

Town of Betterton Newsletter

Spring 2019

From the Mayor

Spring is finally here and with it many things are happening in Betterton. Here are just a few...

The construction at the new wastewater treatment plant is nearing completion with only a few items left to do that were delayed because of weather. By the way, the new plant continues to exceed the expectations for nitrogen reduction in the effluent that is returned to the river and bay. This is all prior to the plants enhanced nutrient reduction process being initiated. The plan is that once the construction and landscaping are completed to have an Open House, with tours for the community, to see how the new plant operates. Look for more information on the Open House soon.

The request for bids for the construction of the Wheeler Avenue project will be going out soon, with the hope of getting the construction started in the near future. This project has been in the planning stage for quite a while and we recently received grant funding from Community Development Block Grant and the U. S. Department of Agriculture to cover the expected construction costs. The project is a combination of stormwater, water, sewer, and road improvement upgrades for the street. At the end of the construction, Wheeler Avenue will become a one-way street from Main Street to Ericsson Avenue.

The engineering design work for the Bayside bluff area is also ongoing thanks to a grant from FEMA covering 75% of the cost. That design, once complete will be used for the stabilization of the eroding bluff. The current timeline for that plan is to send out the RFP for construction in the Spring of 2020.

And one other item, we have contracted for the Water Tower to be repainted as soon as the weather permits. The company will also be making periodic inspections of the tower as part of a continuing maintenance effort. That is all for now, if you should have any concerns or questions, please call or plan to attend a Town meeting.

Mayor Sutton



Dates to Remember

Trash Pick-Up: Mondays

Yard Waste Pick-Up: Mondays

Recycling Pick-Up: Tuesdays

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

Friday, April 19th

Good Friday

Monday, May 27th

Memorial Day

Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday

8 am – 3 pm

Closed on Wednesdays

Council Meetings

2nd and 4th Tuesday at 7 pm.

All are invited to attend.



New Wastewater Treatment Plant. (Left) Administrative building, (Middle) Jeff Miller working with the sludge, (Right) SBR building.

From the Desk of the Town Manager

It has been a busy few months here at the town office. This month, I had the privilege to meet with 55 fourth graders at Galena Elementary School. Galena mayor, John Carroll and I talked to them about local government and what a mayor and town manager do to make a town run. I think it is so important that we are able to train the next generation about how to be active citizens in their community.

Back at the office, I have spent the winter months doing prep work so that the Bayside Bluff engineering design, Wheeler Avenue project, Idlewhile Pump Station, Water Tower repainting, and Rigbie Bank are all on schedule to happen in 2019. Each of these projects required bids to come in and be evaluated and contracts to be signed with engineers and contractors. The town has received \$1.5 million in grant funding over the past year and I look forward to seeing these projects happen. I appreciate your patience as work is happening around town.

As you know, surveys went out this month. It has been wonderful to receive feedback directly from the residents and property owners in town. The results of the survey will help guide the town when making decisions about future grants to seek and how the town moves forward. Look for the results in the coming month.

I hope you have a wonderful Spring. If you have questions about permitting, feel free to set up a time to meet with me. I am in the office on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Fridays and am happy to meet with you to make the process go smoothly.

Elizabeth

Volunteer Spotlight

Linda King Hall moved to Betterton 1997. Originally from Ohio, she is a graduate of Ohio University. She received a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree with a major in graphic design and a minor in Art Education.

Linda has participated in numerous juried art shows receiving many awards. She was recently awarded Signature membership in the Philadelphia Watercolor Society, PWCS, North East Watercolor Society, NEWS the Pennsylvania Watercolor Society, PWS, as well as the Baltimore Watercolor Society, BWS. She was awarded "The Colson Award" in the 2010 BWS, Mid Atlantic show in Strathmore Hall, Bethesda, Md.

She is a member of The Working Artists Forum of Easton, and Chestertown River Arts. Linda is also a partner and exhibitor in The Artists' Gallery at 239 High St. Chestertown, Md as well as River Arts.

Linda is one of the founding members of BCDC. She has volunteered countless hours to make Betterton a more beautiful place to live. BCDC was initially started to repair the foot bridge on Bayside Blvd. Since its inception, Linda has been involved in many other projects around town as well, including helping to raise \$45,000 to restore the fishing ark, maintaining flower gardens around town, organizing museum sitters for the Betterton Heritage Museum, helping to purchase banners and wreaths for town, and donating paintings to the museum for sale as memorabilia. She also mentors local young artists.

