

Town of Betterton Newsletter

Summer 2018

Update from the Mayor

Welcome to Summer. After what seemed like a long wet Spring, we finally have some warm and sunny days.

The construction of our new wastewater treatment plant continues and is now estimated to be completed in the October/ November timeframe. As a reminder, this new plant will reduce the nitrogen and phosphorus content of our effluent aiding to the goals of improving the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries.

With the new plant under construction, please note that the site access is restricted to authorized personnel only. Any unauthorized personnel may be charged with trespassing.

We have recently completed a Public Hearing and submitted for another grant for \$800,000.00 for the Wheeler Avenue Project. Our Town Manager, Ms. Elizabeth Greenwell and a group of citizen volunteers have worked very hard on a number of grant opportunities throughout the Town to seek funds for much needed upgrades.

We have installed the second Radar Speed Sign in a continuing effort to slow people down. The first sign is still seeing speeds in excess of 50 MPH at the entrance to Town and the second one has already recorded speeds in excess of 42 MPH. The average number of violators runs around 20% of those driving into Town. I ask again, as we see the increase of traffic for the Summer days, that you encourage your guests and anyone else you know, to observe the speed limits. The Sheriff's Office receives the data from the signs and is using that to focus their enforcement effort on those times noting an increase in violations.

The Betterton Fire Company will again be hosting Betterton Day on August 4th. They have also informed me that, just like last year, fireworks are planned for August 3rd on the beach. Come and join in the fun and see a great show.

This year's National Night Out is August 7th. And in support of our local Sheriff and his Staff, the Mayor & Council will again be hosting an Open House at Town Hall with light snacks from 7:00 to 8:00 pm. So come out and meet some of our local deputies as we thank them for their service.

That's all for now,
Mayor Sutton



Dates to Remember

Trash Pick-Up: Mondays

Yard Waste Pick-Up: Monday

Recycling Pick-Up: Tuesdays

The Town of Betterton will be closed in observance of the following holidays:

Tuesday, July 3rd
Independence Day

Monday, September 3rd
Labor Day

Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday,
Thursday, & Friday

8 am – 3 pm

The office is closed on
Wednesdays.

Council Meetings

2nd and 4th Tuesday of the
month at 7 pm.
All are invited to attend.

Update from the Town Manager

It has been a busy few months here in Betterton. If you have driven around town, you probably noticed that there has been construction. The Main Street Outfall and county parking lot were just finished thanks to a grant from the MD Department of Natural Resources. The new permeable pavers are beautiful and will help with storm water management.

Over the past several months, the town has applied for 6 additional grants. The first grant was a FEMA grant to stabilize the bank on Bayside Blvd. There were 3 applications submitted to Maryland and our application is the only one still in the running from MD. Our application has now gone to the federal level to see if our project will be approved. This grant would require monies from the homeowners on Bayside in combination with grant funding to complete the project and we are hopeful that we will hear from FEMA soon.

The town also applied for two grants for the Rigbie Steps. These grants were through MHAA and MHT and are historical grants to preserve the steps. We are grateful for all of those who sent in pledges. We will be reaching out to you with an update once we hear back from the two grant organizations in the next few months. It is our hope that the combination of pledges and grant funding will allow this project to happen sometime next year.

Recently, the town applied for two grants for Wheeler Avenue. One was through Community Legacy and the other through CDBG. It is our hope that we will receive funding to start this project – which will address storm water, sewer and water lines, and also allow for a new roadway and permeable paver sidewalks. This is a \$1.1 million dollar project, so we are looking for funding from a variety of sources to cover the costs of this infrastructure project.

Finally, the town has applied for a mini-grant through the Chesapeake Bay Trust to paint a mural on the bath house on 6th Avenue. Morgan Bench, a Washington College graduate is the artist who has designed the mural – which shows off a beautiful water view of our town. If the grant is approved, we will invite the community to help paint and learn more about saving our Bay.

