



Council Chatter

Town of Grottoes

March 2020

Mayor's Corner

Happy March! It is hard to believe March has arrived and we have not had enough bad weather to amount to anything in Grottoes! Hopefully spring is on the way soon and we can start enjoying our beautiful parks. Reminder that both parks are available for reservation and renting now- you can reserve shelters anytime after March 1.

This time of year begins a lot of activities and outside events. Mark your calendars now for our Annual Chief Charlie's Kids Fish

Day on Saturday, April 4th at Mountain View Park. There will be fun for the entire family! I would also like to remind everyone that Saturday, April 11 is Opening Day for Grottoes Little League! This is another great opportunity to come out and see our community and children in action.



Lastly, I would like to wish everyone a Happy Easter in April and Happy Spring! I hope you all have time to enjoy family and friends during this season.

As always, if you have any questions or ideas for Grottoes, feel free to reach out to council members or our Town Manager, Nathan Garrison.

Emily Holloway
Mayor

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Valley Program for Aging Services



Every Tuesday from March 3rd to April 21st from 2-4 pm.

Location - Grottoes Fire Department
109 3rd Street, Grottoes

Aging with Confidence Community Education

Getting Your Ducks in a Row

- June 9th, 10 - 12 noon - Medicare 101
- June 16th, 10 - 12 noon - End of Life Paperwork
- June 23rd, 10 - 12 noon - How to Plan if you Couldn't Plan

Location - Grottoes Town Hall



Tai Chi for Arthritis and Fall Prevention

Every Wednesday, April 22 – June 10, 2:30 – 3:30 p.m.
Grottoes Town Hall

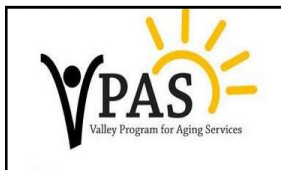
Manager's Message

It seems spring has arrived! I am looking forward to the warm weather and spending time outside. There are many things going on now that the weather is warming up and I encourage you to take a look at our events card. It shows events for both Spring and Summer of this year.

Some events to note coming up in April are Kids Fish Day (4/4), Easter Egg Hunt (4/11), Grottoes Little League opening day (4/11), and the Grand Caverns 5k Race (4/24). Our

next visit from DMV Connect will be on April 15th from 10am to 3pm at Town Hall. Staff members from DMV will be coming here to Town and can process most transactions here, including the new Real ID. If you need to make a trip to DMV but are having a hard time getting there, please take advantage of this so we can continue to have them come!

Also, Valley Program for Aging Services will be offering both educa-



tional, fitness, and wellness classes at Town Hall and other locations throughout Town this year. I encourage you to

check our website or upcoming newsletters for more information.

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

Nathan Garrison
Grottoes Town Manager

Library News

M-F 1-6 pm 540-434-4475 option 3 www.mrlib.org

March is Seuss Month: Celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday month with fun sheets—crosswords, word searches—all month. On March 26th @ 4 pm join Mark Keeler for a Seuss reading. There will be Seuss puzzles and stuffed animals to play with beforehand. Afterwards, participants choose a free gently used Seuss book to take home. All Seuss fans welcomed!

April is Poetry Month: Enjoy wonderful poems all month long! Read *sidewalk poems* on your way into the library; add a favorite poem to our *poetry wall*; pick out a poem from our selection for *Poem in Your Pocket Day* on April 30th.



Family Fun Story Time email: We have started a group email to all those interested in our Family Fun Story Time on Wednesday @ 1 pm; it arrives Tuesday, stating the theme & craft. If you'd like to add your name to this list, let me know. Story Time rocks!

Inclement Weather: Please check our website: www.mrlib.org for info about library closings. Don't we need one good snowstorm before Spring?

Cheryl Keeler
Grottoes Branch Manager



Happening @ the library in March & April:

- March 11: **Story Time Break**
- March 12: **Crafty Kids** 4 pm
- March 17: **Teen & Adult Coloring** 4 pm
- March 18: **Story Time Break**
- March 19: **Board Games** 4 pm
- March 25: **Family Fun Story Time** 1 pm
- March 26: **Seuss Celebration** 4 pm
- April 1: **Family Fun Story Time** 1 pm
- April 2: **Lego Club** 4 pm
- April 7: **Brown Bag** @ noon
- April 8: **Family Fun Story Time** 1 pm
- April 9: **Crafty Kids** 4 pm
- April 15: **Family Fun Story Time** 1 pm
- April 16: **Game Day** 4 pm
- April 17: **Library Closed (Staff Training)**
- April 21: **Teen & Adult Coloring** 4 pm
- April 22: **Family Fun Story Time** 1 pm
- April 23: **Keva Planks** 4 pm
- April 29: **Family Fun Story Time** 1 pm
- April 30: **Lego Club** 4 pm
- April 30: **Poem in Your Pocket Day**

Grand Caverns Easter Egg Hunt

April 11th at 10:00 am

Grand Caverns Park

All Grottoes area kids are welcome. Be sure to arrive early to get to your starting location. Over 4,000 eggs to find.



DMV will be at the Grottoes Town Hall on Wednesday, April 15th from 10 am until 3 pm. They will be able to complete many transactions for your convenience, including the REAL ID.

Grand Caverns 5K Race

GRAND CAVERNS
 SIGNATURE 5K RACE SERIES

Friday, April 24
6:30 PM

Grand Caverns Park

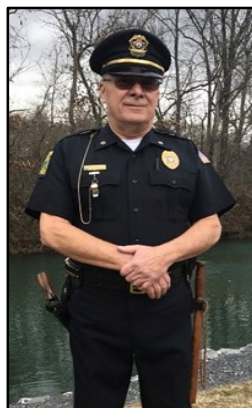
All proceeds go toward the purchase of a new playground at Grand Caverns.

