

# Town of Sharpsburg

## Town Crier



Volume 25      February 2015      Number 2

---

**The minutes of the town meeting are not the official minutes; they are an overview of the business conducted. A copy of the official minutes can be obtained at the town office from the clerk.**

The meeting of the Sharpsburg Mayor and Council was called to order at 7pm by Mayor Hal Spielman. The minutes of the January, 2015 meeting and the January, 2015 treasurer's report were both approved as presented.

There were no public comments.

### Committee Reports

**Parks and Railroad Station:** New benches, trash receptacles and bicycle racks have been ordered, through our grant award with the State Highway Administration. In addition to these items, we will order four picnic tables for the pavilion at the park.

**Building:** Need to ask Rich to replace the damaged carpet square in the library.

**Streets:** Kimberly will call Frederick Seibert and Associates in regards to an update with their work on the project on East Chapline Street Extended

**Planning and Zoning:** Brady Burkner will be added to the Planning Commission, as he can assist them with computer work and research. They will be meeting on the third Tuesday of the Month. **Battlefield**

**Advisory Committee:** The meeting of the committee will take place on Thursday. Perry Jamieson will get the notes to Kimberly to place in the Crier.

**Canal Towns Partnership:** The Canal Towns are putting together a brochure for distribution that will include all of the towns that are a part of the Canal Towns Partnership. The brochure will allow each town to design their own panel. It is possible that the Partnership will be obtaining grant monies to pay for the brochure, but if not, each town included will need to pay \$170 for the designing and printing of the brochure. It was agreed that if need be, the Town will pay the cost to be included in this project.

**Public Safety:** Nothing to report

**Mayor's Report:** The Mayor attending a public meeting at the C&O Canal Headquarters in Hagerstown, opposing the fees that the C&O Canal is considering. The Council discussed several reasons on why they oppose the fees. Kimberly will draft a letter to send to the C&O Canal Headquarters in opposition of the proposed fees **Old Business:**

**Legion Building:** The Structural Engineer has not been down to the building yet. Brandon will get in touch with him and if need be, will get another Structural Engineer out to evaluate the building

**New Business:**

Parade meeting: This will be held on Wednesday, February 11<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in Town Hall. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Watershed Implementation Projects: As a State requirement, each municipality is required to perform projects within their towns that help to eliminate the amount of pollution and materials that are going into the drainage system and eventually into the Chesapeake Bay. The Town has established projects to do throughout the year to assist with this effort. These include possibly sweeping the streets, cleaning the town pond area, stenciling of the storm drains, cleaning of the storm water drains and establishing a rain garden/rain barrel project. All projects will be based on financial feasibility. We will have the inmates assist us on completing as many of the projects as possible, as well as the possibility of the assistance of the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts.

Spring Bulk Pickup: This was approved and will take place on Wednesday, May 6<sup>th</sup>, along with regular trash pickup.

Spring Brush Pick-up: Two quotes have been obtained to have a brush pick up this spring. Kimberly will call and try to get additional estimates and it will be discussed at the March meeting.

Council Liaison to the Planning Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals: Russ Weaver has agreed to be the council liaison for both commissions.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40pm. The next meeting will be held Monday, March 2, 2015 at 7pm.

## **Town News**

### **Parade Meeting**

The next parade meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 17<sup>th</sup> at 7pm at Town Hall. Everyone is welcome to attend and assist with the planning and organization of the parade.

## *Save the Date*

### *148<sup>th</sup> Annual Memorial Day Commemoration*



This year's Memorial Day activities will take place on Saturday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>. More information will be released as it becomes available.

## Bulk Trash Pick-Up



Bulk Trash pickup will be held on Wednesday, May 6, 2015. Bulk items are to be placed out front beside your regular trash items. Items that will not be accepted are:

- Paint, unless it is completely dried out
- Televisions
- Remodeling/Construction material
- Automotive parts
- Yard waste

## Community Events

### **Antietam Lodge holds installation of officers**



Antietam Lodge #197 of Ancient and Free and Accepted Masons of Maryland, located in Keedysville, installed new officers on January 20, 2015. If you are interested in becoming a Mason, contact Jim Kalbflesh at [Jbk1064@gmail.com](mailto:Jbk1064@gmail.com)

## *Auxiliary Presents Blue Star Banner*



**Pictured from left to right: Brother Michael Milner,  
Mother Loretta Milner, Grandmother Rosalind Baker**

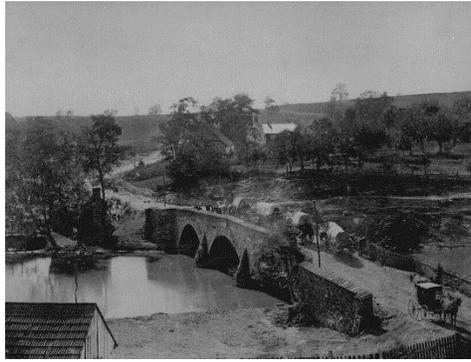
Ava Gift, President of Antietam Unit 236 Sharpsburg American Legion Auxiliary, on behalf of the unit, presented a Blue Star Banner to the Milner family of Hagerstown during the Unit's February 10<sup>th</sup> meeting. Christopher and Loretta Milner's son, Thomas Edward Milner, is a 2014 North Hagerstown High School graduate, and is currently stationed at Fort Campbell, Kentucky, specializing in mechanics.

