



# TOWN OF SHARPSBURG

## TOWN CRIER

Volume 25

April 2015

Number 4

---

**The minutes of the meeting of the Mayor and Council are an overview of the business conducted, not the official minutes of all business conducted. A copy of the official minutes can be obtained from the Town Clerk.**

The meeting of the Sharpsburg Mayor and Council was called to order at 7:05pm by Mayor Spielman. The minutes of the March meeting and the March treasurer's report were both approved.

**Parks and Railroad Station:** The grant amenities have arrived and the workers from the prison have been working on installing the benches. As a part of the grant, we also have three bike racks, it was suggested to place one across the street from Town Hall, one behind Town Hall, with a sign that points to where it is, and one at the park. Starting April 7<sup>th</sup>, we will have the workers from the prison every Tuesday, weather permitting.

**Building:** Rich took care of the carpet square. The elevator was checked out and is now lining up with the floor and does not make as dramatic of a "thud" as it used to.

**Streets:** Frederick Seibert & Associates have completed their part of the East Chapline Street Extended project. They will be here April 14<sup>th</sup> at 2:30pm in Town Hall for a meeting to go over what they have concluded.

**Speed Bump:** A speed bump was removed with the snow down at the pond, B&B Automotive will replace the speed bump.

**Trash on S Mechanic Street:** Howard and Kimberly have gotten several complaints that there is an increase in trash on the streets and in the grassy areas, especially since the weather is improving. We will have the inmates install a trash can at the Legion Building.

**Planning and Zoning:** There is a BZA Hearing scheduled for April 21<sup>st</sup> at 7pm.

**Battlefield Advisory Committee:** Met last Wednesday, Mr. Jamieson has notes to give to Kimberly for the Crier

**Canal Towns Partnership:** Brochures are at the printer and we will receive ours within the week

**Public Safety:** The Fire Department added snow birds to the new building, which will make the alley and parking lot safer now.

**Mayor's Report:** Nothing to report

### Old Business

- 1. Legion Building:** No written report yet. Verbally the Structural Engineer stated that the entire front of the building is stable and should meet all of the current codes. We still need to obtain some drawings/blueprints of the building. Darryl contacted the current commander of the Legion and he is still working on trying to track those down. He did state that the Legion added

on to the back of the building and that the front of the building was already there.

Brandon states that the roof of the building is actually still in good shape. We need to obtain the drawings and decide what to put in the building and proceed with applying for grants.

2. **Brush Pick-up:** Scheduled for Monday, May 4<sup>th</sup>. Brush pick-up will run continuously until all brush has been collected. Mayor Spielman will be meeting with the representative from Bartlett Tree Experts on April 27<sup>th</sup> to show him where to pick up the brush and where to dump the shavings.
3. **Carpet Cleaning:** Received a quote to clean the carpet of approximately \$300. Still waiting on two more quotes. It was decided that the company that could clean it for \$300 or under would be responsible for doing the job.
4. **Weed Ordinance and Trash Ordinance:** Please get your changes/improvements to Howard so that he can get them the way that you wish for them to read. Need to check with Apple Valley to see if they will provide every resident with a trash can and if so, is there a fee associated with it.

#### **New Business**

1. **Parade Meeting:** Monday, April 13<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. We are still awaiting approval from the State Highway to close the road for the parade. Mayor Spielman is working on obtaining two large roadside signs to put at the AC&T at Lappans and on 34 by the Pharmacy to inform people that 34 will be closed on parade day.
2. **Raising Taxes:** Current tax rates are 0.035 for Real Estate and 0.0875 for Personal Property. It was a consensus with the Council not to raise the taxes this year.
3. **MML Convention:** Since Mayor Spielman has retired, he will be attending the MML Convention in Ocean City, MD July 28-30<sup>th</sup>. Sharpsburg has not had a representative attend the convention in the late 80's/early 90's.
4. **Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area Public Hearing:** The Hearing was rescheduled for April 7<sup>th</sup> at 6pm in Town Hall. This will be to inform the public about the Heritage Area and to listen to public comments in regards to Sharpsburg becoming a part of this boundary. Citizens can sign up to speak at the hearing between 5:30-6:00pm. There are no fees associated with Sharpsburg becoming a part of this. If Sharpsburg is to become a part of this, non-profits and governments can apply for grants thru this program.

The Next meeting will be held Monday, May 4, 2015 at 7 pm in the Council Chambers.

# Town News

## Town Office Closure

The Town Office will be closed on Thursday, April 30<sup>th</sup>.

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



The annual Memorial Day Commemoration activities will take place on Saturday, May 23, 2015. The wreath laying, to honor those that have served and are still serving in our military, will be held at 11:00 am in the square.