We are grateful for such a dedicated volunteer. Thank you, Linda, for your service to our town!



BCDC News and Heritage Museum

We are pleased to report some new and interesting things happening at the museum.

First of all, check out our new and improved website www.bettertonheritage.org . This is also linked to the Museum's of Kent website at Kent County Office of Tourism.

So many great things planned for the Spring and opening of the Museum.

Saturday, April 6th - The museum and Community Center will host the awards ceremony for the 33rd annual Still Pond - Betterton Tree Run.

Saturday, May 4th - Museums of Kent Driving Tour from 10:00 am until 3:00pm. Betterton Heritage Museum will be open as well as the Train Show at 3 Third Ave. - 12:00 - 3:00. This is a great opportunity to check out the 12 great museums in Kent County.

Sunday, May 19th - Museum Lunch and Learn, 12:00 - 2:00. We will host all our wonderful museum volunteers and anyone who wants to learn more about the Betterton Heritage Museum. Hint, new museum sitters are welcome.

Saturday, May 25th - The Betterton Heritage Museum opens for the season. The museum will be open on Saturdays and Sundays from 1:00 - 3:00 each weekend until October. We are planning some special exhibits this summer, including an exhibit of Bathing Suits from the Past. Anyone who has some old suits from the 1950's, or photos of people in bathing suits from that era and would like to share or loan, contact Candi at ccsorge@gmail.com.

During the current school year, we have collaborated with professors and students from Washington College to archive our collection. Part of that process included a Virtual tour of the museum with some wonderful oral history from local residents. We will schedule an open house when the project is complete.

Walking Tour - A Walking Tour guide to Betterton is in development. If you have any special stories about the history of your home, we would love to hear and include in the guide.

Urgent Needs:

Volunteers are needed for museum sitting, special museum projects, website maintenance, and help with the Betterton Fishing Ark.

Youth Group

The Youth Group meets in the basement of the Betterton UM Church of Friday evenings from 6:30 – 8:00 pm. The children play games including bingo, air hockey, basketball, and a variety of board games. We would love to see more children come out and play with each other. All ages are welcome, but children 5 and under should have a parent stay.

The youth group will meet on the following dates this spring:

April 12, 19

May 10, 24

If you have questions, please contact Patti Bone 443-298-0057.



Spring Happenings around Town

April 13th Breakfast with the Easter Bunny

From 9 am – 11 am at the Betterton Volunteer Fire Company
Ages 5 and under FREE, \$5 for ages 6-11, \$10 for ages 12 and up.



April 14th BVFC Open House

From 10 am to 3 pm. Come and learn about the Fire Department.

April 20th Easter Egg Hunt

Bring your own basket or bag for the Easter egg Hunt (Find a special egg & win a special prize). Dye eggs & other fun things to do. Sponsored by the American Legion Auxiliary. FREE for children 12 and under. In case of rain, meet at the Legion.

April 27th Dinner at American Legion

From 4:30-7:00 pm

May 25th Dinner at the American Legion

From 4:30- 7:00 pm

May 26th BVFC Chicken BBQ

From 11:00-3:00 pm. \$10 per meal.

June 22nd Summer Kick-off Party

From 6 pm to 10 pm. This event is being sponsored by the BVFC and Kent County Parks and Recreation. At Betterton Beach. FREE for all.

June 29th Dinner at American Legion

From 4:30 – 7:00 pm

Lions Roar in Betterton/Still Pond

The Betterton-Still Pond Lions Club has been active in the Kent County community since 1952. Over the years, this non-profit service organization has addressed the health needs of the community, especially serving the blind and visually impaired members of our service area.

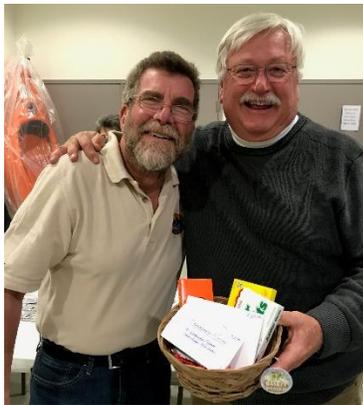
The Lions Clubs International Mission statement is; To create and foster a spirit of understanding among the peoples of the world. To promote the principles of good government and good citizenship. To take an active interest in the civic, cultural, social, and moral welfare of the community.