All of these grants take a lot of time to prepare, and I am grateful for a team of dedicated volunteers – Dr. Joseph Stock, Maryann Wasko-Smith, and Dick and Ginny Story who have devoted many hours to the town to help apply for these grants. If you would like to help out, our grant taskforce meets 2-3 times a month and we would love to have you.

I hope you all have a wonderful summer!

Elizabeth Greenwell

Town Hires New Employee



The town is pleased to announce that we have hired a new full-time employee, Jeff Miller, to work at our Wastewater Treatment Plant and help out in our Public Works department. Jeff Miller is a licensed plumber who has experience working in Wastewater. He is married and enjoys hunting, fishing, and farming and is a drummer in a Blue's Band.

We are grateful for Dan Parent, who worked part-time as an independent contractor for the town over the past year while we were short staffed. We will miss him.

911 Numbering on Houses

It has come to our attention, that approximately half of the homes in Betterton are not compliant with county 911 regulations for posting their addresses on their houses and mailboxes. Having all residents comply not only helps in an emergency, but also will help with completing the upcoming Census.



The following information is from the Kent County Planning website:

1. The number shall be displayed in a location visible from the road upon which the address number is assigned.
2. Numbers should always be placed on both sides of the mailbox (except cluster boxes, where the number may be placed on the front of the box). However, displaying the number on the mailbox may not be all that is necessary under some circumstances. If any of the facts listed below exist, then the number must also be displayed as described in #3 and/or #4 below;
 - a. There is no mailbox.
 - b. The mailbox is on the opposite side of the road from the home.
 - c. There are multiple mailboxes, at the location, or the home or building which goes with the mailbox is not clearly identifiable.
3. Numbers may be placed on the house, but only if they are readily visible from the road (within 50 feet) and the view of the numbers is not blocked by trees or shrubs.
4. Numbers may be placed on a private sign or post at the entrance to the driveway, at a height of 3 to 4 feet.
5. Numbers should be at least three (3) inches high (except on the front of cluster mailboxes).
6. Numbers should be plain block numerals, not script or written numbers.
7. Numbers should be set on a background of contrasting color, preferably black on white. Reflective numbers are desirable.

BVFD Chicken BBQ

Sunday, July 1st from 11 am – 2 pm Chicken BBQ. Help support our local Fire Department. Chicken BBQ is. Sides include hand cut French fries, coleslaw, and applesauce.

The Mainstay plays in Betterton!



Sunday, July 29 at 2:00pm – Free Concert. Seating will be first come, first seated. Donations will be accepted. Sponsored by BCDC, The Mainstay, and a donor.

Pam and Bob Otiz, of Chestertown will be playing.

Upcoming Election in Betterton

October 6, 2018 the Town of Betterton will hold elections. Open positions will include 2 Council seats as well as Mayor.

To vote in Betterton Town elections, you must be registered with the Kent County Board of Elections by August 31, 2018 and live in Betterton for at least 30 consecutive days prior to October 6, 2018.

Candidate petitions will be available starting on August 1, 2018.

Further questions may be directed to Judy Kohl, Election Commissioner at judykohl39@gmail.com.

Betterton Day

Saturday, August 4th will be the annual Betterton Day celebration. There will be a beach party and fireworks the evening of August 3rd. On the 4th there will be food vendors, music, a parade, cow plop bingo, and many other activities. This is a wonderful time to invite family members and friends to come experience Betterton.

The Betterton Fishing Ark will be in the parade and then will be open from 12:00 until 3:00. Great time to have a tour of this part of our history.

Children's Program

Friday, August 24th at 10 am a Children's Librarian from Kent County Public Library will be holding a Children's Story and Craft time at Town Hall. All residents and visitors are encouraged to bring their pre-school and elementary aged children to enjoy the children's program.

Community Yard Sale



Saturday, August 25 - 8:00am until 12:00 pm - Community Yard Sale. BCDC will sponsor a community yard sale on this Saturday. The event last year was a success and we hope to have more participation this year. This is a driving tour of yard sales in Betterton. When you register, your address will be added to the advertising around the County. The cost to register is \$5.00, paid to BCDC. All advertising will include the address of each yard sale location. There are limited spaces at the 100 Main St. Park. You can register at the Town Office or complete the form and return to the Town Office. Questions and registration can be sent to Candi at ccsorge@gmail.com.

