

NEW MARKET NEWS

February/March 2007



The Jingle Parade participants from Christmas in New Market (for more info see page 4)

Message from the Mayor

Unless you've been in hibernation this winter, I'm sure you are aware of the Town's pending annexation. However, there may be other issues that are just as important that you are not aware. First, there is the County's New Market Region Plan "re-visit". The County Commissioners (BOCC) in a series of tentative votes decided to change both the Casey and Blentlinger properties from residential to agriculture. The Casey property had Planned Unit Development (PUD) zoning since 1973 (so much for zoning translating to development). They had no utilities and we all know that with no utilities there can be no development. This is how we structured our annexation.

While none of these properties are really farmed, they were the properties that our bypass was to travel through. Four of the BOCC members sent us a letter recently offering a non-developer funded bypass. If you were those property owners, would you give the County right of way to use your property for a road after de-valuing it? Would you ask full market value (\$30 million)? My point is that under the County's new plan, it is very unlikely that we will ever see a bypass. In fact, I have asked Commissioner Gardner the status of the BOCC's non-developer funded bypass plan. I have received no answer. Further, the Town's planning guide, Bruce Galloway, tried to set up a meeting with the County's Planning Director. **He was informed that the BOCC will not allow their Director to meet with Town officials.** Subsequently, Commissioner Gardner has directed us to send any questions regarding the New Region "re-visit" directly to her.

Meanwhile, as the County has dismantled our bypass area, they left the Eaglehead subdivision relatively unscathed. This is the subdivision that the BOCC and BOE are negotiating a "contract" (similar to a municipal annexation agreement) with Land Stewards for \$70 million school construction funding. The consequence to the town is that the traffic generated from this devel-

REFERENDUM VOTE SET FOR APRIL 24, 2007

Registered voters may cast their vote on the referendum for Resolution 06-06, the Smith-Cline Annexation on April 24, 2007. Voting will take place at the Town Hall from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm.

opment will increase peak hour two-way volume of Main St. by 80%. (You may find it interesting that while the BOCC will be holding a special “Land Stewards Day” during their NM Plan “revisit” there is no “Town of New Market Day” planned.) Alleviating this inevitability is what your fellow residents on both the Council and P&Z have been working on for the past five years (please refer to previous newsletters posted on Town’s web-site www.townofnewmarket.org).

Likewise, your fellow residents have been working on a streetscape plan that incorporates pedestrian nodes (bump outs). Bump outs both calm traffic and improve pedestrian safety by decreasing crossing distance while improving sight lines. This plan was developed with the anticipation of increased traffic as outlined above and as a backup to or re-enforcement of the bypass. There simply is no substitute for safety. Please go to streetscape portion of website to see bump outs in historic Annapolis. I think you can see that these elements can be tastefully done. Oddly, both bump outs and annexation are opposed by the same folks, by and large, that also opposed our zoning changes in the Historic District (recall how that was going to decrease property values?) and our water agreement that opened the way for many of you to live here. We now have no less than seven new shops (please come and visit them) complete with a new vitality, expansion of the Tea Room (now Mallard’s), a renovation of a dilapidated building (now Barefoot Boutique) and new friends and neighbors. Not so bad for five years of work. This leaves out the “mini streetscape” projects on and Wicomico Drives as well as Wicomico Ct. The annexation is a result of an honest look into the future and drawing the sober conclusion that growth *will* happen over time. The Town must protect itself from being boxed in and locked out of the process. The only way we can assure ourselves of this is by securing some control through annexation. This means we will have a say over the how, when, where and why things will grow (Do you want New Market West again?). No one has a crystal ball. But it is the job of Town officials to be forward thinking and have a plan for the future. The Town has been working on this for over five years. No leader of “Concerned Residents” or County Official over this period has ever brought forward an alternative plan to the Town. After all these years, if they have a vision that **secures** the Town’s future I would invite them to share it with us.

