

# OUR TOWN

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## THE MAYOR'S CORNER

*"My dream of politics all my life has been that it is the common business, that it is something we owe to each other to understand and discuss with absolute frankness." -- Woodrow Wilson*

I want to speak frankly to you about an issue that continues to haunt the New Market Historic District. The town, with the consent of its citizens and with the help of VDOT and the Federal government, is investing over two million dollars to renew and revitalize the downtown historic district. It is said that you can put lipstick on a pig and it is still a pig. Lets face it, some of the buildings in our historic district are in need of a coat of paint and repair. No matter how good new sidewalks, lighting and benches look, some of the buildings still make the downtown look tired and washed up. The question is, what do we do? The town government has tried the carrot approach by offering a "downtown enhancement grant" program. This doesn't seem to have done a great deal of good. Where do we go next? We, the council, need input from the citizens and the building owners before our town heads downhill any further. I am certainly open to your suggestions. Please offer feedback about this issue.

Speaking of the downtown, the Business Committee, which is a sub committee within the Chamber of Commerce, is sponsoring "4th Thursday" beginning with the 25th of August. Several of the businesses will stay open late and music will be provided by M&M Music. I know this notice is late for this August, but **September 27th** will be here before you know it so mark your calendars. Come down and enjoy the music and visit our shops. A reminder also goes out to remember the Saturday Farmers Market. It will be going on every Saturday morning until October.

Congratulations to the **New Market Police Department** for another successful National Night Out. Again this year, our chief of police, **Charlie Peery**, and his wife Faye did a great job with the hot dogs. All the police officers involved conducted interesting programs, and the demonstration by the Virginia State Police search and apprehension canine would make anyone considering foul play think again. Thank you New Market citizens for coming out to show support for our police department as well as Shenandoah County Sheriff's Department and the Virginia State Police.

*"We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give." -- Winston Churchill*

As Mayor I recently had the opportunity and honor of representing the town at a ceremony held in the Town Park. The ceremony was to award the Bronze Star Medal to **Master Sergeant (ret.) Ollie A. Silvius** for Meritorious Service during World War II combat operation in France. Sergeant Silvius, a local citizen, who also saw combat in the Korean war, earned the Bronze Star during WWII although it was never officially awarded. It was a poignant and moving ceremony and well deserved for a man who gave so much to his country.

As I said in the August 2010 Mayors Corner, summer is coming to an end. Our children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews are heading back to school. This message bears repeating. Yes, those are school

buses on the roads. Please remember to take a little more time, be patient and watch out for the children waiting for or loading onto the school buses. The school children are often excited and don't always take the care they should so it's up to us adults to take extra care to insure their safety. Thanks!!

Have a great Fall Season and stay healthy by enjoying the outdoors in our beautiful valley. The time to stay indoors and read will come sooner than we think and as Mark Twain said *"Be careful about reading health books. You may die of a misprint."*

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## FISCAL YEAR 2012 ANNUAL BUDGET ADOPTED

The Town's annual fiscal year budget (July 1-June 30) took effect on July 1 of this year. The preceding budget year saw the conclusion of several large capital projects within the Town's water and sewer utility operations. These included water and sewer line upgrades on Cadet Road, relining or replacement of several thousand feet of sanitary sewer line as well as the conclusion of the 4.3 mile, 16 inch sanitary sewer force main which conveys sewage to the Broadway Regional Treatment Facility. Capital expenditures in the 2012 water and sewer utility budget, though smaller, are none the less important. FY 12 capital projects include maintenance and painting of the water storage tank as well as valve and hydrant upgrades throughout the water system.

Within the general fund, fiscal year 12 includes the conclusion of the first phase of streetscape activity along a two (2) block section of Congress Street. This project is funded by a combination of federal grants at 80% with a 20% mandatory Town financial match. A second phase is planned for late 2011 or 2012 depending upon available funding. In addition, the general fund also anticipates the commencement of a storm water management program on Shady Lane in the Pleasant View Subdivision. This project will reconstruct Shady Lane to include concrete curb and guttering and storm water piping from U.S. 11 to the terminus of Shady Lane. This project is also grant funded by a combination of State grants at 50% and a 50% mandatory Town financial match. Other general fund capital upgrades and acquisitions include a new police cruiser and public works utility truck as well as a roof replacement at the Town's municipal building.

