



# Middletown Quarterly Update

July 2011

## A MESSAGE FROM THE BURGESS

The budget is in and we have passed another budget without a tax increase. We have trimmed our own budgets and we did not eliminate any service you are now receiving from the Town of Middletown. While we did trim our budgets the effect on you, the resident, will be negligible.

I wanted to share with you something you will be hearing more about in the future. Our budgeting process does involve 3 budgets—the General Fund Operating Fund (taxes), Water & Sewer Operating Fund (fees you pay) and the General Fund and Water & Sewer CIP's or Capital Improvement Programs (funded mainly from surpluses). We did recently pass a budget that includes an 8% increase to the water & sewer rates. This is mainly due to the aging infrastructure we need to fix and the increasing chemical costs associated with such an enterprise. We have also had some concerns raised regarding water quality. We are investigating these issues of increased levels of iron and manganese—neither poses a health concern—and we will work to correct and resolve the issues permanently. It is expensive and we may need to phase in the improvements based on where the problem is most severe. This will be discussed in our CIP discussion on July 7 and July 11.

Please continue to frequent the businesses in our town. There are more businesses to choose from and more on the way. Our economic development strategies are working and we are all reaping the benefits of it while maintaining the charm and value of our town.

*Burgess Miller*

## Town News and Information

### Budget/Water & Sewer Rates

The Burgess & Commissioners adopted the FY 2012 (begins July 1) General Fund operating budget and the Water & Sewer operating budget on June 13, 2011. The Water & Sewer operating budget contains an 8% increase in water & sewer rates. For the average usage of 18,000 gallons per quarter the increase will be \$4.75 a month. This increase will establish a contingency fund of \$98,838 to address fluctuating chemical costs, waterline breaks and other unforeseen costs. At the end of the fiscal year, any unused contingency fund money will transfer to the Water & Sewer CIP budget to help fund capital improvements.

A public hearing will be held on July 25th at 7pm for the proposed water & sewer rate increases that includes the above mentioned 8% increase in the operating fund and also the proposed \$5 per quarter increase to the Capital Improvement Fee. This fee is a dedicated funding source for the Water & Sewer Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) budget. Please visit our website for additional information.

### Friendly Reminder

The Burgess and Commissioners are asking residents to be mindful of large outside water usage during the summer months. Using large amounts of water could place you into the tiered water rates which will generate a much higher than normal water bill. Since we have put the tiered rates into effect residents have been surprised by the amount of water used and especially by the amount of their bill.

### Grass Watering

Ordinance # 06-04-01 prohibits the watering of lawns or grassy areas of any property between the hours of 9:00am.—6:00pm. Violators will receive one (1) written warning and each subsequent offense will constitute a municipal infraction punishable by a fine of \$100.00 and disconnection of water service. To view the entire ordinance please visit our website at [www.middletown.md.us](http://www.middletown.md.us).

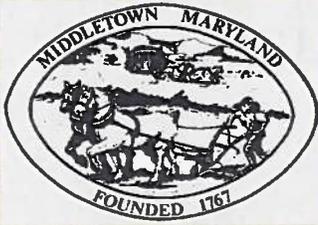
### 2010 Census—Middletown by the numbers

The U.S. Census Bureau recently released its 2010 census counts. All incorporated towns in Frederick County grew over the past decade except for Burkittsville. The population in Middletown increased by 55% since 2000 when the population was 2,688. Some of the census numbers for Middletown are shown below. If you would like additional information, please call the staff planner, Cindy Unangst, who would be glad to help you.

<b>Total Population</b>	<b>4,136</b>	<b>RACE</b>	<b>Total Households</b>	<b>1,484</b>
Median Age	39.6	White	Average Household size	2.79
Male Population	2,017 (48.8%)	Hispanic or Latino	Average Family size	3.16
Median male age	38.4	African American		
Female Population	2,119 (51.2%)	Asian		
Median female age	40.2			

### Remsberg Park Update

The contractor has been continuously working since the rain has stopped, all the playing fields have been completed and are growing in at this time. The Contractor is constructing the roadway widening the driveway into the park. Items remaining to be completed are the walk paths, electrical service and paver installation. We anticipate the fields will be ready for play next spring.