Now, let’s take a look at what’s going on in Thurmont. Thurmont is in the middle of a contested annexation too. Curiously, some same BOCC’s members opposed to our annexation have been outspoken about their annexation as well. Oddly, they waited until after January 1st as we were requested and they have an APFO that the BOCC has criticized us for not having. Does it come to a surprise to you that the Thurmont Region is next to be “re-visited”?

Let’s look at the facts and draw some conclusions.

- The County has no bypass plan for the town.
- They will not meet with us as they repeatedly promised in the workshops and newspapers.
- The BOCC oppose Thurmont’s annexation even though Thurmont have done the exact things the BOCC asked us to do (wait until after Jan 1st and pass an APFO).
- The County opposed our Adventure Park annexation on the basis of land use consistency. (I guess an amusement park in the Town is different than one in the County.)

On the other hand, your elected and appointed officials have worked hard to improve the town with: new shops, building improvements, road improvements and water agreements. We will not be able to continue this progress unless the Town can grow over a reasonable period time to achieve economies of scale. Municipalities are constantly handed unfunded mandates for which we are either forced to pay or to go without. Recycling in our new villages is one example. Further, we have limited resources to improve infrastructure. Many of you want water. Those of you in the new villages were lucky that our water agreement provided water in order for you to live here. Yet, others with bad or contaminated wells desire a long term solution. This solution may include a grant fund for hooking up to water. Without outside sources of funding, we can only look within for the money.

Ultimately, the annexation is about control. It’s clear from their actions, the County wants complete control. Obviously, as just one in a few hundred voters, each one of you has a very powerful say in whether you want the Town to have any control at all. The question is; what control will you have in the future if you say “no” to annexation? “Yes” to annexation assures that the Town will have a ½ share in the growth and development issue. With annexation nothing can move forward unless both the Town and the County agree; period. “Yes” to annexation assures you keep that one in a few hundred say in the entire process through your own town elections. In the County, you’re only one in a few hundred thousand. Something to think about.

Thanks,
Winslow
301.748.6517
burhanscab@earthlink.net

Town Council Minutes

Executive Sessions were held Dec 6 and Dec 20 for Mayor and Town Council to meet with legal counsel.

December 13

- Discussed possibility of tourism office to be located in Town Hall, as well as donations of books for the start of a New Market Library.
- Streetscape Update: SHA will contribute 2500.00 per light for a total of 80 lights. Lights recommended by HDC are on the website. Brian Candida is going to meet with arbor planter.
- Council voted to increase the amount per resident (0.94 per resident per month) for the remainder of the Fiscal Year 2007.
- Meeting was continued on December 29

December 29

- DR Horton withdrew their petition for annexation (Resolution 06-05) into the Town of New Market.
- Resolution 06-06 (Smith-Cline Annexation) was introduced October 11, 2006 and advertised on 10/20, 10/27, 11/3 and 11/10. A public hearing was held 11/29 and the public record was closed at that time.
- Public comment was given both for and against the annexation.
- Annexation Agreement was signed by the Mayor.
- Resolution 06-06 to annex the Smith-Cline property was approved unanimously by the Council .

Planning & Zoning Minutes

November

- Jim Higgs terminated his variance.
- Lot 10 of Royal Oaks: New deck plan approved.
- New home model approved for Royal Oaks.
- Renovation to existing structure approved for Pam Snyder.
- Fence for Henry & Nancy approved subject to Brinkley Manor HOA.

December

- Zoning Certificate issued from the zoning administrator for the continuance of a non-conforming use of food service at the General Store.
- Brinkley Manor: Lots 12-15: Approved and signed by chairman.
- 1st Conditional Record Plat Approval for The Orchard Section 1, Phase 1.
- Approved plan that the Orchard plants less but larger tree as long as survivability is 100% within two years.
- Patio application for Jeremy Yospin & Elizabeth Powell was approved.
- Store sign for Ben Madrid & Donna Fallow was approved.
- Fence & Deck for Todd Love was approved.

