain barrel?

You can purchase ready-to-go barrels or create your own. Ready-made rain barrels can be purchased from a number of companies, including hardware stores and garden supply stores. Occasionally local groups such as the Friends of the North Fork of the Shenandoah River will offer rain barrel making workshops. Below are just a few sources and you can find more by Googling "rain barrels" on line. You can also find instructions on line for making your own rain barrel.

Ace Hardware . . . . .	866-290-5334
Gaiam . . . . .	877-989-6321
Plow and Hearth . . . . .	800-494-7544
Rain Barrel Source . . . . .	866-912-9719
Spruce Creek Company . . . . .	800-940-0187
Urban Garden Center . . . . .	866-923-1992

\* \* \* \* \*

*This is the sixth in a series of articles about what we all can do to improve our watershed - Smith Creek. For more information about what you can do to improve water quality impacts from your property contact Friends of the North Fork of the Shenandoah: <http://www.fnfsr.org/> or contact Faye Cooper at [faye.cooper@dcr.virginia.gov](mailto:faye.cooper@dcr.virginia.gov) phone: 540-414-5495.*

## THE NEW MARKET COMMUNITY CENTER

The Board of Directors of the New Market Community Center, Inc. would like to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year. Thank you for your continued support of the Center. We are fortunate to have such an historic facility available for the citizens of New Market and the surrounding area.

Our Craft Show was a great success again this year. A special thank you to Mike Myers for the train exhibit in the cafeteria, the Mt. Zion Lutheran Youth for the wonderful food and our "greeters" at the door: Patsy and Gary Comer, Larry and Tina Roberts, Eleanor McClure and Robin Griffith.

The RMH Mammography Van will be at the Center on the following dates in 2012: April 17, June 29, September 14, October 17 and December 4. You may call 540-4334641 or 800-277-1021 to schedule your appointment.

The Shenandoah Banjo and Fiddle Club is at the Center for "Picking Sessions" Friday evenings at 7:00 pm and continues each Friday night through the end of May. Admission is free.

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. New students are welcome. You may call 540-856-2214 for further information.

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. The cafeteria will comfortably seat 100. For an additional fee, the kitchen is also available.

Space for public-service organizations to hold special events is available on a limited basis. Requests for meeting space are to be mailed to the Center at P.O. Box 1377, New Market, VA 22844.

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## POLICE BLOTTER

December 2011

In October, the New Market Police Department responded to 283 calls for service. There were 10 motor vehicle crashes, and 3 physical arrests. During the month officers issued 21 summonses for various traffic violations and responded to 15 mutual aid calls to other law enforcement agencies.

This month's crime tip: During the Holiday Season while shopping, be sure to keep a close eye on your wallets and pocket books and do not leave items in your unlocked vehicle where they can be seen.

The next Neighborhood Watch meeting will be Thursday, December 1, 2011 at the Town Hall at 7:00 pm.

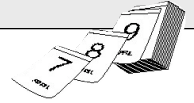
**Please remember to  
"Buckle Up and not to drink and drive"**

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## FREE CLOTHING

**Free Clothing for Needy People** - Wednesdays 8:30 am - 5:00 pm and Thursdays 8:30 am - Noon, at the Seventh Day Adventist's Community Services Center located at 62 West Lee Highway. Questions? Call 740-8550.

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS



## December 2011

- |                |  |         |
|----------------|--|---------|
| 1              | Neighborhood Watch Meeting<br>at the Municipal Building  | 7:00 pm |
| 2              | Leaf and Grass Pickup - last one of the<br>season  |         |
| 3              | Christmas Parade followed by the<br>Lighting of the Christmas tree at the<br>Municipal Building  | 4:30 pm |
| <b>5</b>       | <b>Personal Property and Real Estate<br/>Taxes Due</b>   |         |
| 5              | Council Committee Meetings in the<br>Following order: Finance & Personnel,<br>Public Works, Public Safety, Tourism,<br>Economic Development & Historical<br>Preservation | 6:30 pm |
| 5              | Planning Commission Meeting  | 7:30 pm |
| <b>15</b>      | <b>Water/Sewer Bills Due</b>   |         |
| 19             | Town Council Meeting   | 7:30 pm |
| <b>23 - 26</b> | <b>Town Office Closed in observance<br/>Of Christmas</b>   |         |

## January 2012

- |           |  |         |
|-----------|--|---------|
| 2         | <b>Town Office closed in observance<br/>of New Year's</b>  |         |
| 2 - 13    | Town will pick up discarded Christmas<br>trees   |         |
| 3         | Council Committee meetings in the<br>Following order: Finance & Personnel,<br>Public Works, Public Safety, Tourism,<br>Economic Development & Historical<br>Preservation | 6:30 pm |
| <b>13</b> | <b>Town Office closed in observance of<br/>Lee /Jackson Day</b>  |         |
| <b>15</b> | <b>Water/Sewer Bills Due</b>   |         |
| <b>16</b> | <b>Town Office closed in observance of<br/>Martin Luther King Day</b>  |         |
| 17        | Town Council Meeting   | 7:30 pm |
| 26        | New Market Historical Society<br>Dinner Meeting  |         |

Town of New Market  
Office Hours: Monday-Friday 7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
(540) 740-3432 • [www.newmarketvirginia.com](http://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  
Gary D. Comer • Harry Durrett • Troy Fadeley • Charles E. Litten  
Jason J. Ham, Town Attorney

### ADMINISTRATION

Evan L. Vass ..... <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**

**Carrier Route  
Presort  
Rt. 3  
New Market, VA 22844**

**9418 John Sevier Road  
P.O. Box 58  
New Market, Virginia 22844  
[www.newmarketvirginia.com](http://www.newmarketvirginia.com)**



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