

THE MAYOR'S CORNER

Hello and welcome to February! January was a weather roller coaster ride this year. We had highs in the 60's and then back to the 20's. Winter is upon us and we can expect uncertainty each day. I will be the first to say that the warm December weather was welcome!

As February greets us, we begin to think some about spring weather. The children anxiously begin waiting for the spring and summer ball seasons to roll around. We adults begin thinking of golf games, ball games, warmer days, and more hours of daylight to do the things we like outside. However, we can't forget that we are still in the winter months. Remember, to take extra caution when driving in hazardous weather.

How is your New Year's resolution going? It seems that many of us start into the year with resolving to exercise more, eat better, and get more rest. The promise we each make to ourselves seems reasonable and possible. The many demands of our everyday lives can make it a real challenge to keep the resolution. Whatever your resolution is I wish you great success as you proceed into the year.

February is American Heart Month. Cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of death in the United States; one in every three deaths is from heart disease and stroke, equal to 2,200 deaths per day. This month is a month to spread awareness about the importance of heart health. Although its risk factors can be prevented or controlled, it is still the leading cause of death for all Americans.

Consider what steps you and your family can take to promote and adopt a heart healthy lifestyle. For more information regarding American Heart Month please visit <http://millionhearts.hhs.gov/index.html>.

As always, please continue to "think local, shop local". A huge "thank you" to those of you who patronized our local businesses these past months for holiday shopping. We have a wide variety of businesses and restaurants to help with everyday home needs and entertaining.

We have had productive conversations recently at our town meetings about planning and arranging events to be enjoyed by residents and visitors of the town. I encourage you to pay special attention to the announcements in the newsletter and on the town's website.

February 14th is Valentine's Day. It is the sweetest and most romantic holiday of the year. This holiday doesn't have to be a just a day for couples, it's a day about the love and compassion we all appreciate both giving and getting back from others.

As always, I continue to enjoy serving as your Mayor. Please let me know of your concerns and I will be glad to take time to listen.

Douglas C. Bradley
Mayor of New Market

RESPONSIBILITIES DURING INCLEMENT WEATHER

Please remember to do your part to keep the sidewalks open and clear for those wishing to use them this winter season. In 2004 the Town Council passed an ordinance in which property owners are responsible for the removal of snow and ice from sidewalks along their property. The Town thanks you for promptly clearing your sidewalk for the benefit of not only you, but for your neighbors and the entire community as well. Please contact the town office for details pertaining to the Town Ordinance.

If you are unable to clear snow on or along your property you will need to find someone to assist you. There are many people who offer this service. It would be wise to seek out help before the winter weather arrives.

Please also maintain access to your water meter. Trimming foliage and clearing snow and ice from the lid of the meter pit can ensure proper access to your water meter. Maintaining access to your water meter will assist us with:

- Emergency shutoffs (for frozen pipes)
- Emergency water meter maintenance.

TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALLGAME

Did you know that since 1992 through 2013 at least one Rebel baseball player has been recruited and made it to the major baseball leagues? The Rebel players are selected from schools all over.

Each summer these collegiate players stay with host families in New Market, Timberville, Broadway, Mount Jackson, Edinburg and Quicksburg. Whether you are retired, still working, have a family or live alone, you may be part of the New Market Rebels' family by providing help to one of these young men. If you do not have an extra bedroom a bed in your basement will work too. All that is required is access to a bathroom and laundry facilities. As a host you are not required to provide meals. Host families receive a free season's pass for the whole family to all home games.

To learn more about this fun summer experience, contact Joanne Burns, Rebels' Board of Director for Host Families at jtbk@shentel.net or cell phone 703-850-8490. It is a wonderful feeling seeing *your* Rebel player on Rebel Park's diamond. GO REBELS 2016!

NEW MARKET LIBRARY NEWS

Check out the New Market Area Library's Facebook page to keep current on what's happening at the library. Programs, events and closings will be posted. Children's programs in winter follow the Shenandoah County Public Schools schedule - if school is closed, the program is canceled.

The New Market Area Library will participate in the Winter Reading program with some of the other libraries in the Shenandoah County Library system. The winter reading program starts February 1, 2016 and goes through March 2, 2016 (Dr. Seuss' Birthday). Children from birth - six can get prizes for reading or being read to. Reading logs will be kept for documentation.

Our second annual Pajama Party for children and parents will be held Wednesday, February 3, 2016 from 6:30-7:30 P.M. (Snow date, Wednesday February 10th) The PJ party will kick off the Winter Reading Program. A surprise guest has been invited (think winter and Frozen). Wear your pajamas, bring a blanket and enjoy snuggling up to read books together as a family. Be sure to bring along your camera for some photos!

