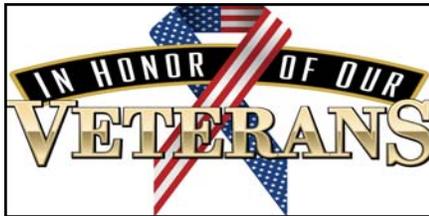




# Council Chatter

## Mayor's Corner

Fall has officially arrived with cooler air and less daylight in the evenings since the time change! The brisk air is a sign of the holidays approaching and wonderful activities planned for the Town of Grottoes. During the month of November we have the annual Veterans Day Ceremony on November 12th at the Town Hall. This ceremony is a great way to remember and honor veterans and family members who served. As November ends, please enjoy Thanksgiving with your family and friends creating memories to last forever! December is a happening month here in Grottoes! We start with Caroling in the Caverns on Saturday, December 1st and our Town Christmas Parade on Sunday, December 2nd at



5:30pm. Also on December 2nd, following the parade, we will have our tree lighting ceremony at Town Hall followed with cookies and a visit with Santa inside Town Hall. Don't forget the Annual Southern Grace Country Christmas Dinner Show at Grottoes Volunteer Fire Department on Friday, December 7th and Saturday, December 8th- tickets are on sale at Town Hall for this great event! It is a sell-out every year; you will not want to miss it! I hope you are able to find time to participate in the holiday activities as we celebrate in December! Since this is the last newsletter of 2018, I want to take a moment to thank our Town Council and Town staff as I close out my first two-year term as Mayor! I have learned a lot and met a

lot of new people! I can honestly say, I have enjoyed this experience and that is what led me to my decision to run for Mayor for another two-year term. This year, David Raynes, Mark Sterling and Midge Funk all have terms ending on Town Council. This year, Midge and Mark decided they would not be seeking re-election for another term. Mark Sterling has served our town for 18 years as a council member and Midge Funk has served 12 years. We have been fortunate to have them and their dedication to our town! I want to personally THANK them for their support and commitment to Grottoes! New council terms will begin in January 2019. Lastly, Happy Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas to all of you!

Emily Holloway  
Mayor

**Inside this issue:**

Manager's Message	2
Library News	2
Christmas Home Decorating Contest	2
From the Chief's Desk...	3
Grottoes Fire Department	3
Park Place	3
Calendar, Events & Town Officials	4

### Holiday Trash Schedule

**EAST SIDE OF DOGWOOD**

**Thursday, November 22 moved to Friday, November 23**  
**Thursday, December 27 moved to Saturday, December 29**  
**Thursday, January 3 moved to Friday, January 4**

**WEST SIDE OF DOGWOOD**

**Tuesday, December 25 moved to Thursday, December 27**  
**Tuesday, January 1 moved to Wednesday, January 2**

# Manager's Message

Autumn leaves are beginning to fall and our public works department is getting ready for leaf collection. We will begin getting leaves this year on **November 26<sup>th</sup>**. Please have your leaves raked to the edge of the street for pickup. We will pass through Town twice, however be sure to have your leaves raked up to the street as soon as possible to ensure you are not missed.

We have several events coming up for the holiday season. Caroling in the Caverns at Grand Caverns will be on December 1<sup>st</sup> from 6pm to 8pm. The Town's Christmas Parade will be on December 2<sup>nd</sup> and will

begin at 5:30pm. After the parade, we will be having a tree lighting ceremony in the front yard of Town Hall. Please stay for refreshments and kids can visit with Santa inside Town Hall. There are a few tickets still available at Town Hall for the Southern Grace Country Christmas Dinner show that will be held at the Fire Department on December 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>. The judging for the Home Decorating contest will be held on December 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm.

Also, don't forget about the Veterans Day Ceremony held at Town Hall on November 12<sup>th</sup> at 11am.

As always, if you have any questions or comments give me a call at 249-5896 or drop by Town Hall anytime during office hours.

Nathan Garrison  
Town Manager

*Leaf Collection will begin on November 26<sup>th</sup>. Be sure to have your leaves raked up to the side of the road ASAP to ensure you are not missed.*

## Library News M-F 1-6 pm 540-434-4475 option 3 [www.mrlib.org](http://www.mrlib.org)

**Holiday Closings:** Please note that the library will be closed November 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> for Thanksgiving, and December 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> for Christmas. Enjoy your family & friends!

**Trick or Treat @ the Library:** On Halloween night, the library was filled with wondrously dressed creatures selecting a gently used book for their Halloween treat. Best treat ever!