The Fiscal Year 2012 budget will include the first year of conveyance (pumping costs) and treatment costs for sewage at the Broadway treatment plant. New Market officially began pumping all sewage generated in our collection system to Broadway on December 31, 2010. In addition, while the Town has not issued any new debt in either the general or water/sewer utility fund the Town's annual debt repayment will increase by an additional \$63,000 per year in the water/sewer utility fund to offset a full annual repayment on a loan issued in 2009. To offset these additional annual costs of treatment and debt repayment the water and sewer utility rate was increased by 7.5% effective July 1, 2011.

No other user fees or general fund taxes have been increased in this year's budget. The FY 12 budget does not include any increases in employee compensation or increases in benefit costs.

## THE NEW MARKET LIONS CLUB

The club set up a booth at the Farmer's Market on July 30. Thanks to those of you that stopped by for a visit, picked up some literature and, perhaps, purchased a broom. We hope to participate again in the future.

Our next activity will be the annual picnic for the residents of Shenandoah Valley Village on September 13. This is always a well received event, and a good time is had by all.

If you would like more information on our club's activities or are interested in becoming a member, please call our membership chairman at 540-740-3977 or club secretary at 540-740-4244. You can also visit the Lions International website at [www.lionsclubs.org](http://www.lionsclubs.org) or read about Lions activities around the world in the *LION Magazine* at the New Market Library.

*"Good character, like good soup, is usually homemade." Reminisce Magazine.*

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## LIBRARY NEWS

It's back to school time at the library! Students are invited to come use the many resources available to help with studies: reference works, computers, wi-fi and books for all ages. Library staff are ready and willing to help during our open hours which are Monday 9:30 – 6:30, Tuesday through Friday, 1:00 – 5:00 and Thursday nights 7:00 – 9:00, Saturday 9:30 – 1:00 and Sunday afternoon from 2:00 – 5:00.

Preschool story times will pick up again on the third Friday of each month at 10:00 am. Our September date is Friday, September 16.

### New Books:

Janet Daily, Bannon Brother: Trust

Douglas J. Preston, Cold Vengeance

C.J. Box, Back of Beyond

W.E.B. Griffin, Victory and Honor

Julie Garwood, The Ideal Man

Anne Perry, Acceptable Loss

Kathy Reichs, Flash and Bones

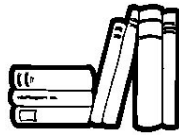
Laura Lippman, The Most Dangerous Thing

James Patterson, Kill Me If You Can

George Pelecanos, The Cut

Judy Deveraux, Heartwishes

Sharyn McCrumb, The Ballad of Tom Dooley



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## LEARN AND PLAY PICKLE-BALL AT THE NEW MARKET PARK TENNIS COURTS EVERY TUESDAY AT 10:00 AM

It's the fastest growing new sport in the country, and now you can play it in New Market. Join experienced and novice players on Tuesday mornings for lessons and to play. It is easy to learn, great exercise and lots of fun. We will provide racquets and balls for Tuesday sessions. For more information call 540-740-3460 or email [tconstbl@shentel.net](mailto:tconstbl@shentel.net).

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## VIRGINIA MUSEUM OF THE CIVIL WAR

Hello New Market Residents,

My name is Major Troy D. Marshall and on behalf of the Virginia Museum of the Civil War staff, I welcome you to visit us this fall. Town residents are always admitted free with proof of residency. I am particularly excited about an upcoming event called Rat Day, sponsored by the Virginia Museum of the Civil War and held on Sunday, September 4th from 9:00-3:00. The Park will offer free admission to the public until 1:00 pm. The new cadets will take their oath at the Bushong farm and charge the same hill where their predecessors struggled on May 15, 1864. The training is finished with their first public parade through the streets of your town from 2:00-3:00 p.m. For more information on the Park or Rat Day activities go to [www.vmi.edu/newmarket](http://www.vmi.edu/newmarket) or call us toll free at (866) 515-1864.