Books and Babies will be Friday, February 5, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. The theme will be "Snuggle Up and Read." A Valentine Tea Party will also be held during story time.

Preschool Story Time will be Friday, February 19, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. and will also be themed "Snuggle Up and Read."

The annual Read Across America/Dr. Seuss Day celebration will be held on Wednesday, March 2, from 4:30 - 5:30 p.m. at the library. Prizes for winter reading will be given out during the event.

Our adult program series continues on Saturday, February 13th at 3:00 P.M. The featured speaker will be JMU professor and author, Paul Bogard. He will talk about his book The End of Night. A starry night is one of nature's most magical wonders. Yet in our artificially lit world, most of us no longer experience true darkness. In this talk based on his book Paul Bogard seeks to restore our awareness of the spectacularly primal, wildly dark night sky and how it has influenced the human experience across everything from science to art. Using a blend of personal narrative, natural history, science, and astronomy, Bogard shares the importance of darkness--what we've lost, what we still have, and what we might regain--and the simple ways we can reduce the brightness of our nights tonight.

New Books:

Blackout, David Rosenfelt

The Guest Room, Chris Bohjalian Dictator, Robert Harris

Scandalous Behavior, Stuart Woods The Bitter Season, Tami

Hoag Blue, Danielle Steel

The Man Without a Shadow, Joyce Carol Oates

Warriors of the Storm, Bernard Cornwell

The Plague of Thieves Affair, Marcia Muller

AMERICAN LEGION HASSLER-SUTPHIN POST 166

If you have not been by the Post lately and haven't met our Club Room Manager, Phyllis Ritchie and her assistant, Sara Neill, please do so. While you are there enjoy a good meal and meet the other veterans.

Steak suppers are held on the 1st Friday and shrimp suppers are held on the 3rd Friday of each month. These suppers are open to the public and are held in the club room. For any take out orders you can call the Legion at 740-8653, Tuesday through Friday after 4:00 p.m.

For information on renting the Social Hall, call Bill at 540-480-1275. Also, for information on specials at the Post Home call Commander Tim Palmer at 540-740-3353.

For any information on the membership of the Sons of the American Legion please call Gary Cunningham at 740-8490 or Commander Tim.

If you live more than 40 miles from the VA Medical Center, and have waited more than 30 days for an appointment, call 1-866-606-8198 for information on the Veterans Choice Program.

If you are a veteran or know of a veteran that applied for VA benefits and was denied due to income, please reapply. Some restrictions have been changed. You may call Cindy Hughes at 1-800-817-3807, Ext. 4680, or 304-263-6776 for further information.

Any old, torn, or frayed flag can be left for proper disposal at the Post Drop Box which can be found in our parking lot. Please do not leave them in plastic bags.

Please support your Veterans and the Post!

USA - "Home of the Free, Because of the Brave"

ROTARY PROGRAMS

- February 3 - David King, the Athletic Director at EMU, will present a program on the issue of youth sports and its impact on families and communities. He has just completed a book is titled Overplayed: A Parent's Guide to Sanity in the World of Youth Sports. He will be talking about the current state of youth sports and the impact that it is having on families, communities, and young people.
- February 10 - Alice Horst director of New Bridges will discuss the work of New Bridges, a program that provides extensive training and experience in the particular dynamics that influence the lives of immigrants and refugees. The agency works diligently to be a leading resource for spiritual, social and economic needs of immigrants in the Shenandoah Valley. Recognizing that our work encompasses more than what a Board and two staff members are able to provide, we work to connect people and congregations in building a compassionate, just, culturally diverse community.

All programs start at noon in the Miller Grille of Shenvalee. The public is invited to attend any program of interest to them. A buffet meal is available for \$13, but is not required to attend.



Like us on
Facebook

Search: Town of New Market

NEW MARKET CHAMBER

The New Market Chamber is excited for 2016! We are in full swing of our membership campaign. We encourage businesses, civic organizations, nonprofit groups and interested individuals to join the New Market Chamber. We have different membership fees so please call the office (740-3212) or stop by and ask for more information. We often get the question; what can the Chamber do for me or my business? It is important to keep in mind that the Chamber is a MEMBERSHIP DRIVEN organization and can only be as strong as the members that participate. We strive to promote New Market and all that it has to offer!

We have begun planning for the annual banquet that will take place in March. Tickets will go on sale as soon as the date has been set.

Committees have been formed for different activities that the Chamber sponsors and/or participates in. If you are not available to make a membership meeting, but are interested in serving on a committee, please fill out the opportunity listing that was included with the membership application.

