



# The SHARPSBURG TOWN CRIER

VOLUME 22

MARCH 2012

NUMBER 3

## COUNCIL NEWS

These minutes are not the official minutes, nor are they a complete review of the business conducted. Requests for a copy of the complete minutes may be requested from the town clerk.

The meeting of the Sharpsburg Mayor and Council was called to order at 7:03pm by Mayor Spielman. All members were in attendance.

The minutes of the February meeting and the treasurer's report from February were both approved with no additions or corrections.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

GE Ingram of the Sharpsburg Little League was present to invite the Mayor and Council to a lighting ceremony of the new ball lights on April 9th. Opening day of play is April 14th. GE also reported that the irrigation system is in place at the ball field and should be up and running within the next week or two.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Parks and Railroad**— Available members of the council will meet on Saturday, March 17th at 10am at the park to replace the slide. Rich Casto will be hanging the new signs. GE reported that the water tower over-

\*\* If you are interested in having the crier emailed to you, please send an email to the town clerk at [townofsharpsburg@comcast.net](mailto:townofsharpsburg@comcast.net)

flow pipe has some leaks. Bryan will take care of this.

**Building**— Brandon will price out paint to paint the town shed and Bryan will contact the prison to see if there are inmates available that could paint it for us.

**Streets**— The bridge project has been completed and has been given the final "ok" by the engineer. There were some questions about the town run and how to possibly "fix" or maintain the run to avoid erosion problems. The engineer is working on obtaining grants for homeowners whose property the town run affects. He will get in touch with Kimberly once he has found suitable grants and the homeowners would be notified if they are interested.

There have been some interest from townspeople on resurfacing streets and alleys. If a citizen has a request for this, they should put it in writing and send it to the town. These projects would need to wait until the next fiscal year to be considered.

**Planning and Zoning**— Kimberly is working with Patti to get this plan completed.

**Battlefield Advisory Committee**— The committee met on March 7th and discussed some 150th Anniversary projects.

These will be put up on the battlefield website. A complete report will be placed in the crier.

**Public Safety**— There continues to be issues with young people in the town vandalizing properties

and town property. The sheriff's department has been made aware of this and has made several house calls to parents. Residents are encouraged to call the sheriff's office if they see or suspect suspicious/malicious activity.

**Mayor's Report**— Mayor Spielman read an email from Vernell Doyle stating that she was resigning from the Canal Towns Partnership. Cookie Vargasson remains a member and Cathy Hull has agreed to be the second voting member. Jennifer Silbert will be the alternate for this project. The council thanked Vernell for her service and efforts with the project.

### OLD BUSINESS

**Landscaping in front of town hall**— The town has gotten some ideas of landscaping to be placed out front. Anyone with a background in this field is more than welcome to submit a drawing/idea for this project. We are aiming to have this completed for the parade in May.

**Zoning Administrator**— So far Kimberly has received one interested party for this position. The job is open until March 15th. Interviews will be set up for April 2nd for interested parties.

**Recycling**— As of June 1st, the county will be removing the recycling bin from the EMS/Fire Department lot. This will not be replaced. Residents that wish to have recycling pick up can call Apple Valley Waste and set up curbside pick up,

once per week for \$4.00 per month. This will be posted around town, in the newspaper and in the crier.

**Water pooling on High Street**— There seems to be water that collects at the base of the water tower when there are heavy rains. This water remains in the road for several days. Mayor Spielman met with some individuals on how to correct this issue, so as to get rid of the water and not impose on the neighbors around the park. One option is to cut the road and put a speed dip in the road. This will be evaluated further.

**Parking Spaces on Main Street**— It was questioned if more cars could park along the town center if parking spaces were hashed out. John Wolford was notified of our request to have a study done. It was also recommended to place a white “shoulder” line through main street so that parked cars could get off the road completely. Mr. Wolford will also be asked this question to see which the state feels would be more beneficial.

**Bike Rack**— Several bike racks and possible locations were discussed. John Wolford of the State Highway Administration states that we can not place one across the street in the square. We will check other areas around the town center for an appropriate spot.

**Phone System for Town Hall**— The possibility of adding a “phone tree system” to town hall was discussed. This would be a recorded system that citizens could have the option to leave messages for the clerk, tax collector, etc. Kimberly has gotten one quote, which seems to be a little high. She will obtain other quotes for the April meeting.

