

JUNE 2017

A Publication of News and Events

What's inside:

Town Council and Planning **Commission Meeting Updates** and Information Page 2 Police Chief's Corner Page 4



The Index is published monthly by the Town of Trappe, Inc.

Design & Layout:

Jennifer Shull

Publishing & Distribution: Town Hall Staff

Submissions are welcome & may be dropped off at the Town Hall or sent to: PO Box 162, Trappe MD 21673 Inclusion in the newsletter is determined by space available and relevance to the citizens.

Events reported in The Index do not necessarily reflect the endorsement of the Council of Trappe. The Council of Trappe reserves the right to edit or reject any item submitted. Articles and photographs published in The Index are protected under U.S. Copyright Law and cannot be reproduced without express written permission

After hours water/sewer emergency contact 410-476-7462

> **OFFICE HOURS** Mon, Tue, Wed, Thur 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Fri 8 a.m.—12:30 p.m.

Credit card payments accepted

Notary, Copy & Fax service available for small fee.

Council Meeting Wed. June 7th 7:00 p.m.

Planning Commission Tue. June 20th 7:00 p.m.



Town Meetings and Planning Commission Meetings are open to the public. Citizens are encouraged to attend to be informed and give input. Meeting agendas are posted outside Town Hall every Friday, and items are added as requested (which can be as late as Wednesday morning) and re-posted with each change. An early agenda is posted on the Town website, but may not always include the latest changes. Stop by the Town Hall on Wednesday evenings and learn first-hand about the many happenings in our town. For more information, call the Town Clerk at 410.443-0087.

•Town Meetings are held the first Wednesday of every month at 7 pm

•Planning Commission Meetings are held at least quarterly on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7 pm Public Hearings, Public Workshops, Special Appeals Hearings, etc. are scheduled as needed. Check the website for updates www.trappemd.net or on FACEBOOK.



ELECTION RESULTS

On May 9th registered voters of Trappe elected the following as their new council members: Nick Newman 114 votes, Walter Chase, Sr. 91 votes, and Norm Fegel 69 votes. Council member Don English received 43 votes and was not re-elected.

The Council members will be sworn in on Wednesday, June 7th at the regularly scheduled meeting at 7 p.m. The Council for the next two years will be Walter Chase, RD Diefenderfer, Norm Fegel, Nick Newnam and Tonya Pritchett. The next election will be in May 2019 at which time Commissioners RD Diefenderfer & Tonya Pritchett will be eligible to seek re-election.



On the matter of the Charter Amendment seeking to remove term limits proposed by Commissioner Rose Potter: 40 voted to repeal it and 90 voted not to repeal it.

Special Thanks



A hearty thank you to those folks that helped out the town recently during an unexpected staffing shortage. Thanks goes to Bobby Cro-

swell and Commissioner RD Diefenderfer for taking on the grass cutting duties of the wastewater treatment plant, town parks & office without being asked. A huge thank you to the members of the Maryland Rural Water Association who came to town to read the water meters without charge. Finally, thanks also to Easton Utilities for stepping up to assist the town with the required monitoring of the wastewater treatment facility-this task requires special licensing and training to keep compliant with MDE.



Volunteer Opportunities Volunteers are sought to fill the position of: Board of Appeals Alternate Election Board Alternate Ethics Commission Member

These boards meet on an as needed basis so there isn't a commitment to weekly or monthly meetings. A position is also open on the Planning Commission which meets monthly. Each position and board is important to the smooth functioning of local government, and presents an opportunity to be part of the process.

Persons interested should submit a letter of interest/ qualifications to the Town Administrator Erin Braband, via email clerk@trappemd.net or to the town office PO Box 162, Trappe. Positions will remain open until filled by appointment of the Town Council. Water & Sewer News:

Reminder-the new water & sewer usage rates go into effect July 1st. This is a 7% increase on actual gallons used, and will be reflected in the billing received in August.

