

Town of Grottoes

Council Chatter

Mayor's Corner

This newsletter is the last I will be writing as Mayor. I want to thank all of you for what you bring to this town to make it special! I have met so many great people over the years from my time on Planning Commission, Town Council and the last four years as Mayor. I write this newsletter article with my favorite quote in mind...

"Beginnings are scary, endings are usually sad, but it's what's in the middle that counts the most."
~Hope Floats

Over the past years while I have been involved with our town, many things have happened. We have continued to grow, bring in small businesses, bring more community-based events for families, and

continue the great fundamentals for our citizens while trying to make things better along the way. Like all things in life, nothing is perfect but Grottoes is a GREAT place with GREAT people! Although there are parts of me that feel sad to be ending my time on Council, I know that the things that have happened "in the middle" of the time I was involved are what really matter and what I choose to focus on.



I want to thank all of the staff who work in the office, the

maintenance crew, the Waste Water Treatment plant employees, the staff at the parks and our police department for all they do to keep our town running! These people are priceless to us all. Lastly, I want to thank everyone I have worked with on Town Council during this time. It takes a special bond to work together, "agree to disagree", and continue to move forward making difficult decisions that impact all of us in Grottoes.

Each of you are what makes Grottoes what it is and I want to thank you for that! I hope you and your family have a great Thanksgiving and Christmas season ahead!

Emily Holloway,
Mayor

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Welcome Chief Carroll

I would like to introduce our new Police Chief, Tim Carroll. Chief Carroll began his career with Harrisonburg City in 2007. During his 9-year tenure with the Harrisonburg Police Department, Chief Carroll served in various roles, including Master Patrol Officer and School Resource Officer. After leaving Harrisonburg City in 2016, Chief Carroll went on to

James Madison University where he worked on patrol and as a field training officer before becoming a Corporal and Sergeant within the James Madison University Police Department.

Chief Carroll has excellent communication and collaboration skills. This coupled with his community policing experience will be an asset to both

the Town of Grottoes and the police department. Chief Carroll's main goal is to maintain strong relations with the community residents. Chief Carroll is looking forward to serving the community and ensuring the safety of everyone in this beautiful town.

Emily Holloway
Mayor

Manager's Message

Hello Fall!

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 30th**. 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.



I wanted to let everyone know that I have taken a new position at the Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission and my last day with the Town was on October 28th. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time working with the Town and getting to know everyone. I started working for the Town as a Tour Guide at Grand Caverns and eventually found myself as Town Manager! Grottoes means a great deal to me. Thank you all for the

opportunity and the wonderful memories. They will be cherished. Also, I'd like to thank all of the Town's employees for your dedication and hard-work you do for the Town. It has been a pleasure.

If you ever need anything feel free to reach out to Town Hall at 540-249-5896. Best wishes everyone!

Nathan Garrison
Town Manager

Library News

Mon-Thurs 1-6pm Fri 11-2pm 540-434-4475 option 3

The library released 2 Monarch butterflies in October. Such a joy to watch these amazing creatures fly off to begin their migration to Mexico! Thanks to the special kids who helped with the releases.

Mark your calendar, the library will close early (5:00 pm) on Wednesday, November 25, and will be closed on Thursday and Friday November 26 and 27 for Thanksgiving.

We will be closed December 24 through December 26 for the Christmas holiday.

We now have a Notary on staff for your convenience.



In house programming is still on hold, but you and your children can enjoy virtual programming each day on the library website. Check out online story times, digital book talks, craft tutorials, archived virtual adult programs and

much more at mrlib.org/youtube.

The library is pleased to announce a new hire at the Grottoes Library. Sarah Dean will begin work mid-November as the new library aide. Plan to stop in and make Sarah welcome!

Thought for today: *"The only thing*

Park Place

I hope you all enjoyed the beautiful and mild fall weather we had in October! As we move into November and the colder months, remember that Grand Caverns is 54°F year-round and mini golf is still open in Grand Caverns Park. Ask about our Grottoes resident discount on a cavern tour!

Events: We are very excited to announce that we will be hosting a *virtual* Caroling in the Caverns event this December. Donations will still benefit the Grottoes Boys and Girls Club and the Grottoes Ruritan Scholarship Funds. More details will be on our website and Facebook pages as they become available.

Ashley Collier



Grottoes Police Department

We hope everyone had a safe Halloween.

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 arrested for DUI and you are endangering your life and others.



As a reminder, the town has a "Leash Law". We receive many complaints about dogs running at large. Please be courteous and keep your dogs on a leash when walking them, and don't allow them to roam onto other citizen's property.

Also 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.



Please feel free to contact any of our officers with any questions or concerns at 540-249-5707.

We want to wish everyone a safe and Happy Holidays!

Grottoes Police Department

Grottoes Volunteer Fire Department

The Grottoes Volunteer Fire Dept. is thankful to be part of this great community. As the Thanksgiving and Christmas seasons are upon us, we reflect on the past year and those who have helped to make 2020 a success for Grottoes Volunteer Fire Department despite the challenges of COVID-19.

Many thanks to the overwhelming support of our first curbside pickup chicken event in May. Also thank you for the continued support at our Sunday

Lunches which we restarted in July; especially for adhering to our social distancing and masks recommendations. We are so grateful for the support we received at our Chicken in the Park Weekends in August and September and have been so blessed by the cards of thanks and prayers, and 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.

It has been a great year for us. Our dedicated volunteers have continued to provide the exceptional service to our community even with all of the challenges! We hope that 2020 has been just as memorable for you and your family. We look forward to serving you in the years to come. Have a Blessed Thanksgiving, a Merry Christmas and a very Happy and Safe New Year.



JOIN US FOR OUR UPCOMING EVENTS: **SUNDAY LUNCH 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM OR UNTIL SOLD OUT**

\$10.00/adult; \$6.00 children age 10 and under

Sun., Nov. 16th **THANKSGIVING SUNDAY LUNCH** -Turkey, Dressing, Gravy, Cole Slaw, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Pumpkin Pie, Roll with Butter, tea or coffee

Sun., Dec. 21st Fried Cubed Steak, Gravy, Garden Salad, Mashed Potatoes, Green Peas, Roll with Butter, Dessert, tea or coffee



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.
 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

Saturday, November 7th
 Tuesday, November 17th
 Saturday, December 5th
 Tuesday, December 15th
 Saturday, January 9th
 Tuesday, January 12th

8:00 am - 12:00 noon

REMINDER

Trash cans must be out by
7:00 am.
 (or the night before)



Veterans Day Ceremony

The Grottoes Veterans Group has cancelled the Veterans Day Ceremony this year due to Covid-19 Virus. If you would like to show your respect, honor and gratitude to our veterans please feel free to visit our Walk of Honor anytime that day.

Christmas Home Decorating Contest



PRIZES
 AWARDED

Judging begins at
**7:00 pm on
 December 14th**

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.

The **Grottoes Christmas Parade and Tree Lighting Ceremony** will be held on Sunday, December 6, 2020. The parade will begin at 5:30 p.m. No Registration or Fee! Floats are welcome (**No Santa Costumes allowed**). Line-up will begin at 4:30 p.m. at Birch Avenue and 9th Street. Parade Route - starts at 6th Street & Aspen Avenue moves west to conclude at the Town Hall. More Information will be available at a later time as we are still working out all the details, keeping Covid-19, and social distancing in mind.

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, Chair
 Jen Smith, Vice - Chair
 Mark Keeler
 David Bradley
 Kevin Campbell
 Nathan Foerster
 Dylan Nicely

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, Chair
 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.