#### NEW BUSINESS

**Spring Bulk Trash Pick-Up**— It was decided to have a spring bulk trash pick up towards the end of April. Kimberly will call Apple Valley Waste to confirm an exact date and this will be posted and placed in the crier.

**Spring Brush Pick-Up**— Kimberly will obtain quotes from possible companies that may be interested in picking up the brush for a spring brush pick up, hopefully in early May. Once established, this will be posted and placed in the crier.

**Mowing**— It was decided to venture away from the inmates doing the town mowing and to bid out the job. Kimberly will get this contract done and advertised ASAP so that the contract can be awarded at the next meeting.

**Fishing Rodeo**— This will take place Saturday, May 5th from 7-11am at the town pond. Bryan has agreed to organize this event.

**Raise Taxes**— It was decided that the tax rate would go from 0.25 to 0.30 for the next tax year.

**Heritage Festival**— The festival would like to shut

down the 200 block of West Main Street for the festival this year. This request was approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40pm. The next meeting will be Monday, April 2, 2012 at 7pm.

### TOWN HALL ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### Recycling Bin to be Removed

As of June 1, 2012, the county will be removing the community recycling bin located in the parking area of the town EMS/Fire facilities. The community bin WILL NOT be replaced.

Residents that wish to have home curb side recycling pick up, may do so at their own expense by contacting Apple Valley Waste at 1-877-267-1280. The current cost is \$4.00 per month and includes a 35 gallon recycling container and weekly recycling pick up (currently on Thursdays.)

For further information about the recycling service, contact Apple Valley Waste, or visit their website at [www.applevalleywaste.com](http://www.applevalleywaste.com) and click on the page for Washington County Residents.

#### Big Spring Alley Bridge Project Complete

The Big Spring Alley bridge project has been completed and the alley is now open to through traffic.

#### Town Accepting Bids for Mowing of Town Property

The Town of Sharpsburg is accepting sealed bids to perform mowing/trimming and general grounds upkeep of town property. Bid Packets are available at the town office, located at 106 East Main Street on the second floor, Monday-Thursday from 8:30am-2:00pm.

Sealed proposals will be accepted until 12:00 noon on Monday, April 2, 2012. Bids will be opened at the regular meeting of the Mayor and Council on Monday, April 2, 2012 at 7pm.

Questions should be directed to the town clerk, Kimberly Fulk, at 301-432-4428 Monday-Thursday between the hours of 8:30am-2:00pm.

### **Save the Date!!**

The 145th annual Memorial Day Commemoration activities are set for Saturday, May 26th. The festivities begin at 11am with a wreath laying ceremony in the town square. The parade kicks off at 1:30 from the Sharpsburg Elementary School and travels down Main Street to the Antietam National Cemetery. The Park Service will have a ceremony in the Antietam National Cemetery at 3:00pm. Come help us honor our service men and women at one of the oldest celebrations in the country.

### **Parade Books, Sponsorships and Memorials**

Each year, the Town of Sharpsburg produces and sells a commemorative parade book. These books are funded through individual sponsorships and memorials that citizens place in the book.

Parade Books are sold for \$2.00 each and orders may be placed at the town office, or by calling Cathy Hull at 304-279-8440.

Sponsorships and memorials are \$2.00 each, not to exceed three lines. Book orders and sponsorships/memorials are due **NO LATER THAN APRIL 30TH**. Please call the town clerk or Cathy Hull with questions.

### **Community News and Events**

#### **American Legion Distributes Goodies to Sharpsburg Elementary School**



The American Legion Post and Unit 236 spread lots of holiday cheer to the students, faculty and staff of the Sharpsburg Elementary School. In the above photo, (from left to right,) Corky Crist, Lou Ann Eichelberger, Lawrence Hoffman, Ernie Wetterer and Don Bailey (handing out an orange) enjoyed giving out oranges and candy canes. Each member of the Legion were very impressed with the manner

shown by the students and the appreciation from the staff.

- Darlene Hoffman

#### **Blue Star Service Banner Presented to Fellow Member**



At the monthly meeting, Tuesday, February 14, 2012, Antietam Unit 236 American Legion Auxiliary presented to Stephanie and Richie Mills a Blue Star Service Banner. Their son, Chase is currently serving in the United States Army, 1st Calvary Combat Engineers in Kuwait. Stephanie and their daughter Torie are members of Antietam Unit 236. Upon receiving the banner, they thanked the Unit and stated they would be proud to display it in the window of their Sandy Hook home.

