

The Strasburg Signal



www.strasburgva.com

Official Newsletter of the Town of Strasburg, Virginia

January 2015

The Strasburg Signal is published monthly by Town staff to inform citizens about town programs, services, and events. Your feedback is welcome. Please fill out the comment section below and return to the Town Office at 174 East King Street, PO Box 351, Strasburg, VA 22657, or call (540) 465-9197, or email info@strasburgva.com.

THANK YOU, STRASBURG!

A little over 6 years ago, while living in Utah, I received a phone call from Kevin Fauber, Town Manager of Strasburg at the time, explaining that I had been selected to participate in a phone interview for the Town Planner position. I had traveled through the Shenandoah Valley years prior so I was excited about the prospect of moving to the Valley. But, I didn't know a thing about Strasburg. I quickly jumped on the computer and read everything I could about the Town, and was very impressed. I read that the Town was founded in 1761, has a historic downtown, and used to be called Pot Town. It has a beautiful natural setting on the Shenandoah River in the shadow of Signal Knob. The Town has a rich cultural heritage as many Civil War battles took place in and around the area.

There were, however, some things that Google couldn't tell me; for instance: how do citizens of the town pronounce "Strasburg?" Through my internet searches I found that there are many Strasburgs across the world and certainly they don't all pronounce the name the same. Do you say Strousburg, Straaaaaaasburg, or Straws-burg? I certainly didn't want to embarrass myself during the phone interview by pronouncing it wrong. What was I to do?

On a whim, I picked up the phone and called the local McDonalds. My plan was to ask the person on the other end of the line where they were located. It would be a short phone call and I would quickly have my answer.

"We're right off 81 along Route 11, just take a right at the first intersection," a young woman responded.

"Uh, well, what's your address," I continued.

"Um, I'm not sure, something Old Valley Pike," she said. "Where are you driving from?"

My plan wasn't working. It was time to come out with the truth. I cleared my throat. "Well, my family is looking to move to the area and, to be honest, we're not quite sure how to pronounce the name of the Town. I was hoping you could help."

"Oh, sir, you should've just asked. I'd love to help. Most people say Straws-burg. And, honey, you're going to love it here. Where are you moving from?"

We continued talking for several minutes, and hopefully our conversation didn't result in any burned hamburger patties. After I hung up, I sat for a moment in awe. Had I really spent that long talking to a complete stranger 2,000 miles away? What a nice young lady, and what an amazing town this Straws-burg must be!

More important, though, and without knowing it, that kind McDonald's worker also answered the other question that Google couldn't: What are the people like?

Answer: warm, welcoming, genuine, and kind!

Thank you, Strasburg, for many years of memories. It has been a true honor to be able to serve this community and my family and I are grateful to have been a part of this wonderful Town.

Judson Rex, Town Manager

GOOD BYE RECEPTION

Jud is leaving Strasburg to set sail on a new adventure.

Drop by and say farewell and wish him well as he begins a new chapter in his life.



When: Friday, Jan. 2, 2015
Time: 6:30 – 8 p.m.
Where: Strasburg Town Hall

ACTING TOWN MANAGER

While the Strasburg Town Council searches for a new town manager, George "Jay" McKinley will be serving as the Acting Town Manager. Jay has more than 20 years with the town, with his most current position being the Director of Public Works. Jay will be a great leader for the town during this transitional phase between managers.

Contact Jay at: jmckinley@strasburgva.com or 540-465-9197.

ATTENTION: COUNCIL MEETING TIME CHANGE

Town Council has decided to change the meeting time for regular Council meetings. Meetings will now be held on the second Tuesday of each month at **7 p.m.** Please, make note of this change and plan to attend a meeting in 2015. Work Sessions will continue to be held on the Mondays of the weeks preceding and following the second Tuesday, beginning at 7 p.m.



CHRISTMAS TREE PICK-UP

Christmas Tree Pick-up will be January 2nd and January 5th through 9th, 2015, weather permitting. All trees should be placed at the curb, free of ornaments by 8 a.m. Please note, if it is snowing, pick-up may be delayed.

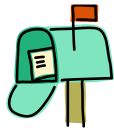


SANTA WAS BUSY AT TOWN HALL!

