

July 2020

# Council Chatter

## Mayor's Corner

Happy Summer to all of you! I know the past few months have been extremely hard through the COVID-19, but I hope you and your family are healthy. I hope this newsletter finds you enjoying the warm weather and fun recently celebrated for the Fourth of July.

Due to the governor's orders, we had to cancel many things in Grottoes, but we hope to have some events as we move forward for the remaining part of summer and into the

fall. One exciting thing, June 28th, the Grottoes Cardinals had their home opener at Shifflett Field and it was a great crowd. Mark your calendars for these games and come out to support the Cardinals. On Saturday, July 11th, there is a double-hitter and the Town is sponsoring the games. Admission is FREE! We hope to see you there!

If you have any questions or concerns for town council, feel free to reach out to a council member or Nathan



Garrison, Town Manager. I hope you have a great rest of the summer!

Emily Holloway,  
Mayor

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## Town of Grottoes Mayor and Town Council Candidates

We have received the following list of qualified candidates from the Rockingham County Registrar's Office. These candidates will be on the ballot in the November election and other candidates may run on a write-in ballot.

At the election you will vote for Mayor and three (3) Council Members.

<b>Mayor</b>
Joshua K. Bailey Joanne L. "Jo" Plaster
<b>Town Council</b>
Charles K. Lawhorne Michael W. Kohl Tim Y. Leeth Mark Alan Sterling

## Manager's Message

I hope everyone is having a great summer and had a nice 4<sup>th</sup> of July. The weather this summer has been very pleasant so far.

This year we have had to cancel some Town events due to COVID-19. Please keep up to date on our Facebook page and website for upcoming events. I would like to mention, the Cardinals baseball team is playing and having home games at Shifflett Field. Go on down and support our local team this summer!

The grass is growing! Our Public

Works Department is working hard to keep our parks and streets looking good. I ask everyone to please keep your property maintained by mowing the grass. We are proud of our Town and want to keep it looking as good as possible. As you mow your lawn, please do not blow grass into the street. Not only does this cause a dangerous surface for those using the roadway or



sidewalk, it is also a violation of our Town code.

Lastly, please remember when walking your dogs to keep them leashed. The Town does have a very nice Dog Park located at Mountain View Park where they can run as much as they'd like!

As always, if I can be of assistance to you please do not hesitate to reach out to me at 540-249-5896.

Nathan Garrison  
Town Manager

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## Park Place

The question that has been on everyone's mind: Is the pool going to open?? I'm thrilled to tell you YES! **The pool is open as of July 1<sup>st</sup>**, daily from 12PM to 7PM, weather permitting! As I type this, all the details of Phase 3 have not yet been released. Please follow us on our Facebook page and website ([www.grandcaverns.com](http://www.grandcaverns.com)) for updated details!

Pool pricing: The daily admission rate is \$5 per person, or \$4 per resident. Resident pool pricing now applies to those who live in zip codes 24441 and 24471. Our season passes will be prorated. Please give us a call for pool pass pricing information. (540) 249-5705.

Shelter reservations have resumed! To make a shelter reservation, visit us online at [www.grandcaverns.com/parks](http://www.grandcaverns.com/parks) or give us a call.

Grand Caverns walking tours are operating again and are a wonderful way to cool off this summer. Be sure to ask about our Grottoes resident rate!

Events: The **Grand Caverns Signature 5K Race** which was scheduled for April 24<sup>th</sup> has been rescheduled to July 10<sup>th</sup> at 6PM. To sign up, visit <https://tinyurl.com/y9he6sca>

The **Mountain Valley 10K Race** has been rescheduled to July 11<sup>th</sup> at 7AM. To sign up for this race, please visit <https://tinyurl.com/yc6wta7w>

Cancellations: The **Friday Night Bluegrass** in July evenings have been cancelled for this year.

The Beer, Wine and Music Festival scheduled for July 25<sup>th</sup> has also been cancelled. We hope to resume these events next year!



Have a fun and safe summer!

Ashley

## Grottoes Police Department...

Summer has finally begun. Keep in mind that there will be children and adults walking and riding bicycles, so be sure to maintain safe driving habits at all times. Please do not allow your children to play in the street.

