



Middletown Quarterly Update

January 2016

A MESSAGE FROM THE BURGESS



We have had a great year in Middletown! Our Downtown is growing and thriving and we have had 7 new businesses come to our Town and 3 existing businesses have expanded their locations. Thanks to our Planning Commission and our Main Street Middletown Board for helping us continue to grow our town economically. And thank you for supporting these businesses all year long.

A big Middletown welcome to new businesses in town this year:

- * Middletown Community Clothes Closet (Zion Lutheran) – 123 West Main Street
- * South Mountain Osteopathy – 6 West Main Street
- * Boggs Environmental – 200 West Main Street
- * Connection Christian Church of Middletown—2 East Main Street
- * Goodwill Industries of Monocacy Valley – 805 East Main Street
- * Supercuts – 811 East Main Street
- * Alleghany Driving School – 14-2A West Main Street

We have a solar array or solar field located in Rensberg Park that is ready to come on-line by January 1. We are very excited about this green and sustainable initiative. This project has been ongoing since 2014. The array is located on 6 acres, has about 2700 solar cells and will generate about 1KW of energy for our water and sewer facilities. We are working with a landscape architect to develop screening for the site. The Town should realize a yearly savings of about \$50,000 once the site is operational.

Community is important to me and to our Commissioners. That is why we promote/ sponsor activities like Christmas in the Valley, Scarecrow Walk, Memorial Day in the Park, and the Heritage Festival. We see the value of melding long-time residents with new residents. I think we have been successful and there is more work to do. Please get involved in your community, patronize our businesses, go to these events and you too will catch the spirit of our wonderful small town. Happy New Year!!

Town News and Information

2016 Election

The 2016 election is just around the corner on **April 4, 2016**. This year we have the Burgess and two (2) commissioner seats up for election. If you are interested in running for a seat, the Nominating Convention will be held on Tuesday, March 1, 2016 at 7:00pm. at the Municipal Center. Anyone wishing to run must be at least 21 years of age, reside within the corporate limits for at least one year immediately preceding their election, and be a qualified voter of Middletown.

Voter Registration

If you wish to vote in the 2016 Municipal Election you must be registered by Monday, March 18, 2016. You may pick-up the Maryland Voter Registration Application at the Municipal Center if you need to register. If you are already registered to vote in the General Election you do not need to register unless you just recently moved to Middletown. If you moved from another city/town in Maryland you must inform the Frederick County Election Board of your new address. You can reach the Frederick County Election Board at 301.600.8683.

Election Judges Needed

We are looking for Election Judges for the upcoming Election on Monday, April 4, 2016. If you are interested in serving as an Election judge please contact Ann Griffin at ann@ci.middletown.md.us or 301.371.6171 ext. 11.

Yard Waste/Christmas Trees

Key Sanitation will resume yard waste pick-up on Tuesday, April 5, 2016.

Key Sanitation will collect Christmas Trees in the Town of Middletown on **Tuesday, December 29th, 2015 and January 12th, 2016**. You may also drop your Christmas trees at the Middletown Park beside the Maintenance Shop, 7628 Coblenz Road from December 26, 2015—January 26, 2016.

Parks

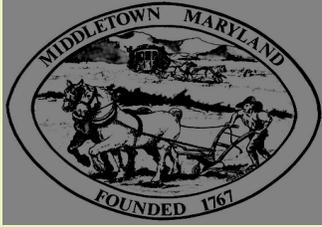
The Town starts taking reservations for the use of the Memorial Park on January 15, 2016. You may call or come in person to reserve the park. **FEES for 2015—\$40 for residents and \$50 for non-residents**. You must pay at the time of making the reservation.

Bulk Trash Pick-up

The Burgess and Commissioners will hold a Bulk Trash Pick-up day on **Saturday, March 19, 2016**. You may put out 2 items to be picked up. Just put them out before **6AM on Saturday, March 19, 2016**. They will **NOT** take mattress & box springs. For a complete list of accepted and un-accepted items visit our website at www.middletown.md.us.

Green Team Corner

The Middletown Green Team has approved its 3-year Action Plan to become a Sustainable Maryland Certified municipality. The Plan is available for viewing on the town's website if you are interested.



Monthly Public Town Meetings

Town Workshop

First Thursday, 7:00 PM

Town Meetings

Second Monday, 7:00 PM

Fourth Monday, 7:00 PM

Planning Commission

Third Monday, 7:00 PM

Board of Appeals

As needed

Elected Officials

Burgess

John Miller

Commissioners

Larry Bussard

Rick Dietrick

Jennifer Falcinelli

Chris Goodman

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**



Development Update....

The Middletown Planning Commission continued to be busy reviewing proposed developments in the Town this past year. Copies of the plans associated with these developments are available for viewing on the town's website under Planning and Zoning or in the Town offices.

Cross Stone Commons – The development currently includes a stand-alone CVS/Pharmacy, but will ultimately have businesses and restaurants located in four separate buildings. The improvement plans and architectural review of two of the four buildings have been approved by the Planning Commission. Also approved is a right turn only entrance lane to the CVS building from Main St.

Coblentz on E. Green – 24 acre property with 81 single-family dwellings, a 0.7 acre Village Green amenity and a 3.5 acre public use/library site. The Planning Commission conditionally approved the improvement plans in October 2013. Site work has begun and the builder, Ryan Homes, hopes to begin dwelling construction in late spring/early summer 2016.

Chesterbrook/Franklin Commons – located on the corner of Broad and Franklin Streets will be 18 multi-family townhouse dwellings in five buildings. No word on when construction might begin.

Changes to existing businesses—

- * Amvets expansion
- * Dee Buchanan Studio of dance expansion
- * Change of owner for golf course—formerly Hollow Creek Golf Course—now Richland Golf Course

Information continued.....

Snow Removal

It's winter time again and the Burgess and Commissioners would like to remind our residents about our snow removal ordinance. Ordinance 12.04.020 Section B titled **Un-removed Snow or Ice** states the following: **A hazardous condition resulting from an accumulation of snow or ice upon any sidewalk within the town. The owners and occupants of properties abutting a sidewalk shall remove or cause the removal of snow and ice for the entire length of any sidewalk abutting upon their property within a reasonable time after the end of a snowfall.** The Burgess and Commissioners deem a reasonable time of 24 hours after the end of a snowfall. Municipal infractions carry a fine of up to \$1,000.

Please do not blow/shovel snow into the street. Our maintenance staff work long hours clearing the Town streets and blowing/shoveling the snow into the street becomes a driving hazard. If it is necessary to clear your driveway prior to the street being plowed the following suggestions may help eliminate snow being plowed back into your driveway by Town equipment:

1. Clear only your driveway; keep the driveway apron un-cleared until your street has been cleared and the snow has stopped. Then shovel/blow the snow from the apron area into the lawn area.
2. If you must clear the driveway apron before the snow has stopped then shovel/blow the snow into your yard, this will help replenish the water table.
3. Please remove all basketball hoops and other play items from the street or curbside.
4. Also please **DO NOT SET** your TRASH RECEPTACLES in the gutter line during or prior to an expected snowfall.

The Burgess and Commissioners are asking the residents who live on a cul-de-sac **NOT to PARK** on the cul-de-sac when snow is in the forecast. It is very difficult for our maintenance staff to plow the cul-de-sac properly when cars are parked on it.

We are not responsible for mailbox damage unless we hit it with a plow. Heavy snow thrown from plows will break mailboxes and rotted posts. You are responsible for these repairs.