Yes, I will participate in the BCDC Community Yard Sale on Saturday, August 25, from 8:00 am until 12:00.

Name: _____ Address of Yard Sale _____

Enclosed is my \$5.00 registration fee to cover the cost of advertising.

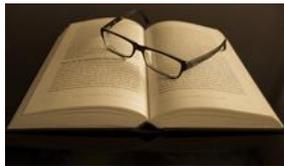
Return to Betterton Town Office no later than July 20 to be included in the advertising.

News from BCDC

The Betterton Heritage Museum and gift shop is open every Saturday and Sunday from 1:00 pm until 3:00 pm from now until October. Stop in to learn more about Betterton History and pick up some postcards and other neat stuff. The museum and gift shop is staffed by volunteers. If you are interested in helping, contact Candi Sorge at ccsorge@gmail.com.

Did you know that 5 Garden areas around town are maintained by BCDC? Larry Crew does the garden around the Town sign at the Sixth Ave. Park, Merceda Eckstrom does the gardens at 100 Main, the Bayside gardening group does the gardens at the Bayside footbridge, and BCDC does the Rain Garden at the Community Center. We hope that you are enjoying these gardens. If you would like to join the effort, contact a member of BCDC

Lending Library/Free Wi-Fi



What to do in Betterton on a hot summer day? How about read a good book? Where can you get a good book without going too far? Did you know Betterton has three **Little Free Libraries** full of interesting titles to share? Little Free Libraries operate by sharing books. Anyone in the community can take a book or leave a book. So where are these libraries just waiting for you? The newest **Little Free Library** is at the corner of Church Alley and 3rd Ave. Interested readers will find a library dedicated to health and wellness sponsored by Brittany Longworth of Chesapeake Traditional Acupuncture. Search Ericsson Avenue for another **Little Free Library** full of books and finally stop by and browse the library at the Town's Community Center where books for children and adults are available and there is free Wi-Fi.

Smoke Detector Law

Just a reminder that the State of Maryland now requires all homes with 9 volt battery-only smoke alarms to be replaced with ten-year sealed-in long-life batteries with a silence/hush feature.

Youth Group

Youth group will start back up in September, children from the ages of 6-16 may attend we meet in the basement of the Betterton United Methodist Church on main street. front door on the right come down stairs. Time is from 6:30 to 8pm on these dates; **September 14, October 5, October 12, November 16, and November 30. December 15** is the Christmas Party at the Legion from 3pm to 5pm. Local children are welcome to Attend. All children must be pre- registered so there will be something for them from Santa. to register or any questions please contact Patti Bone at 443-298-0057. Next year's schedule will come out later in the year, We meet from September to May.

Buffet Dinners

The American Legion in Betterton is offering Buffet style dinners on the **4th Saturday of each month** from 4:30 -7:00 pm. Please come down and support your local American Legion, "Public is welcome." Watch for the flyers for the menu, as it will change monthly.

Annual Car Show

Sunday, September 30th at 9 am the BVFD will have their annual car show. There will be food, music, and prizes.



Think Big Networks

Think Big services Kent County Maryland by installing superfast fiber optic Gigabit connections right to your home or office. If you haven't signed up yet – please do – as their team is continually evaluating where the next build will be. This major county-wide infrastructure project requires them to evaluate how to bring service to as many subscribers as possible. To help Betterton move up on the list, we need to have you sign a Customer Agreement at NO COST TO YOU. Go to www.thinkbignets.com/home to learn more.



Residents and visitors gathered for the Annual Easter Egg hunt in Betterton park. Kids of all ages enjoyed finding eggs and playing together afterward. Sponsored by the American Legion.

Do you have something newsworthy?

Any articles or photos you would like included in the next newsletter should be emailed to Elizabeth at egreenwell@townofbetterton.com or Sheila at info@townofbetterton.com no later than September 21st.