### Christmas Carol by Hampstead

**Players:** Come see this classic show on December 13<sup>th</sup> @ 4pm. Free and for all ages.

**Great American Read:** *To Kill a Mockingbird* was voted the Best Loved American Book. The *Outlander* series was #2 and *Harry Potter* series #3. Visit [pbs.org](http://pbs.org) for complete results.

Happy Holidays to all

*Cheryl Keeler*

Grottoes Branch Manager



### Happening @ the library in Nov & Dec:

Nov 6: **Brown Bag @ noon**  
Nov 6: **Library Election 1-6 pm**

Nov 7: **Family Fun Storytime 1 pm**  
Nov 8: **Crafty Kids 4 pm**  
Nov 14: **Family Fun Storytime 1 pm**  
Nov 15: **Game Day 4 pm**  
Nov 20: **Teen & Adult Coloring 4 pm**  
Nov 21: **Family Fun Storytime 1 pm**  
Nov 22 & 23: **Library Closed**  
Nov 28: **Family Fun Storytime 1 pm**  
Nov 29: **Lego Club 4 pm**  
Dec 4: **Brown Bag @ noon**  
Dec 5: **Family Fun Storytime 1 pm**  
Dec 6: **Lego Club 4 pm**  
Dec 12: **Family Fun Storytime 1 pm**  
Dec 13: **Christmas Carol 4 pm**  
Dec 18: **Teen & Adult Coloring 4 pm**  
Dec 19: **Storytime Break**  
Dec 20: **Game Day 4 pm**  
Dec 24-26: **Library Closed**  
Dec 27: **Keva Planks 4 pm**

## Christmas Home Decorating Contest

### Christmas Home Decorating Contest



Judging begins at 7:00 pm on Monday, December 17th  
To participate you must have your lights on!

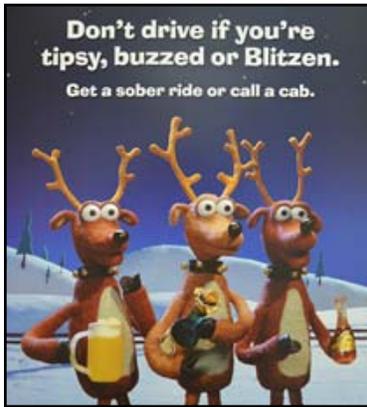
Judging Categories: One prize for each category  
**Reason for the Season Award** - capture the true meaning of Christmas  
**Clark Griswold Award** - excessive use of outdoor lighting and decorations  
**Elegance Award** - crisp, tidy, and extremely orderly

*Last Year's Winners cannot win again in same category.*

## From the Chief's Desk...

I hope everyone had a safe Halloween.

Also, with the holiday season approaching, there will be holiday parties and celebrations. If you choose to drink, please drink responsibly and designate a sober driver. If you drive impaired, you are at a serious risk of being ar-



rested for DUI or worse yet....

You are endangering your life and others.

With the onset of cold weather, please take care of your pets. Make sure that they have warm, dry shelter and ensure that they

have food and fresh water.

I want to wish everyone a safe and Happy Thanksgiving!

As always, if you have any questions or concerns about these or any other matters, feel free to call my office at 540-249-5707 to reach me or any of our police officers.

JE Painter  
Chief

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## Grottoes Fire Department

At this time of Thanksgiving and Christmas, our thoughts turn gratefully to each family we serve with warm appreciation for the support shown to our department! Many of you have helped to make this year rewarding and successful for Grottoes Volunteer Fire Department – from your attendance at our Sunday Lunches, participation at our Annual Lawn Party, purchase of a raffle ticket, the cards of thanks and prayers, to joining us at the Turkey and Ham buffet. We greatly appreciate your donations during our Annual Fund Drive; we are still accepting donations and they can be mailed or left at the fire station in the locked box at the main entrance.

Our second annual “**Under the Christmas Tree**” vendor blender was a success. The vendors and crafters who participated were very happy with the attendance and most of them have asked to return next year.

### JOIN US AT OUR UPCOMING EVENTS:

**Nov 18<sup>th</sup>** Sunday Lunch, 11:00 am – 2:00 pm \$10 adults; \$6.00 children 10 & under  
Roasted turkey, dressing, gravy, cole slaw, mashed potatoes, green beans, roll with butter, pie, tea or coffee

**Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup>** 4th Annual Southern Grace Country Christmas Dinner Show; tickets being sold at Town Hall and at any Southern Grace concert.

