Our Town

Volume 53

December 2022

Number 12

MAYOR'S CORNER

When I was first elected Mayor of New Market, our nation was fighting through the nightmare of Covid 19. Due to the restrictions placed on our ability to gather I decided that I would use this written forum to keep our citizens informed of our goals for the town. I will continue disseminating this information in the same manner until the completion of my term in December of 2024. During these next 2 years, I believe that I will convey to you the completion of present projects and the establishment of new goals that will benefit our town.

I am very grateful for the members of council that are giving of their time and energy to assist in planning New Market's course. On Election Day, Peggy Harkness, Janice Hannah and Daryl Watkins received your vote of confirmation to continue to serve on our Town Council. Not only do I congratulate them on their success, but I also want to thank each of them for their commitment to New Market. Please remember that the citizens that serve on your council and planning commission do it not for the money but instead for their belief in public service. This is also true for the many social, fraternal and religious organizations that provide for the needs of our citizens.

Speaking of serving the public, there are less people willing to give of their time to these organizations. Their membership is getting older with fewer choosing to help. Even with the recent town elections, we only had the three current council people willing to run for the three open seats. Again, I thank them for their willingness to give of their time to continue to serve our town. However, I encourage more citizens to step forward to assist with developing our community activities and provide diversity in our government. This great country of ours grew successful out of debate on setting goals, their sacrifice of personal desires and the hard work of many hands. I ask that of you, the citizens of New Market, to add your talents for the betterment of our town.

We take pause during the Christmas season to thank our Creator for our many blessings. What better way to show this appreciation than to give of our time to assist with improving our community? Wishing you a very MERRY CHRISTMAS from your council and town employees!

> Larry A. Bompiani Mayor of New Market

TIS THE SEASON 2022

The Town of New Market and the New Market Chamber of Commerce is excited to present our annual Tis the Season Celebration 2022 on December 3, 2022.

What to expect during the day:

- * Open Houses with participating downtown businesses
- * Shop Local Passport Game
- * Festive music while strolling downtown
- * Fun activities to participate in
- * Visit with Santa at the New Market Library (11:00 am-1:00 pm)
- * Winter Wonderland Drive-Thru Parade in the New Market Community Park from 5p-7p

We hope you will mark your calendars to come to celebrate the beginning of the holiday season with us in New Market!

TOWN OFFICE HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

The Town Office will be closed the following business days this holiday season:

Friday, December 23, 2022 Monday, December 26, 2022 Monday, January 2, 2023

FA-LA-LA-LA-LA SHOPPING LOCAL PASSPORT GAME

Travel around town and find wonderful treasures in our shops! Beginning December 3rd through December 9th, you can participate in our Shopping Local Passport Game. The goal is to shop local for presents and collect stamps for your Shop Local Passport card and WIN A FREE ORNAMENT (while supplies last).

- The game is simple.
- 1. Get a passport game card (free)
- 2. Visit and shop at the participating stores listed on the card
- 3. Present passport card to collect stamp
- 4. Collect the allotted amount of stamps to win a free ornament
- 5. Turn the completed passport card in to receive your free ornament.

There will be three locations to redeem your ornament:

The Home Store, Valley Sports Connections, or Jon Henry General Store Passports will be available to print off/ pickup when we get closer to the event.

LIBRARY NEWS

Tis the Season! As part of the Town of New Market's celebration, Santa will greet children at the library from 11:00 am-1:00 pm on Saturday, December 3, 2022. Each child will receive a goody bag from Santa.

Children's programs for December:

• Books and Babies: Friday, December 2, 2022 at 10:00 am, children ages 0-3 and their caregivers are invited to be "Merry and Bright" in a festive lap sit program with stories, songs, sensory play and more.

• Preschool Story Time: Friday December 16, 2022 at 10:00 am, for children ages 3-5. "Jingle Bells and Gingerbread" will be the theme.

Seasonal books are already on display for easy access. A mailbox for Letters to Santa is

here for your child's special mail!







Make sure to send your letter by December 15th, or I won't have time to write you back.

Your Pal, Santa

MEET AND GREET SANTA

Santa will be visiting with the good little kids of New Market at the New Market Library. Santa's elves will be handing out goody bags and you will have the opportunity to take photos with Santa.

> When: December 3, 2022 Time: 11:00 AM-1:00 PM Where: New Market Area Library Cost: FREE



CHRISTMAS ON THE FARM Saturday, December 3, 2022 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Join us at the Virginia Museum of the Civil War as we celebrate the holiday season at the museum, battlefield, and Bushong Farm! Explore the museum and make take home crafts, enjoy festive treats, and see a special Christmas film. Take a step back into 1859 and visit the Bushong family as they cook, sing, and tell stories in anticipation of a special Christmas visitor. Stop by the military camp and see how soldiers celebrated Christmas far from home in 1864.

Event tickets go on sale at 10:00 am on December 3rd and can be purchased at the Virginia Museum of the Civil War. Event prices are \$10 per adult (ages 13 and older) \$6 per youth (ages 6-12), Children 5 and under are free, \$5 for New Market residents (ages 6+) with proof of residency. Bring two non-perishable canned food items to benefit our local food pantry to receive \$1 off your ticket price.

WINTER WONDERLAND DRIVE-THRU PARADE

Journey (via vehicle) through the New Market Community Park to enjoy the beautiful, festive lighting, and the stationary parade lineup. You will be able to wave to Santa and Mrs. Claus but WATCH OUT for the Grinch lurking around!