The parade will begin from the Sharpsburg Elementary School at 1:30pm.

Please note that this year, the Antietam National Battlefield will not be having their ceremony in the National Cemetery at the conclusion of the parade. They felt that the attendance was slowly dropping over the past few years and wanted to try something different this year. They will be having their Memorial Day ceremony on Monday, May 25<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am in the National Cemetery.

Sponsorship of the parade is available for \$2.00 per line and includes your name listed in the parade book. Memorial Sponsorship is also available for \$2.00 per line and includes your memorial dedication to a loved one in the parade book. This information and monies are due to Town Hall NO LATER THAN MONDAY, MAY 4, 2015. (this date has been extended.) Information can be given to the Clerk, Monday-Thursday from 8:30 am- 2:00 pm. The required information can also be mailed to the Town at PO Box 368, Sharpsburg, MD 21782. Call Kimberly at Town Hall at 301-432-4428 for more information; or you can email her at [townofsharpsburg@comcast.net](mailto:townofsharpsburg@comcast.net).

Parade books are available for pre-order for \$2.00, and can be done with Kimberly at the Town Office. Books will also be available at Town Hall and local businesses for purchase once they arrive from the printer, typically about two weeks prior to the parade.

## ROAD CLOSURE FOR MEMORIAL DAY COMMEMORATION EVENTS

Please note the following road closure information for the May 23<sup>rd</sup> Memorial Day Commemoration Events.

Vehicles will not be permitted to cut through the events, so please plan accordingly.

11:00 am-11:45 am: Main Street from the BP station to Pete's Tavern will be closed  
North and South Mechanic Streets will be closed

1:30 pm – approximately 3:00 pm: Main Street from Sharpsburg Elementary School to the Antietam National Cemetery will be closed

If you need additional information, contact Kimberly at Town Hall at 301-432-4428.

### **Brush Pick Up**

Brush pick up is scheduled for Monday, May 4<sup>th</sup>. Please have your brush at the end of your property in the alleys prior to May 4<sup>th</sup>. Make sure that the brush is visible and not behind vehicles or fences, as the crew will not walk onto your property to collect it. Brush, as defined by the company providing the pick-up service is "any woody material 4" in diameter or smaller." Yard waste, garden waste and anything with a root ball will not be picked up. If you could have the brush all facing the same direction, that would make the process a lot easier and faster for the crew.

### **BULK TRASH PICK UP**

Bulk trash pick-up is scheduled for Wednesday, May 6<sup>th</sup>. Bulk items are to be placed out beside your regular trash items. Unacceptable items include:

- Televisions
- Yard Waste
- Parts of motor vehicles
- Remodeling/Construction debris
- Poisons, oils, gasoline, ammunition and all other hazardous material
- Paint (unless it is completely dried out)

## Community Events

### Annual Kids Fishing Rodeo



The annual Kids Fishing Rodeo will be held on Saturday, May 2, 2015 at the Town Pond. The rodeo is open to children ages 0-15, and prior fishing experience is not required. The rodeo will be held from 7:00 am- 11:00 am, with prizes for everyone. Come out and enjoy a fun-filled morning of fishing! The Town Pond is located beside GeGe's Place on South Church Street. For further information, contact Councilperson Brandon Smith at 301-491-4866.

### **Come All Who Are Thirsty – Veterans Support Group**

“Come All Who Are Thirsty”, will hold their first meeting in Sharpsburg on Saturday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> from 9:30 am – 11:30 am, at the First Church of God, located at 3904 Mills Road in Sharpsburg. This meeting will include breakfast, and all Veterans, their support teams and non-Veterans with a heart to serve are welcome. Subsequent meetings will be held the first Saturday of each month at the same time and location.

We are interested in Veterans needs in our town! Even if someone needs an elderly Veteran visited or yard work done, we want to be a part of it!

We have completed a fundraiser for a family of a fallen Soldier, assisted Veterans with obtaining transitional housing, relocation and providing household goods. We are currently helping a husband-wife Veteran team in Sharpsburg with a house restoration project due to lead and mold contamination.

The biggest part of our outreach is connecting Veterans with other Veterans and their families in order to reduce the feelings of isolation.

22 Veterans a day commit suicide and we are doing what we can in our town to bring that number down to 0!

For more information, visit [www.comeallwhoarethirsty.org](http://www.comeallwhoarethirsty.org), or call 240-347-7590. You can connect on Facebook at Come All Who Are Thirsty.