Grottoes Police Department

The Grottoes Police Department and the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries will be holding the annual Chief Charlie's Kid's Fish Day on April 4th, 2020. The event will be held at Mountain View Park rain or shine. It's going to be a fun-filled day of fishing, food, drinks, and lots of prizes and activities for children. Fishing will be limited to children 3-15 years of age but there will be plenty of additional activities that are suited for children of all ages. All children must be accompanied by an adult while partici-

pating in the activities at Chief Charlie's Kid's Fish Day. This is a free event thanks to donations from local individuals and businesses. If you are interested in making a donation, please contact the police department at 540-249-5707. This will also be the 25th anniversary of kids fish day so stop by and let Chief Charlie take you for a ride with the Duce Crew and thank him for establishing the event.

The Grottoes Police Department would like to welcome a new officer Mr. Jason Bibeau. Jason has over sixteen years of experience and is excited to be working for the citizens of Grottoes.



As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please contact me or any of our officers at 540-249-5707.

Be safe, Buckle up
Chief Thomas C. James

Grottoes Volunteer Fire Department



CELEBRATING 72 YEARS OF SERVICE

to the great Town of Grottoes and counties of Rockingham and Augusta.

Visit us @ www.grottoesfire.com and on Facebook

UPCOMING EVENTS

3 rd Sunday EACH Month –	EAT LUNCH WITH US - 11:00am-1:00pm – \$10/person; \$6 for children 10 & under	
Entrée March 15	Fried Tenderloin	Entrée April 19
Entrée May 17	Cubed Steak	Entrée June 21
June 17-20	Annual Lawn Party at Mt. View Park	Roast Beef
June 19	Annual Fireman's Parade	Fried Tenderloin
August 14- 15	Summer Bash Raffle Event – Fri: Food & Music (pending); Sat: Food, Music by BCB, and Raffle Drawings – Raffle Tickets will be presold; watch for more details	
September 26	Fall Gun Party; Tickets will be presold; watch for more details	
October 1	Annual Fund Drive starts	

Our Facilities Hall is available to rent for banquets, parties, etc.

Call 540-578-3301, 540-578-3642, or 540-569-0456 for Pricing and more

Park Place

With all the mild weather we've been experiencing lately, I hope you have been enjoying our parks and dog park!

Shelter Reservations

began Sunday, March 1st at 10AM. There are three ways to reserve Mountain View and Grand Caverns shelters this year:

By phone (540-249-5705) from 10AM until 4PM daily beginning March 1st.

In person at the Stone Lodge in Grand Caverns Park from 10AM until 4PM daily beginning March 1st.

NEW OPTION: Online at <https://www.grandcaverns.com/shelter-rentals.html> beginning 10AM March 1st.

If you've got a reunion, graduation, birthday party, or any other special event coming up, give us a call. Shelters (especially for the weekends) go very quickly!

The Grand Caverns Easter Egg Hunt will be Saturday, April 11th, at 10AM in Grand Caverns Park. All Grottoes area kids are wel-

come. Be sure to arrive early to get to your starting location!

The next Grand Caverns Signature 5K Race will be Friday, April 24th at 6:30PM. All proceeds go towards the purchase of a new playground at Grand Caverns Park! Please see the attached flyer for more information.

We are very excited to announce that the Grand Caverns swimming pool will be OPEN for the 2020 pool season beginning May 23rd! Pool passes will be available for purchase in the Stone Lodge beginning April 20th.

Town of Grottoes

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

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

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
540-249-5893

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

Brush Site Open

April 4th 8 am - 12 pm
May 2nd 8 am - 12 pm

If you have questions please
contact the Town during regular
business hours at 249-5896



SOUTH RIVER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

MARCH 10	8:30AM - 7:00PM
MARCH 11	8:30AM - 3:30PM
MARCH 12	8:30AM - 3:30PM
MARCH 13	8:30AM - 3:30PM

Bring with you:

- birth certificate
- proof of residency (most recent water bill or electric bill)

Must be 5 years old by Sept. 30th, 2020



Reminder that the Police Department has a medication box where old medications can be disposed. When disposing epi-pens and insulin needles place items in household trash. Please **DO NOT** discard these items as recyclable plastics.



Preschool Screening Sign Up

SOUTH RIVER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IS NOW
ACCEPTING PHONE CALLS TO SCHEDULE SCREENINGS
FOR THE 2020/2021 PREK CLASS

CALL: 540-249-4001

Accepted applicants must meet one or more
of the criteria of the local and state govern-
ment to be accepted into the PreK program.

Bring with you:

- proof of residency (most recent water or electric bill)
- most recent pay stubs for all adult persons living in the household

Must be 4 years old by Sept. 30th, 2020 & live in
the South River School District

The Rockingham County Rec Dept. **Senior Citizens BINGO** for the Grottoes area is held at the Grottoes Town Hall in the community room on the 4th Monday of each month from 10 - 11am



Grottoes Town Officials

Grottoes Town Council

Emily Holloway, Mayor

David Raynes

Mark Keeler

Joshua Bailey

Tim Leeth

C.W. Stephenson

Jo Plaster

Planning Commission

Justin Neitzey, Chairman

Jen Smith, Vice-Chair

Mark Keeler

Kevin Campbell

David Bradley

Miriam Miller

Nathan Foerster

Board of Zoning Appeals

Margie Mayes, Chairwoman

Justin Neitzey

Ellen Showers

David Gorjup

Christa Hall

Council meets the Second Monday of the month at 7:00 pm in the Council Chambers of the Town Hall. Council may also hold a workshop at 6:00 pm prior to the monthly meeting.

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

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