Heritage Days will take place September 24 and 25, 2016. This year we are offering a discount to vendors that register and pay BEFORE March 01, 2016. Please call the Chamber office (740-3212) if you would like to take advantage of this discount!

We would like to thank Shenandoah Place for hosting our January membership meeting. If your business is interested in hosting a meeting we still have two dates available for 2016. Please contact the Chamber office and speak with Liz.

RECYCLING FACTS

Did you know the Town of New Market has a recycling center? Recycling bins are located in the parking lot at the New Market Community Center (formerly the old elementary school building). Items accepted for collection are paper, aluminum, tin/steel cans, glass, and plastic #1-7.

Benefits of Recycling

- Reduces the amount of waste sent to landfills and incinerators
- Conserves natural resources such as timber, water, and minerals
- Prevents pollution by reducing the need to collect new raw materials
- Saves energy
- Reduces greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to global climate change
- Helps sustain the environment for future generations
- Helps create new well-paying jobs in the recycling and manufacturing industries in the United States

FREE CLOTHING

Free Clothing for Needy People available at the Seventh Day Adventist's Community Services Center (62 West Lee Highway). Hours of availability are Wednesdays 8:30 am-5:00pm and Thursdays 8:30 am- 12:00 pm. Questions? Call 740-8550.

PAST DUE TAX COLLECTION

To ensure the collection of past due taxes, since 2007 the Town of New Market has participated in the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicle Renewal Withholding Program. Taxpayers with past due personal property taxes will have a claim against them with the DMV and will not be able to renew their vehicle registration until the entire tax is paid in full along with a \$40 fee. Only cash, money orders and certified checks will be accepted for payment with a DMV stop. In addition, by authority of the Code of Virginia, §58.1-520 thru §58.1-534, the Town of New Market may also authorize the Virginia Department of Taxation to apply individual income tax refunds, or a portion thereof, to an outstanding debt owed to the Town. This action is subject to a \$20 administrative fee. If you have questions please contact the Town Office at 540-740-3432.

BUSINESS LICENSES DUE MARCH 1st

Business license renewal applications were recently mailed out. The License tax is \$10.00 per annum if gross receipts are \$10,000 or less and \$.10 per \$100.00 gross receipts if gross receipts are in excess of \$10,000.00 per annum. A 10% penalty will be assessed for failure to pay on or before March 01, 2016. All outstanding taxes and fees must be paid before the license will be issued.

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 residents of New Market, Quicksburg, and Forestville on the 3rd Thursday of every month from 1:00-6:00 p.m.

THE NEW MARKET COMMUNITY CENTER, INC.

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. We have a family-friendly atmosphere at the Center. Call for rental prices. The cafeteria will comfortably seat 100 and is air-conditioned. For an additional fee, the kitchen is also available.

New Market Lions Club hold their meetings at the center on the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month.

Weight Watchers meet at the Center on Tuesday evenings at 6:00 p.m. You may call 800-651-6000 for further information.

We will post the 2016 schedule for the RMH Mammography Van as soon as it becomes available.

Shenandoah Banjo & Fiddle Club holds their "picking sessions" at the Center 7:00 p.m. on Friday nights in the cafeteria. Admission is free.

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.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



February 2016

- 1 Council Committee Meetings in the 6:30 pm
following Order: Finance & Personnel,
Public Works, Public Safety, Tourism,
Economic Development & Historic Preservation
- 1 Planning Commission Meeting 7:30 pm
- 15 Water/Sewer Bills Due**
- 15 Town Office Closed in
Observance of Presidents Day**
- 16 Town Council Meeting
(Tuesday instead of Monday) 7:30 pm

March 2016

- 1 Business Licenses Due**
- 7 Council Committee Meetings in the 6:30 pm
following Order: Finance & Personnel,
Public Works, Public Safety, Tourism,
Economic Development & Historic Preservation
- 7 Planning Commission Meeting 7:30 pm
- 15 Water/Sewer Bills Due**
- 21 Town Council Meeting 7:30 pm

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

Doug Bradley, Mayor • John H. Blosser, Vice Mayor
Gary D. Comer • Peggy Harkness • Charles E. Litten • Tim Palmer • Scott Wymer
Jason J. Ham, Town Attorney

ADMINISTRATION

Michael Ritchie *Town Manager/ Town Clerk*
Chris Rinker *Police Chief*
Chad Neese *Town Planner/Zoning Administrator*
Teresa Green *Treasurer*

Donna Lohr *Administrative Assistant*
Lindsey Kipps *Office Assistant*
Brittany Clem *Events & Marketing Director*

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**



BULK RATE
U.S. Postage
PAID
New Market, VA
Permit No. 10