## HEAVY TRASH PICK-UP

The Town's Public Works Crews will be collecting heavy trash items from October 11th thru October 14th, 2011. Please place all heavy trash curbside. Crews will not go onto private property to make collections. 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, October 15th. Brush and limbs must be bundled in piles no longer than four feet in length. To ensure removal, all heavy trash should be placed curbside no later than Friday, October 15th, by 12:00 noon. Due to State laws governing the operation of the Shenandoah County Landfill, the Town is unable to remove old tires. Please contact the Town office for questions. Thank you for your cooperation.

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## NEW MARKET HISTORICAL SOCIETY

SEPTEMBER 22: "A General's Journey From The Battle of New Market to the Skirmish at Tenth Legion" by Bob Edwards. Meeting will be at Bethlehem Stone Church, Tenth Legion at 7:30 pm.

This will center on General John Gordon, a Georgian who was involved with his troops in many of the great battles of the Civil War including New Market, Fishers Hill, Cedar Creek, Antietam, Gettysburg and many more. At Antietam Gen. Gordon was hit 5 times and continued to fight until the last shot passed through his cheek and jaw. Lee referred to him as one of his best brigadiers, "characterized by splendid audacity". After the war Georgia elected him to the US Senate and later Governor. Imagine a convoy of wagons from New Market to Tenth Legion. Bob will briefly describe what support it took to maintain a mobile army during such hard times.

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## NEW MARKET REBELS

The New Market Rebels extend their appreciation to all the players, coaches, host families, and volunteers who contributed to another successful baseball season. The Rebels made the playoffs for the third year in a row only to lose to eventual league-champion Covington in a hard fought series. New Market had the winning run on third in the 9th inning of the final game, but could not score, losing in the 10th.

The Rebels presented several promotional nights this past season which celebrated the full moon, created the New Market Rebels Symphony Orchestra, and contributed to our local food banks. Perhaps our most exciting night was Christmas in July. Author Jason Wright and Emily Rexrode threw out the ceremonial first pitches and Jason autographed copies of his various books for the fans on hand. Inspired by Wright's novel, Christmas Jars, the Rebels set out a Christmas jar of their own and, through the course of the season, raised \$746.05 which was donated to Emily's family to help in her battle against multiple sclerosis.

Already next year's promotional nights are being discussed as the Rebels look forward to another successful summer in 2012!

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## POLICE BLOTTER

In July, the New Market Police Department responded to 370 calls for service. There were 6 physical arrests. Officers worked 9 motor vehicle crashes. The Auxiliary Officers volunteered 43.75 hours for the month.

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

The next New Market Area Neighborhood Watch meeting will be October 6, 2011 at 7:00 pm at the New Market Town Hall.

**"Please Remember to Buckle Up"**

## THE NEW MARKET COMMUNITY CENTER, INC.

Our Craft Show will be held October 22 – 23, 2011. Should you wish to participate, please call Claudia Gray at 540-740-4257. Hours of operation will be 10:00 am – 4:00 pm each day. The model railroad exhibit will be in the cafeteria. Mark this on your calendar.

Shenandoah Valley Banjo and Fiddle Club will resume their Friday night “pickin sessions” at the Center on October 7, 2011. The music is free to the public and is held in the cafeteria. Hours are 7:00 pm – 10:00 pm each Friday night.

The New Market High School Alumni Association will hold their bi-annual weekend at the Center on September 30 and October 1, 2011. This event is open to all who attended New Market School, not just the graduates. For further information you may contact Eleanor McClure at 740-8137.

The RMH Mammography Van will be at the Center on September 12, October 17 and December 1, 2011. You may call 540-433-4641 or 800-277-1021. Ladies, call and schedule your mammogram and save yourselves a trip to Harrisonburg.

Weight Watchers meet at the Center on Tuesday evenings at 6:00 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. Call for rental prices. The cafeteria will comfortably seat 100. For an additional fee, the kitchen is also available.

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## AUTOMATIC BANK ACCOUNT DEDUCTION FOR WATER/SEWER PAYMENTS

Tired of writing and mailing yet another check, or making it to the Town Office?

The Town may be able to help you. We offer an automated payment plan for your water-sewer utility account(s). Automatic deduction (ACH) allows you to authorize an automatic electronic payment from the bank account of your choosing for your utility payment. You will continue to receive a written statement indicating your monthly water consumption and the amount to be deducted from your account. This will allow you to avoid delays in the mail or a trip to Town Hall. To learn more please call our office at 740-3432 or stop by.