## Monthly Public Town Meetings

### Town Workshop

First Thursday, 7:00 PM

### Town Meeting

Second Monday, 7:00 PM

### Town Meeting

Fourth Monday, 7:00 PM

### Planning & Zoning

Third Monday, 7:00 PM

### Board of Appeals

As needed

## Elected Officials

### Burgess

John Miller

### Commissioners

Larry Bussard

Rick Dietrick

Jennifer Falcinelli

Vince O'Reilly

Anthony Ventre

## Trash Pick Up

Tuesday:

Yard Waste (April-Dec.)

Wednesday:

Trash pick-up and recycling (bi-weekly)

Middletown Municipal Center

31 W. Main Street

301.371.6171

### Town Administrator

Andrew J. Bowen

### Emergency

301-293-3818

We're on the web  
[www.middletown.md.us](http://www.middletown.md.us)



## 2011 Neighborhood Meeting Dates

The Burgess and Commissioners will be holding Neighborhood Meetings throughout Town over the summer/fall months. All meetings will be held from 7:00-8:00pm. [Residents are encouraged to attend](#) these meetings to [discuss issues in your neighborhood](#). In the event of inclement weather the meetings will be cancelled.

Following is a list of dates and locations of the meetings:

- \* **July 12th-Downtown-Elm Street Parking Lot**
- \* **Aug. 9th-East Main/Prospect St.-Library**
- \* **Sept.13th-Boileau Ct./Washington St.-Jefferson Village Park**

*Please come and visit with your elected officials in your neighborhood.*

## Upcoming Events

**Middletown Community Golf Day**—Hollow Creek Golf Club has graciously offered to hold a golf tournament [July 22, 2011 from 9am-2:30pm](#). For the Town of Middletown. The cost is \$75 a person and includes light breakfast and a buffet lunch. Proceeds from this tournament will go towards the funding of the activities/projects for local community groups. To sign up please call Hollow Creek at 301.371.0400 or the Pro Shop at 301.371.9166.

**Date Night**—Middletown's Second Annual Date Night on Main Street will be [Saturday, August 13, 2011](#). Main Street Middletown is busy planning this years event, please check our website at [www.middletown.md.us](http://www.middletown.md.us) for more details once they become available.

**Family Movie Night in the Middletown Park, Friday, August 26th.** Movie [Despicable Me](#) - starts at 7:00pm with movie starting at dark. Bring your blankets and lawn chairs for the whole family to watch on Middletown's giant blowup movie screen. A variety of foods and snacks will be sold by local vendors.

**Heritage Day Festival, Saturday, September 24th.** Learn about the heritage of our Middletown, Maryland community with Civil War Living History encampments, heritage children's games and crafts, and great entertainment. Additional highlights this year include the German Heritage along the National Historic Road. The Annual Parade kicks off the event at 10am. The event is held rain or shine. Please check [www.middletownheritagefestival.com](http://www.middletownheritagefestival.com) for complete details.

**Fourth Annual "Scarecrow Contest"...**coming this fall. Middletown Valley residents, businesses, schools and organizations are invited to participate in the 4th Annual Scarecrow Contest. Complete the registration form which will be available at the Municipal Center beginning October 3rd (this is on a first come first serve basis). You will receive your FREE scarecrow kit which includes a wooden frame, string, bag of straw, and burlap fabric for the head. Scarecrow's will be hung on Main Street from October 22- November 5, 2011. Come out and vote for your favorite scarecrow on Saturday, October 22nd from 2-5pm., in front of the Municipal Center. Hot apple cider and kettle corn will be available.