Thomas comes from a military background. His maternal grandfather, Thomas Joseph Baker, is a Viet Nam army veteran and his great grandfather, Elmer Andrew Baker was a WWII Navy veteran. Numerous cousins and uncles have also served in the armed forces.

Created in 1917, Blue Star Banners were a common sight during World War I and World War II. Resurrected by the Legion in 2001, the banner is displayed to show that a family member is currently serving in the armed forces.

- *Ava Gift*

## Battlefield Advisory Committee



- Antietam National Battlefield is considering fee increases, to take effect this year. The entrance fee per person would increase from \$4 to \$5; per vehicle would increase from \$6 to \$10; and the annual park pass would increase from \$20 to \$30. Fees at Antietam have not been increased since 2006. The battlefield invites comments on the proposed increases at <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/antietamfees>
- The Burnside Bridge suffered storm damage last winter. During the summer of 2014, workers from the Historical Preservation Training Center completed the immediately-needed repairs to this famous structure. A recent meeting of the battlefield superintendent, the Burnside Bridge project manager, and representatives of the Historic Preservation Training Center arrived at a two part, two year plan to ensure the long term future of this Antietam landmark. First, work on the bridge's underside will begin in July 2015. Second, projects to restore and strengthen its superstructure will start in April 2016. The Burnside Bridge will be closed to visitors during these periods of construction
- Bad weather postponed the December 2014 Memorial Illumination by one week. Because of the schedule change, about forty percent fewer than usual number of volunteers participated. The postponement also reduced the attendance by about fifty percent; by 9:30pm, there were no cars in line on MD 34 to enter the event

*-Perry Jamieson*

## NASA Astronaut, G. Reid Wiseman visits Sharpsburg



**Mayor Spielman with Astronaut  
G. Reid Wiseman**

The Sharpsburg library was buzzing Thursday, February 12<sup>th</sup> with people of all ages, anxiously awaiting the arrival of Astronaut G. Reid Wiseman. Astronaut Wiseman's visit was the result of librarian Barb Twigg spending countless hours of her time communicating with NASA to secure a visit from Wiseman. Once Barb received the green light, the adventure began!

Astronaut Wiseman spent the morning visiting students at Sharpsburg Elementary School and the afternoon speaking at Boonsboro High School. In between speaking engagements, he was treated to tours of Sharpsburg, the Antietam National Battlefield and Shepherdstown.

After being welcomed by Mayor Hal Spielman, Astronaut Wiseman excitedly met with visitors in the library Thursday evening, many of them waiting outside in the cold until the line moved indoors. He spoke about his six months on the International Space Station as flight engineer and answered questions, ranging from "What was the coolest thing you ever saw in space?" to "How do you exercise in space?"

It was a pleasure to meet him and hear about his experiences. Thank you, Barb for organizing this amazing meet and greet opportunity.

## Events at the Sharpsburg Library

*March 7<sup>th</sup>*

Lego Club 10am

Come accept the building challenge, or come up with your own design!

Oh My Stars!! 9am-12noon

Come enjoy the display of 20 original small hand hooked mats. The saying "Oh My Stars" was the inspiration for the designs. The mats will be featured in the ATHA (Association of Traditional Hooking Artists) Rugger's Companion and exhibited in various venues around the country in 2014-2015.

*March 12<sup>th</sup> 6pm*

Movie Night

### **The Hunger Games: Mockingjay – Part 1**



The Hunger Games: Mockingjay – Part 1, is the second film in the “Hunger Games” series and stars Jennifer Lawrence, Liam Hemsworth and Josh Hutcherson. In this Sci-Fi adventure, Katniss Everdeen is in District 13 after she shatters the games forever. Under the leadership of President Coin and the advice of her trusted friends, Katniss spreads her wings as she fights to save Peeta and a nation moved by her courage. Film is rated PG-13.

# Town Government

Town Office – 301-432-4428

Hours of Operation: Monday - Thursday 8:30am-2:00pm, additional hours available by appointment

Office of the Zoning Administrator: Tuesdays from 10am-6pm, additional hours are available by appointment

## Mayor and Council

Hal Spielman – Mayor	301-432-6854
Bryan Gabriel – Vice Mayor	301-432-2478
Ed Beeler – Councilperson	301-800-6877
Darryl Benner – Councilperson	301-991-2230
Brenda Gabriel – Councilperson	301-432-2478
Brandon Smith – Councilperson	301-491-4866
Russ Weaver – Councilperson	301-432-5907

The Sharpsburg Town Crier  
PO Box 368  
Sharpsburg, MD 21782