Probably the most visible Lions Club program is the Night at the Races, a twice-a-year video program that attracts a full-house of participants on the first Saturdays in March and November of each year. The Club's 40th Race will be held on November 2, 2019 at the Betterton Fire Company. While the Races provide an evening of fun for members of the community, the program also raises funds for numerous local non-profit organizations. Proceeds from the March 2, 2019 race has allowed the club to make donations to:

- Betterton United Methodist Church
- Betterton Volunteer Fire Company
- Fire companies in Kennedyville and Galena
- Kent & Queen Anne's Rescue Squad
- Benedictine School
- Eastern Shore Land Conservancy
- Echo Hill Outdoor School
- Kent Center
- Kent County Christmas Basket
- Kent County Food Pantry
- Kent County Public Schools Shining Stars
- Kent County Humane Society
- KART
- Kent County Youth Baseball
- Kent County Youth Soccer
- Boys State
- Shore Rivers
- Bridges of Worthmore
- Mid Shore Family Violence
- Mid Shore School for the Blind
- Rebuilding Together

The Lions Club will again be granting a scholarship to a graduating Kent County High School Senior and the club will of course provide financial support for The Leader Dog program, providing trained leader dogs for the visually impaired.

The Betterton-Still Pond Lions Club has had a long-standing significant impact on our community. If you would like to join our group, memberships are available. For more information, contact King Lion Terry Rabinowitz – ctownoptical@verizon.com



Photos (Left) Approximately 200 people enjoyed the March 2nd Night at the Races. (Middle) King Lion Terry Rabinowitz presents Councilmember Harry Marcy with a door prize. (Right) Photos of the new post office on Third Street that is set to open soon.

Yard Waste and Recycle Pick-Up

The Public Works department will begin picking up yard waste again on Monday mornings this Spring. Please make sure that all leaves are bagged. We appreciate your cooperation so that leaves do not blow out of the dump truck on the way to the landfill.

All sticks/branches should be broken into segments that are 4 feet or shorter so that they can be easily lifted.

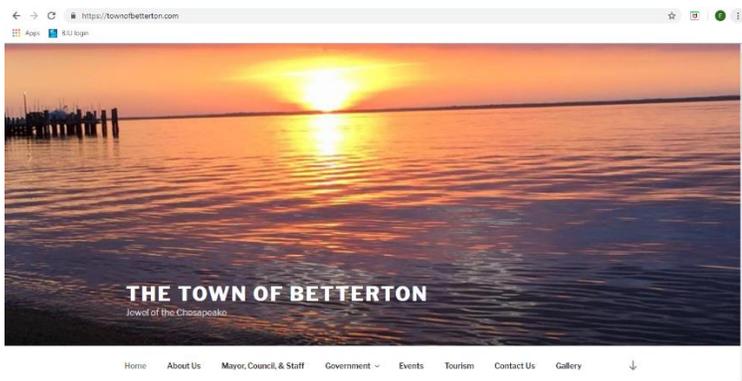
Recycling will continue to be picked up on Tuesdays. We appreciate your effort to recycle as it cuts down on the tipping fees for the town pays for trash collection. Please make sure you separate containers from fibers. Infinity accepts #1 and #2 plastic containers, glass, metal, small electronics, paper, cardboard, books, and clothes.

Please rinse out all containers and remove the lids. Make sure clothing is in a bag to protect it from the weather. Infinity has let us know that purchasers of Recycling have gotten much more stringent and the cost of recycling is going up, so taking the extra minute to rinse out containers makes a big difference in the overall cost of processing.

Updated Website

The Town of Betterton's website was updated over the past few months and given a fresh look. Minutes from past meetings are posted and there is an events calendar that lists upcoming happenings. You can also find many forms there including building permit forms and the critical area worksheets. Additionally, there is information about our elected officials and businesses in town.

Go to www.townofbetterton.com to check it out.



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 and Sheila at info@townofbetterton.com no later than June 18th.