This parade is a drive-thru-only event, so you can stay bundled up in your vehicle and enjoy the ride through the park. At the end of your winter wonderland journey, you will receive a goody bag (while supplies last).

Want to participate in the parade lineup? Contact Amber Smoot at 540-740-3432.

MAINTAIN ACCESS TO YOUR WATER METER

It is very important that customers maintain clear access to their water meters from the public right-of-way. Obstacles that may block the radio signals include building materials, foliage and metal objects located between the street and the meter pit.

All town water customers are responsible for the upkeep of the area between their meter pit and the street. Please assist us by trimming foliage and by clearing snow and ice from the lid of the meter pit. Landscaping or fencing should be kept at least 1-3 feet from the meter pit.

Maintain access to your water meter to assist us with:

• Meter Reading

• Emergency shutoffs (for frozen pipes) when you are away from home or are unable to turn off the water yourself; and

• Emergency water meter maintenance

WINTER WEATHER ADVISORIES

The onset of the Holidays often brings cold weather and snow right along with it. Whether the storm totals 1" or 12"+, winter weather presents challenges for all of us. Here are a few tips in advance of this winter season:

• **Be prepared:** Predicting weather seems to be a challenge even with advances in 21st century meteorology. With few exceptions winter storms are rarely a total surprise. Winter weather advisories are usually posted days in advance of the storm. Use that time to restock your medications, food and other essentials.

• Be careful: It may seem like an overused piece of advice, but when you travel unnecessarily on snow covered roads you put yourself and your vehicle at risk and make clearing roads that much more challenging. For those of you who do have to travel, plan ahead and leave yourself extra time to get to your destination.

• Be patient: Removing snow from streets takes time. Storm duration, temperature and sunlight all affect how quickly streets are cleared. Often it's not until the sun returns and day time temperatures exceed 32 degrees that frozen snow and ice on streets can completely be removed.

• **Be helpful:** After the snow has stopped, please help keep your neighbors and friends safe by clearing the side-walk(s) that fronts your property. It's not only the right thing to do; it's also required by town ordinance.

FLASHLIGHT CANDY CANE HUNT

Bundle up, grab a flashlight and come to the New Market Community Park on Saturday, December 10th for our Flashlight Candy Cane Hunt. Kiddos will hunt for candy canes, packages of hot chocolate, and other fun items in the park. Don't forget to bring a flashlight and bundle up!

Cost: FREE Ages: 1-14 Hunt Times:

• Round 1 at 6:30 • Round 2 at 7:00 • Round 3 at 7:30

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED! You must be registered to participate. Limited Spots are available.

REGISTER at:

https://tinyurl.com/2wcrkfdz You will select the round time. Limited spots per time slot. (You may NOT register for multiple time slots. Each child can only hunt in one round)

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) when you are away from home or are unable to turn off the water inside your location.

• Emergency water meter maintenance.

YOU ARE INVITED!

WHERE: Reformation Lutheran Church 9283 Congress St.

What: Home Cooked Lunch and Fellowship When: 11:00 a.m. (First Thursday of every Month)

> **Everyone is welcome! Please come!** Freewill offering/donations accepted

CHILDCARE CENTER BRINGS NEW LIFE TO LEGION BUILDING

Community Care and Learning Center's (CCLC) Board of Directors has purchased the old American Legion building on East Old Cross Road to move and expand childcare services in our town. Three years ago, CCLC opened in rented space near Pack's Ice Cream. Community response was amazing and, even during COVID, the center grew. The Legion building provides room for even more growth, inside and out. CCLC expects to open in the next location in Spring 2023, adding 25 infant-preschool children to the current 52 children served, and adding care for schoolage children by summer.

CCLC's vision is to "exemplify the power of community collaboration". The board encourages anyone interested in helping with the work needed to create new state approved, child-friendly classrooms to reach out. Monetary donations, volunteer time and donation of materials are all welcomed.

CCLC is a non-profit, licensed childcare center. All donations are tax-deductible. Over 90% of children receive tuition assistance, thanks to several state grant programs and local donations. Parents can maintain employment because they have dependable childcare, and support other businesses in town every day.

For more information, please call the center at 540-740-2804 or call Board member, Yvonne Frazier, at 540-335-7797.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December 2022

- 2 Lawn and Leaf Pickup
- 3 Tis the Season
- 5 2nd Half Real Estate and Personal Property Taxes Due
- 9 Lawn and Leaf Pickup
- 15 Water/Sewer Bills Due
- 19 Town Council Meeting
- 23 Town Office Closed in Observance of Christmas Eve
- 26 Town Office Closed in Observance of Christmas

January 2022

- 2 Town Office Closed in Observance of New Year's Day
- 15 Water/Sewer Bills Due
- 16 Town Office Closed in Observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- 17 Town Council Meeting (Tuesday instead of Monday)

6:30 pm

TOWN OF NEW MARKET CONTACT INFORMATION

6:30 pm

Emergeny 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	
J. Todd Walters Town Manager	Donna LohrAdministrative Assistant
Chris Rinker Police Chief	Lindsey Kipps Office Assistant
Teresa Green Town Treasurer	Amber Smoot Events & Marketing Director
Meghan RupkeyTown Planner	J.D. FadleyPublic Works Director

An Equal Opportunity Community

Boxholder P.O. Box Section 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