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING: 2nd Wednesday of Month @ 7:00 pm
P&Z: 1st Tuesday of month @ 7:00 pm
HDC/ARC: 2nd Tuesday of month @ 7:30 pm

All meetings at Town Hall unless otherwise indicated.



New Market
Town Hall,
39 W. Main Street

HDC/ARC Minutes

November

- Lot 10 at Royal Oaks: new deck was approved.
- New Model for Royal Oaks was submitted.
- Pam Snyder: renovation of existing structure was approved.
- Henry & Nancy Meyers: fence approved.
- Jake Romanell presented lighting alternatives for streetscape.

December

- Royal Oaks "Pickett Model" was approved.
- Todd & Kathy Love: fence & deck application was approved.
- Jeremy Yospin & Elizabeth Powell: Patio application was approved.
- Ben Madrid & Donna Fallow: new business sign was approved.
- There was a review of lighting and landscaping alternatives for streetscape.

Christmas in New Market



Christmas in New Market began on Friday December 1, with the tree lighting and caroling in Mes-sanelle Park. This was followed by a reception at the Mid-Maryland Performing Arts Center (MMPAC). The evening concluded with a inspiring concert by the Versatiles at the Simpson Church.

Saturday's festivities began with a sidewalk "Jin-gle" parade. The New Market Fire Hall had food and crafts for all to enjoy. Town Hall hosted visits with Santa and story-time with Mrs. Claus along with holiday music by Gary Schwartz. There was a merry song & dance benefit at the Grange Hall by students from MMPAC who donated the proceeds to CASS. As the sun set, Main Street sparkled with dozens of luminaries and the air was filled with the sweet sounds of the Catoctones at Grace Episcopal Church..

Town Hall was once again host to Santa & Mrs Claus on Sunday afternoon. This was also where you could see all the amazing snowman created by our very talented elementary and middle school students. United Methodist Church was the location for voice and piano students from MMPAC who performed some seasonal favorites. It was a fun and festive weekend.

The Christmas in New Market Committee would like to thank everyone who helped make this year's festival a wonderful event! A special thank you to the town businesses and residents who so gener-ously donated cookies and cared for our Luminary Display.

Thank you to: Cable Channel 10, Frederick MD, The Catoctones Barbershop Chorus, Choral Arts Soci-ety of Frederick, David Price Photography, De De Pucino and New Market Middle Students, Farmers & Mechanics Bank, Fast Signs, Frederick MD, Fleshman's Antiques, Frederick Landscaping, Gaver Tree Farm, Gary Schwartz Renaissance Music, The Gazette, Amy Gilley, Grace Episcopal Church, Haley Tate, Joan Price, Kimberly Price, Laurie & Dave Dunshee , Lindquist Insurance, Liganore High School Choral Group, Mealey's Restau-rant, Mid Maryland Performing Arts Center Students, New Market Antique Dealers Association, New Market Lions Club, New Market Volunteer Fire Department, Ory Custom Florals, Paragon Graphics, Frederick, MD, Rick Martinez, Sara D'Ovidio Graphic Design, Simpson Community Church, Spoil Me Rotten, St. Johns Re-gional Catholic School Girl Scout Carolers, Strawberry Inn, 12 West Main, The Frederick News Post, The Little Pottery Shop, Tom Lowry, New Market United Method-ist Church, The Versatiles

Christmas In New Market Contest Winners

Snowman Contest

Thank you to all of our New Market Students who entered The Snowman Drawing Contest. Over 200 drawings were entered and displayed in Town Hall. We appreciate your artwork and your enthusiasm!

Middle School Winners

Cassandra McDowell -1st Prize
James Asbury-2nd Prize
Rebecca Pazzanese-3rd Prize

Elementary School Winners

James Mawdsley-1st Prize
Sarah Ward-2nd Prize
Victoria Captain-3rd Prize

House Decorating Contest

It was a difficult choice but here are the win-ners for this year's house decorating contest. Thank you to all of you who participated.