The volunteer meter readers had difficulty finding some water meters. Please keep the meter pit area free of obstructions including shrubs and flowers. This would be appreciated by WWTP Superinten-



dent Steve Callahan as well and help to eliminate an estimated bill. *Thank you!*

Time for a Trim



Trash Rate Cut

The annual trash collection fee has decreased from \$167 a year to \$150. Residents should see the change on their new property tax bill. Several residents are having difficulty using sidewalks due to tree limbs and/or shrubs intruding on the walkway. Please trim low tree limbs and unruly shrubs back so that the sidewalks remain clear for pedestrians and strollers. Don't forget to keep grass to a maximum of 5". Fire hydrants should be kept accessible too.

CALENDAR

June 3rd Spark in da Pan 5 p.m. Veterans Park
June 7th June 16th June 16th June 17th FREE family movie 7 p.m. at Trappe United Methodist Church hall
June 17th FREE Rural Life Museum Friends & Family Day. Backtown Road 11 am-2 pm Music & refreshments served. Everyone is invited to stop out.
June 20th Planning Commission meeting scheduled 7 p.m.
June 22, 23, 24 Trappe Volunteer Fireman's Carnival nightly

News from the Trappe Community Outreach Team

Spark in da Pan will return to the gazebo at Trappe Veterans Park on Saturday, June 3rd from 5-7 p.m. with a rain location of Trappe United Methodist Church hall-(same day and time)

FREE Family Movie-Moana-a 2016 Disney adventure about a young Polynesian girl and her efforts to save her people. Friday, June 16th 7 p.m. at the church hall—Trappe United Methodist Church-Maple Avenue.

A special thank you to Bobby Croswell for technical assistance during the last movie *Air Bud Seventh Inning Fetch*. We appreciate all of our volunteers. There is lots to do in our community-won't you come be a part of it? Our next meeting is Monday, June 19th at 4:30 p.m. at the fellowship hall Trappe United Methodist Church. Flo Adams-Chair

Funding provided in part by the fundraising efforts of the Trappe Community Outreach Team, an all volunteer group, community donations and the Talbot County Smoking Cessation Grant program.



Trappe Volunteer Fire Company 410-476-3535 Non-emergency President Ben Diefenderfer Chief Nick Newnam

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE FAIR JUNE 22nd, 23rd & 24th

Fire Truck & Hayrides*Games*Food Food Specials Friday & Saturday: Italian Sausage Saturday: Pit Beef **"Flatland Drive" Bluegrass Band Thursday 7-9 p.m.** Friday at 6:30 *Chili Cook Off* Little Miss Contest on Friday Miss Contest on Saturday Parade-Saturday at 6:00 p.m.

PREVENTION • TREATMENT • RECOVERY



Hogan Administration Launches "Before It's Too Late" Web Portal to Provide Resources, Raise Awareness of Opioid Crisis

Educational Website and Social Media Presence Target Families, Educators, Health Professionals **ANNAPOLIS, MD** — The Hogan-Rutherford administration today launched "Before It's Too Late," a new web portal designed to provide resources and raise public awareness of the rapid escalation of the evolving heroin, opioid, and fentanyl crisis in Maryland. "For nearly three years, our administration has been focused on combating the heroin and opioid crisis from every angle, including prevention, treatment, and recovery," said Governor Larry Hogan. "This new web portal is another tool to raise awareness and provide critical resources to all Marylanders so that we can save thousands of lives, before it's too late."

The new website, <u>BeforeItsTooLateMD.org</u>, is a one-stop shop for individuals, families, educators, and health care professionals to get the educational resources they need to prevent this epidemic from spreading—because education goes hand-in-hand with prevention. This public awareness effort also includes a social media presence on <u>Facebook</u> and <u>Twitter</u>.

"Education and public awareness go hand-in-hand with prevention, and are an essential component of our efforts to turn the tide in this heroin and opioid crisis," said Lt. Governor Boyd Rutherford. "The Before It's Too Late portal will provide addicts, family members, educators, and health professionals with the resources they need to get help, understand the disease of addiction, and reduce stigma, in order to save lives."

The "Before It's Too Late" tagline is derived from a PSA the governor <u>released</u> featuring actor Michael Kelly in March. The launch follows the Regional Opioid and Substance Abuse Summit, which featured Governor Hogan, District of Columbia Mayor Muriel Bowser, and Virginia Governor Terry McAuliffe as speakers, and the first-ever Maryland Heroin and Opioid Educational Forum for students at Westminster High School in Carroll County, hosted by Lt. Governor Rutherford.