Some commonly asked questions:

- How much does this feature cost?  
This is free; there are no additional fees.
- What do I need to provide?  
A voided check along with a one page, signed application is all you need to get started. Forms are available online and at the town office.
- When is the money deducted from my account?  
Your account is deducted on the 15th of each month. If the 15th falls on a weekend or holiday it is deducted the following business day. You will continue to receive a written statement on the 1st of the month.
- What if I change bank accounts?  
Just notify the town in advance to change the account.



## HELP CLEAN UP OUR SMITH CREEK WATERSHED:



### PLANT A TREE – OR LOTS OF THEM

Trees offer a bounty of benefits to our communities. They add beauty along our streets and in our yards and support a diversity of wildlife. Some produce fruit and wood projects. And they reduce energy costs to homeowners and businesses by shading buildings. They are especially appreciated for the shade and relief they provide for people and pets on these hot summer days. **And trees are vital to the quality of the water in our streams.**

Trees reduce storm water runoff because they act like sponges, keeping water onsite and recharging the groundwater. According to the U.S. Forest Service, a typical urban forest of 10,000 trees will retain 10 million gallons of rainwater per year.

More urban tree water quality and quantity benefits:

- Reduce the amount of runoff and pollutants into creeks, specially those trees located along stream banks and drainage areas.
- Slow down and clean water, while manmade drainage systems such as sewers and storm drains accelerate the flow of polluted water through the community and into Smith Creek.
- Reduce flooding and flood damage by slowing down run off.
- Protect the soil from erosion through their root systems.
- Lower costs to the town and its residents for storm water management.

Water quality is not the only benefactor of tree plantings. So are you and your pocket book. Studies show that planting trees on your property improves its fair market value and reduces the cost and time required to maintain your lawn.

There are plenty of great sources of information about tree planting. Here are two excellent ones to get you started.

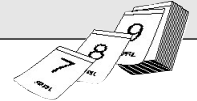
The Virginia Department of Forestry (DOF) has been growing and selling quality tree seedlings for many years. They offer Eastern White Pine, Loblolly Pine, and dozens of hardwood varieties used to establish timber stands, pulpwood crops, wildlife habitats, stream bank stabilization, urban forests, and improvement of watersheds. Orders are accepted beginning in October, and DOF ships seedlings from January to April. Go online for more information: <http://www.dof.virginia.gov/nursery/index.htm>

The Arbor Day Foundation is a non-profit organization that provides numerous tips and resources about selecting, planting, and acquiring trees (even some free sources). For more info: <http://www.arbor-day.org/trees/>

And here's a great article about tree planting and energy savings: <http://www.thedailygreen.com/environmental-news/latest/tree-planting-tips-47072203>

*This is the fourth 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.*

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS



## September 2011

- 2 Leaf and Grass Pickup
- 5 **Town Office Closed in Observance of Labor Day**
- 6 Council Committee Meetings in the 6:30 pm  
Following order: Finance & Personnel,  
Public Works, Public Safety, Tourism,  
Economic Development and Historic  
Preservation
- 6 Planning Commission Meeting 7:30 pm
- 9 Leaf and Grass Pickup
- 15 **Water/Sewer Bills Due**
- 16 Leaf and Grass Pickup
- 19 Town Council Meeting 7:30 pm
- 22 New Market Historical Society Meeting  
At Bethlehem stone church,  
Tenth Legion 7:30 pm
- 23 Leaf and Grass Pickup
- 30 Leaf and Grass Pickup

## October 2011

- 5 Council Committee Meetings in the 6:30 pm  
Following order: Finance & Personnel  
Public Works, Public Safety, Tourism,  
Economic Development & Historic  
Preservation
- 5 Planning Commission Meeting 7:30 pm
- 6 New Market Area Neighborhood  
Watch meeting at the Town Hall 7:00 pm
- 7 Leaf and Grass Pickup
- 10 **Town Office Closed in Observance of Columbus Day**
- 11-14 Heavy Trash Pickup
- 14 Leaf and Grass Pickup
- 17 Town Council Meeting
- 21 Leaf and Grass Pickup
- 22 & 23 Heritage Days Fall Festival/Craft Shows
- 28 Leaf and Grass Pickup

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  
Douglas Bradley • 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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