**Dec. 16<sup>th</sup>** Sunday Lunch 11:00 am – 2:00 pm \$10 adults; \$6.00 children 10 & under  
Cubed steak, gravy, garden salad, mashed potatoes, green peas, roll with butter, cupcakes, tea or coffee

Jan. 20<sup>th</sup> Sunday Lunch 11:00 am – 2:00 pm \$10 adults; \$6.00 children 10 & under  
Roast beef, gravy, cole slaw, mashed potatoes, green beans, roll with butter, blueberry yum yum, tea or coffee

From our family to yours, we look forward to serving you in 2019 and wish you a happy and healthy Thanksgiving and Christmas Season and a safe New Year.

Wanda Rittenhouse

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## Park Place

What beautiful colors we are seeing throughout the town this fall! As a native South Texan, it sure is nice to experience seasons! I hope everyone is enjoying the cooler weather and I wish everyone a wonderful holiday season.

Speaking of, Grand Caverns is gearing up for the upcoming holiday season! If you will have family in town, have they visited our parks and caves? If not, bring them by!

Let's start off December right, with a

fun event! We are very excited about this year's Caroling in the Caverns,

which will be December 1st from 6PM-8PM. In addition to the beautiful musical performances in the cave and park, hot chocolate will be available from F&M Bank, and Santa Claus will be in the park for pictures (bring your own camera)! Remember, even if it's freezing outside, it's always mid-50s in the caverns. Tickets can be purchased at the door for \$5 per person (cash only), and children 12 years of age and under



are free with the donation of a new arts/crafts supply or game. The proceeds and donations benefit the South River Boys & Girls Club and the Grottoes Ruritan Scholarships.

Grand Caverns will be closed on Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, and New Year's Day to allow our employees to spend time with their families.

Ashley Collier  
Tourism and Parks Director

## TOWN OF GROTTOS

601 Dogwood Avenue  
P.O. Box 146  
Grottoes, VA 24441

Phone: 540-249-5896  
Fax: 540-249-5726  
www.ci.grottoes.va.us

### Brush Site Open

December 1st 8 am - 12 pm

January 5th CLOSED

### ERMA Food Pantry

Grottoes United Methodist  
Church  
located at 300 4th St.  
(corner of 4th St &  
Cherry Ave)

Every Monday  
Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

For more information call  
249-5893

(Food Bank is closed on  
the 5th Monday and  
major holidays)

## Grottoes Ruritan Club Presents our 8<sup>th</sup> Annual CAROLING IN THE CAVERNS



### Grand Caverns Park

Saturday, December 1, 2018 - 6:00-8:00 PM

Tours will start at 6:00 and run every 5 minutes until 7:45

#### Admission:

Adults - \$5 (Cash Only)  
Children 12 & Under - (Free - With a donation of new art/crafts  
supplies or games)

#### Tickets:

Purchased at the door

#### Proceeds benefit:

*South River Boys & Girls Club & Ruritan Scholarships*

#### Music Provided by:

Valley Brass Quintet  
Peggy Counts & Friends  
Shenandoah Valley Pipe Band  
MOSAIC Handbell Ensemble  
Cantore

Like us on Facebook: Grottoes Ruritan Club

The **Grottoes Christmas Parade** will be held on Sunday, **December 2, 2018 at 5:30 p.m.** Floats are welcome (**No Santa Costumes**). No registration or fees - Monetary Prizes for winners! Line-up will begin at 4:30 p.m. at Birch Avenue and 9th Street. **New Parade Route!** It starts at 6<sup>th</sup> Street & Aspen Avenue moves west to conclude at the Town Hall. Following the parade we will have a tree lighting ceremony, visits with Santa, and cookies and hot chocolate. For more information, please call (540) 249-5896.

## Grottoes Town Officials

### Town Council

Emily Holloway, Mayor  
David Raynes, Vice-Mayor  
Mark Sterling  
Marjorie Funk  
Mark Keeler  
Joshua Bailey  
Tim Leeth

### Planning Commission

Justin Neitzey, Chairman  
Jen Smith, Vice-Chairwoman  
Mark Keeler  
Rebecca Holloway  
David Bradley  
Kevin Campbell  
Justin Morris

### Board of Zoning Appeals

Margie Mayes, Chairwoman  
Don MacDanel  
Ellen Showers  
Justin Neitzey  
*Vacancy*

Town Council meets the second Monday of the month at 7:00 pm in the Council Chambers. A workshop is held on the even months at 5:30 pm before the regular meeting.

Planning Commission meets the last Tuesday of the odd months at 7:00 pm in the Council Chambers.

BZA meets the third Tuesday of the month (when needed) at 7:00 pm in the Council Chambers.

\*Agendas will be posted on the website on the Friday before the meeting.