Most Historical/Traditional

12 West Main

Most Unusual/Unique

Ory's

Most Effective Use of Lighting

Mallard's

The 48th Annual New Market Days Needs You!

The 48th Annual New Market Days Committee is underway with plans for this year's festival celebrating the rich heritage of our town. This year's event will be held on September 29 and September 30 so mark your calendar's now.

We could use your help in making this year's event an exciting one. Help can come in many forms: including sponsorship, donations from your business, use of your property during the event (for those on Main Street), participating in the planning of the event and offering help during the event. It takes many volunteers for a festival of this size and we would love to have you be involved in this special event. Please contact Deb Butler at the town office (301-865-5544), via email at debtownofnewmarket@gmail.com, or come to our next meeting scheduled for February 23 @ 9:00 am.

Please continue to check the town website for updates on events, forms and other helpful information.

"Success in life has nothing to with what you gain in life or accomplish for yourself. It's what you do for others."

Danny Thomas

Good Neighbor Program

Last year the Mayor and Town Council introduced the "Good Neighbor Program". This program is designed to help New Market residents who because of age, medical conditions, or other reasons are unable to clear their front walk of snow or ice. The program will match up individual who need assistance and residents who want to help and serve their community. Volunteers will help out their neighbors by cleaning the front walk of those who are unable to. All those who are interested in signing up for assistance or to help please submit via mail, email, or phone the following information: Name, Address, Phone, Email

"March Through New Market"



Check out some special sales throughout town during the month of March. Many of the local shops are having sales events of 10 to 30 percent discounts. "March" through town to check out some special savings!



Interested in serving on the HDC/ARC committee?

If you are looking for a way to be involved in your community and

would like to serve on the HDC/ARC committee, please contact Karen Durbin at 301-865-5544 or karentownofnewmarket@gmail.com.

Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30 pm.

Snow Emergency Plan

Please remember that Main Street is designated a "Snow Emergency Route". During a snow event please move your vehicle off Main Street to allow the plows to clear all the way to the curbs. The town has made arrangements with the Grange Hall (located on South Alley) to park in their lot until Main Street has been plowed. Please clear off your sidewalks in front of your property within 6 hours from the end of the snowfall or other precipitation, or if the snowfall or other precipitation occurred overnight, by 2:00 pm the following afternoon. If ice is not readily removable, sufficient calcium chloride or similar commercially available product should be applied to effectively melt and remove the accumulation of ice.

Notes from Town Office

- We are trying to update our mailing list and would like to add your email address to our files. Please send emails to: townofnewmarket@gmail.com to be added to the email list for important notices, newsletters, etc. Sending this information via email allows us to keep our costs down and for you to receive the info in a timely fashion. Also please notify us if you are receiving duplicate mailings.
- Spring is just around the corner and if you are planning a new deck, fence, patio, shed, etc., you must obtain a permit from the town. You can download a form from the website or stop by Town Hall to pick up an application. Please remember to get your permit applications into the office at least 10 days prior to the P&Z meeting (1st Tuesday of each month).
- Our website is updated regularly, please check it out for meeting agenda and minutes, newsletters, pictures from town events and other important information.

Dates to Remember

- February 6 -- P&Z Meeting @ 7:00 pm
- February 13 -- HDC/ARC Meeting @ 7:30 pm
- February 14 -- Town Council Meeting @ 7:00 pm
- March 6 -- P&Z Meeting @ 7:00 pm
- March 13 -- HDC/ARC Meeting @ 7:30 pm
- March 14 -- Town Council Meeting @ 7:00 pm
- Saturday, April 7 -- Yard Waste Pickup resumes
- April 24 -- Referendum Vote on Smith Cline Annexation from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm at Town Hall



Mayor Burhans lead the Jingle Parade down Main Street.



"Frosty" jumps for joy when Santa arrives in New Market.

All photos are courtesy of David Price