For the first year ever, 176 personalized letters to local children from Santa were sent out from the Town of Strasburg. Each letter was personalized with the child's name and one accomplishment. A personal handwritten note was also included, depending on how much Mom and Dad wanted to reinforce a good behavior.

Lots of Moms, Dads, Grandparents and neighbors took advantage of this free offer from the Town. All of the personalized pictures, letters and maps (yes, maps to help Santa get to their home) will be returned by Santa to the Town Hall and be utilized for our Town Hall Art Show next December.

A special thanks to Borden Lumber for providing Santa's mailbox which was located in front of Town Hall. Town employees had a great time retrieving the children's letters every morning. Be on the lookout for this offer again next year. And we love reading on Facebook the positive comments from parents about their child's experience opening their own "special" letter.



HAPPY NEW YEAR

DOWNTOWN STREETScape BRICK SALES

\$30 PER BRICK

Hometown Strasburg, Inc. is once again selling commemorative bricks which will be placed in the sidewalks during Phase 3 of the Strasburg Streetscape Downtown Enhancement project between Holliday Street and the Town Run Bridge. What better way to honor a loved one than with a personal memorial. Parents, children, graduates, and families can all be remembered on a Gift Brick!

Give a gift that will be remembered for a lifetime!

Orders must be received by Friday, January 16, 2015. Visit www.HometownStrasburgVa.com for additional information.

JANUARY ART SHOW

Featured during the month of January will be art created by Strasburg students. A reception will be held on Tuesday, January 13, beginning at 5:30 p.m., prior to the Council meeting, where the public can meet the young artists. Please, show support of our students by attending the reception or by visiting the Town Hall during the month of January to view their beautiful work.

TRASH & RECYCLING SCHEDULE FOR JANUARY:

- Wednesday, Jan. 7: **Trash Collection ONLY**
- Wednesday, Jan. 14: **Trash & Recycling Collection**
- Wednesday, Jan. 21: **Trash Collection ONLY**
- Wednesday, Jan. 28: **Trash & Recycling Collection**

JANUARY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

1 – Town Office Closed HAPPY NEW YEAR	20 – Council Work Session, 7 pm
2 – Farewell Reception for Town Manager Rex, 6:30 – 8 p.m.	22 – ARB, 7 p.m.
5 - Council Work Session, 7 pm	26 – Finance & Personnel Comm., 5 p.m. Ordinance Comm., 7 p.m.
13 – Artist-of-the-Month Reception, 5:30 p.m. Town Council, 7 p.m.	

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER!



The Town of Strasburg is on Twitter! Follow us by scanning the QR code or search @townofstrasburg. When tweeting about the Town, be sure to use the hashtag #townofstrasburg so your friends and neighbors can see what an incredible community you live in.





Town of Strasburg 2015 Recycling Collection Schedule

Important Information About Your Trash and Recycling Collection:

The Town of Strasburg uses **American Disposal Services (ADS)** as the Town's trash and recycling service provider.

Trash is collected on **WEDNESDAY** of each week. As denoted on this calendar, your recyclables will be collected **every other week** on **WEDNESDAY** to coincide with your trash collection.

Legend:

Please put your recyclables out this day.

Trash collection
for the Town is
WEDNESDAY
of each week!

JANUARY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13		15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27		29	30	31

FEBRUARY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10		12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24		26	27	28

MARCH						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10		12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24		26	27	28
29	30	31				

APRIL						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7		9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21		23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

MAY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5		7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19		21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

JUNE						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2		4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16		18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

Should you need to contact the Town's contractor, American Disposal Services, please call 866-884-8700 or visit their website at www.americandisposal.com

The Town of Strasburg thanks you for recycling! For more information, please visit our website at www.strasburgva.com





**I want you to
support the
Strasburg
Library
Capital Fund**

Did you know that:

- The library budget is only \$36,000 a year and less than 1/2 is from public tax dollars.
- Each year building maintenance consumes about 15% of the budget.
- Volunteers contribute almost 400 hours each month to keep the library operating.
- Nearly 38,000 people use the library each year.

Please Donate!

**Send your tax deductible contribution to:
The Strasburg Library Capital Fund
195 West King Street
Strasburg, VA 22657**