Also, please be aware of scam artists, so you don't become a victim. They often prey on senior citizens and offer a variety of services, or may claim you've won a prize. They may solicit over the phone, email, internet, or even in person. Never provide any personal or fi-

nancial information to anyone unless you are certain that the person or company is legitimate. Refuse to become a victim! If you feel that you have been the victim of a scam or are unsure, contact the police department at 540-249-5707.

Remember to look out for our four-legged friends as the temperatures increase. Please make sure that they have adequate fresh water, food, and shade.



Be safe and have a great summer.

## Grottoes Volunteer Fire Department

A Note of Thanks from the Members of the Grottoes Volunteer Fire Department

We want to thank our great community for your support during the COVID-19 pandemic and throughout our 72-year history of fire service and EMS service. During this recent pandemic we appreciate all you've done for us, from donating personal protective equipment (PPE), dropping off snacks, and for

all the notes and words of encouragement. You have been helping us help you.

Also we appreciate all who came out for our "Curbside Chicken in the Park" event June 27th. Watch for another chicken event before fall, possibly Sept. Date and additional information will be posted as soon as planning is finalized.

**Sunday Lunch Entrees:**

**July 19th - Roast Beef**

**Aug. 16th - Lawn Party Chicken**

**Sept. 20th - Cube Steak**

**SUNDAY LUNCH**

## Library News

**540-434-4475 option 3**

**[www.mrlib.org](http://www.mrlib.org)**

The Grottoes Branch Library was sad to say good-bye to Cheryl Keeler, our long time Branch Manager. Cheryl's hard work and creativity has made this branch a unique and magical space for all to enjoy. We wish Cheryl all the best in her retirement.

I am happy to announce that I have accepted the position as Grottoes Branch Manager. I have worked at this library for 15 years as an aide, and am pleased that our patrons will continue to see a familiar face behind the counter.

Summer Reading 2020, *Imagine Your Story*, is happening now! This year, registration for adults and children is completely online. Follow the links on our web page, [mrlib.org](http://mrlib.org), to sign up. Kids, have fun reading and earn a free book and a chance to win the grand prize drawing. Also, plan to stop by each week for a paper bag craft for kids Pre-K through grade 5. Adults, log your books for a chance to win weekly drawings, as well as a grand prize drawing at the conclusion of summer reading.

The library has begun a phased opening with limited hours. Our hours, during this time, are Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. You may stop by during these times to pick-up scheduled holds and return items. Items may also be returned to the outside night box at any time. Watch our web site for updates on new summer hours, coming soon.

We will be making every effort to maintain social distancing. Please wear a mask inside the building. Thank you and can't wait to see you again!

Peggy Counts,  
Grottoes Branch Manager

## 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



September 5th

Call to add your address to  
our directory 249-5896

### Brush Site Open

Saturday, July 11th

Tuesday, July 14th

Saturday, August 1st

Tuesday, August 18th

Saturday, September 12th

Tuesday, September 15th

8:00 am - 12:00 noon

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



September 12th

4 - 9 pm

Mountain View Park

## Grottoes Cardinal Home Games

Wednesday, July 8th - 7:30 pm

Clover Hill @ Grottoes

Saturday, July 11th - 5:00 pm

**DOUBLE HEADER**

New Market @ Grottoes

Wednesday, July 15th - 7:30 pm

Clover Hill @ Grottoes

Wednesday, July 22nd - 7:30 pm

Bridgewater @ Grottoes

Sunday, July 26th - 5:00 pm

Montezuma @ Grottoes

Tuesday, July 28th - 7:30 pm

Elkton @ Grottoes

Friday, July 31st - **PLAYOFFS BEGIN**

# Grand Caverns Pool is Open

## Grottoes Town Officials

### Town Council

Emily Holloway, Mayor

David Raynes

Mark Keeler

Joshua Bailey

Tim Leeth

C.W. Stephenson

Jo Plaster

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

Justin Neitzey, Chairman

Jen Smith

Mark Keeler

David Bradley

Kevin Campbell

Miriam Miller

Nathan Foerster

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

### Board of Zoning Appeals

Margie Mayes, Chairwoman

Justin Neitzey

Ellen Showers

David Gorjup

Christa Hall

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