Chase is a 2010 graduate of Boonsboro Senior High School. Anyone wishing to send him cards and well wishes, are encouraged to do so. His address is: MILLS PV2 CHARLES, CCO 1BSTB 1CD, CAMP BUEHRING KUWAIT, 09330 APO AE.

The Blue Star Service Banner was designed and patented by a World War I Army officer in 1917. They were widely used across America during the first and second world wars, they were not embraced during the Korea or Vietnam wars with the same enthusiasm. Now, as the long and difficult "war on terrorism" continues, the Blue Service Banner tradition is a reminder that the war touches every neighborhood. It lets others know that someone in the home is serving in the United States Armed Forces.

If there is anyone in the Sharpsburg area who has a family member currently serving in the military and would like to participate in the Blue Star Service Ban-

ner Program, they may contact Ava Gift at 301-432-6658 and Antietam Unit 236 will be happy to present a banner to them.

- Ava Gift

*Soup, Sandwich and Bake Sale*



The ladies of Antietam Unit 236 American Legion Auxiliary will be holding their annual chicken salad sandwich, soup and bake sale on Good Friday, April 6 and Saturday, April 7th from 9am-5pm in front of the Jefferson Security Bank in the square of Sharpsburg. Come out and support their efforts as this is one of the fundraisers that allows them to fund the many worthwhile programs. All monies raised are put back into the community.

- Ava Gift

### **Battlefield Advisory Committee**



Shepherdstown Battlefield Special Resource Study: Two public meetings were held in February, the first on the 23rd at Harpers Ferry and the second on the 25th in Shepherdstown. Approximately 90 people attended these two meetings. Many comments were received by the NPS and the comment period remains open until mid March.

Antietam 150th Anniversary: Planning for the 150th continued through February; the schedule for anniversary weekend should be finalized this month. The park is in the process of uploading upcoming all 2012 programs and events on its website. The park also

developed a list of projects we will be working on to spruce it up for the battle anniversary. This primarily consists of painting and landscaping projects.

We received word that the relocation for the reenactment scheduled to take place September 15-16 has moved from Taylors Landing Road to Bakersville Road.

April 28 Symposium "The Dignity of Free Men: Pathways to Freedom Through the Civil War and Beyond" will be held at the visitor center and consists of a series of well known speakers who will discuss African-American slavery and emancipation. The program will conclude with a tour of Tolson's Chapel. Reservations are required.

Artillery Relocation Plan: Ranger Keith Snyder prepared a plan to relocate the battlefield's artillery to enhance interpretation of artillery at the Battle of Antietam. The park will be moving the pieces over the next month or so and developing interpretive signage and a booklet that will be sold by WMIA.

- Perry Jamieson

<b>Town Office Hours:</b> <b>Monday-Thursday 8:30am-2:00pm</b> <b>(Additional hours by appointment)</b>	
Hal Spielman, Mayor	432-6854
Bryan Gabriel, Vice Mayor	432-2478
<b>COUNCIL</b>	
Darryl Benner	991-2230
Cathy Hull	304-279-8440
Jennifer Silbert	432-7984
Brandon Smith	432-1941
<b>TOWN OFFICIALS</b>	
Kimberly Fulk, Town Clerk	301-302-7347
Debra Jamison, Tax Collector	432-6572
Patti Hammond, Planning Com.	432-5965
Anna Jamison, Election Board	432-6572

<b>TOWN ORGANIZATIONS</b>		
Am Leg. Aux.	Ava Gift	432-6658
Am. Legion	Lawrence Hoffman	432-8957
Hist. Society	Vernell Doyle	992-9767
Mt. View Cemetery	Hal Spielman	432-6854
Cub Scouts	Michael Miles	432-0275
Boy Scouts	John Stewart	432-0564
<b>CHURCHES</b>		
Brethren	Lilly Grayson	432-6174
Bible	Rev. Gene Renner	739-1882
Episcopal	Carolyn Shaw	791-3357
Lutheran	Rev. Karen Valentine	304-676-9974
UCC	Melissa Reiff	465-9411

The Sharpsburg Town Crier  
P.O. Box 368  
Sharpsburg, MD 21782

SHARPSBURG  
Oldest Town in Washington  
County  
Founded July 9, 1763