In March, Governor Hogan declared a State of Emergency in response to the heroin, opioid, and fentanyl crisis ravaging communities in Maryland and across the country. This declaration activated the governor's emergency management authority and enables increased and more rapid coordination between the state and local jurisdictions. The governor also announced \$50 million in new funding to address the crisis, as well as the appointment of the governor's senior emergency management advisor Clay Stamp to lead the Opioid Operational Command Center, which is mobilizing all available resources for effective prevention, treatment, and recovery.

POLICE CHIEF'S CORNER

REMEMBER TO KEEP YOUR VEHICLE and RESIDENCE DOORS LOCKED AT ALL TIMES. During the early morning hours of May 10th, there were 13 UNLOCKED vehicles from 10 different residences just on Harrison Circle that were illegally entered and ransacked, with some money and a few other items taken. These were just the ones that were reported, as I know there were other unlocked vehicles that were also ransacked. The same day during the early morning hours, unlocked vehicles were also illegally entered and ransacked in and near Oxford, Easton, St. Michaels, and a couple other locations in adjoining Counties. There were a couple of windows broken out of at least 2 vehicles (1 in Oxford and 1 in Easton), that had the doors locked, but valuables (computer and wallet) visible.

Normally these types of incidents are difficult to solve. However, based on some information provided by one Trappe resident, and one small piece of evidence that was located near Oxford, and with the Talbot County Sheriff's Office, Trappe Police Department, Oxford Police Department, Easton Police Department, St. Michaels Police Department, Dorchester County Sheriff's Office, Hurlock Police Department, Maryland State Police, Wicomico County Sheriff's Office, and Fruitland Police Department all working together, some potential suspects and a vehicle were identified between May 10th and 11th. During the early morning hours of May 12th, an alert citizen in Easton observed someone looking in and possibly tampering with vehicles in their neighborhood. They IMMEDIATE-LY called 9-1-1, and 2 of the suspects were apprehended by the Easton Police Department, as well as the suspect vehicle being located with some of the stolen items from May 10th. The persons involved are being charged with numerous violations in the various jurisdictions by the different agencies involved in the investigation, which is still ongoing to identify other suspects and locate the owners of some of the still unclaimed recovered property.

Please check your vehicles, especially if you normally keep them unlocked, for any missing items, to include money, clothes, tools, jewelry, or electronics. If you locate any missing items, or if your vehicle was illegally entered and ransacked, please contact me to report it. The persons involved are being charged with each vehicle, even if nothing was missing. And remember, KEEP YOUR DOORS LOCKED!!!

For Police services, except an emergency, call the 24 hour dispatch number, 410-476-5005. In an EMERGENCY, ALL 9-1-1. For confidentiality call me 410-829-0613. Thanks, George Ball, Chief

> Dedication of Nace's Park On a very hot and humid morning of April 29th community

grass, and a couple donated trees.

Shortly thereafter, former Councilwoman, Cheryl Lewis, proposed dedicating the vacant land as a future park to honor Nathanial Hopkins "Uncle Nace". Fast forward several years. The town applied for a second grant two years ago thru the State of Maryland Dept. of Natural Resources Community Parks & Playground program to develop the land into a park using the plan developed by Commissioner Potter and the park committee. The project was put out to bid for both design and construction, and was completed with assistance from Kevin Shearon of DMS, and general contractor Tom Cohee of Barker's Landing Excavation. The Chase family offered to donate the park sign crafted by Morton Signs, and permanent storyboards are in the works that will provide information about Nathanial Hopkins and his contributions to Trappe as a community leader, activist and friend. The park is open for the enjoyment of all and is a beautiful tribute to Trappe's own Nace Hopkins, and his legacy.





Commissioner Rose Potter, with assistance from park committee members, the realization of a park at the vacant spot on Main Street came to fruition. Some history: the town had purchased the site more than 10 years ago using Community Development Block Grant funds designated for removing slum and blight. The present park site was formerly a dilapidated building, and a highly visible evesore to those traveling not only Main Street but Route 50. Restrictions of the grant funding stated that the site could not be redeveloped for seven years so the site was leveled and planted with

members, elected officials and descendants of Nathanial Hopkins gathered to dedicate a park in his memory. Under the direction of