- Beth Harris

*Antietam Unit 236 American Legion Auxiliary to hold  
Annual Bake Sale and Flower Sale*



Antietam Auxiliary Unit 236 will be holding their annual Mother's Day flower and bake sale on Friday, May 8<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup> in the square. Both days they will begin at 9:00 am. Come out and support this worthwhile organization and pick up a gift for Mom in the process. Monies raised from all of the Auxiliary fundraisers are put back into the community; through the Sharpsburg Elementary School, support for military families and support for our Veterans.

**Antietam Unit 236 American Legion Auxiliary to provide flag disposal**

Spring is here and many of us are busy sprucing up the yard, cleaning the house and getting ready for spring activities. It is also a good time to replace those faded, worn, torn and tattered American Flags.

The Antietam Unit 236 American Legion Auxiliary has a barrel located outside of Town Hall for you to place your flags in. They will be collecting flags until Friday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>.

## Sharpsburg Bible Church enters “Wild and Wacky Cardboard Sled Derby”



Sharpsburg Bible Church sleds. “Sweet for Jesus” on the left and “Playing for Jesus” on the right

In March, the Sharpsburg Bible Church entered two sleds into the “Wild and Wacky Cardboard Sled Derby” sponsored by Cedar Ridge Ministries and Whitetail Resort. The Church won Best Original Design with “Playing for Jesus.” Music actually played as it went downhill! The sled was driven by Damien Shaffer. Their sled “Sweet for Jesus” won 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Best of Show category and was driven by Samantha Early.

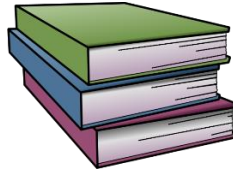
### Battlefield Advisory Committee

- ❖ The Civil War Trust is raising funds to purchase forty-four acres at what it calls the “epicenter” of the Antietam National Battlefield. The tract is bordered by the Dunker Church, West Woods, Cornfield and East Woods. The Civil War Trust has gained, or holds pledges for, \$460,000 and it intends to raise another \$115,000.
- ❖ The plans to repair the Burnside Bridge received coverage in the local press. Julie Green’s article, “Burnside Bridge work could start in summer,” appeared on page A-3 of the March 31 Herald Mail.

- ❖ The National Park Service will mark its centennial year in 2016. As part of the celebration, the “Find Your Park” campaign will encourage visitors, especially young people, to explore their national, state and local parks.

- Perry Jamieson

## **Events at the Sharpsburg Library**



### **Free Comic Book Day May 2<sup>nd</sup> from 9-1pm.**

Come discover the amazing world of comic books! Draw your own comic book/superhero character to be displayed on our Summer Reading Club Superhero wall!

### **Minecraft Night May 6<sup>th</sup>**

**6:00 pm-7:00 pm for ages 8-10**  
**7:00 pm-8:00 pm for ages 11-18**

Registration is required for this event. Call 301-432-8825 to register.

### **Adult Movie Night “Unbroken” (PG-13) May 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm**

“Unbroken” follows the life of Olympian and war hero Louis “Louie” Zamperini.

### **Mother/Daughter Tea Party May 14<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 pm**

Bring your Mother, daughter, grandmother, granddaughter, neighbor or best friend and help us celebrate the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Alice in Wonderland. Join the tea lady, Judy Larkin for tea and scones while learning about little girls during the Victorian era. The program will be very interactive. All are encouraged to wear hats!

Registration is required for this event. Please call the Sharpsburg Library at 301-432-8825 to register.



## Sharpsburg Historical Society to participate in Museum Ramble

The Sharpsburg Historical Society will host a special display on Saturday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> from 10:00 am-1:00 pm as it participates in the Washington County Museum Ramble. The Sharpsburg Historical Society Headquarters is located upstairs in Town Hall.

Richard Clem, historian, will share a cane carved by Henry Clay Hebb in 1903. Henry Clay carved more than a dozen canes from 1898 to 1907. The cane on display includes the name William J. Hebb and a note about Stonewall Jackson at the Hebb farm before the Battle of Antietam. The Hebb farm was on "Pyle's Delight" northwest of Sharpsburg. Clem will also show photos of four Civil War soldiers and their ID tags that were found in Washington County.

For more information contact 301-992-9767.

## Town Government

Town Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 8:30 am – 2:00 pm. Additional hours are available by appointment.

Office of the Zoning Administrator Hours: Tuesday 10:00 am – 6:00 pm. Additional hours are available by appointment.

## Mayor and Council

Hal Spielman, Mayor	301-432-6854
Bryan Gabriel, Vice Mayor	301-432-2478

### Councilpersons

Ed Beeler	301-800-6877
Darryl Benner	301-991-2230
Brenda Gabriel	301-432-2478
Brandon Smith	301-491-4866
Russ Weaver	301-432-5907

The Sharpsburg Town Crier  
PO Box 368  
Sharpsburg, MD 21782



