

# Town of Betterton Newsletter

## Spring 2020

### From the Mayor and Council

---

We will get through this... As we all learn and understand more about the COVID – 19 virus we want everyone to know that we will do what is deemed necessary and on advice from State and Federal Officials to protect our citizens. As of this time we have closed the Town Office to the Public. You can still contact the Town by phone call or email. We cancelled the Mayor and Council Workshop scheduled for February the 24th as part of the Office closure and our next scheduled meeting on April 14<sup>th</sup> will be Online. These steps were taken to limit the interaction between individuals to hopefully prevent the spread of the virus. We will continue to monitor the daily updates for any further actions that may need to be taken, but we will get through this.

On to brighter notes. Our Town employees have started our typical Monday yard waste collection for recycling.

The Wheeler Avenue project has begun. We ask that those affected by the construction process bear with us during the next few months. The projected time frame is four to five months. The new playground equipment for the Sixth Avenue Park is here and will be installed as the weather clears.

Our new Wastewater Treatment Plant is operational, and we are working with the construction company to fine tune the operations and finish the punch list.

The Water Tower painting was completed; however, we have been dealing with a residue smell of paint fumes, noted by a few individuals. To work through the concerns, we have continued to use the temporary storage tank, while additional testing was done to assure the quality of the water. We have been working with the Maryland Department of the Environment to rectify the problem and as I write this, the last round of flushing the system should be completed and we should be soon back using the Tower.

The Radar Speed signs are still seeing excessive speeds with an average of one in five exceeding the 25 MPH Speed Limit. Please ask anyone you have visiting or friends that you know, that may be exceeding the speed limit, to slow down. The possibility of an accident increases as we approach the Summer season.

That's all for now and as always, please contact the Town Hall if you should have any questions.



### Dates to Remember

---

**Trash Pick-Up: Mondays**

**Recycling Pick-Up: Tuesdays**

**Yard Waste Pick-Up Mondays**

---

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

**April 10th**  
Good Friday

**May 25th**  
Memorial Day

### Office Hours

---

**The office is currently closed due to state and federal restrictions.**

**Staff is available by phone and email during the following hours:**

**Monday, Tuesday,  
Thursday, & Friday**  
8 am – 3 pm

**Office: (410) 348-5522**  
[info@townofbetterton.com](mailto:info@townofbetterton.com)

**Water/Wastewater:**  
**(410) 708-0096**  
[jmiller@townofbetterton.com](mailto:jmiller@townofbetterton.com)

### Council Meetings

---

**Meetings are the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>  
Tuesday of the month.**

**The meeting scheduled for April  
14<sup>th</sup> will be a virtual meeting.  
Information will be posted for  
residents who would like to attend  
online.**

## From the Desk of the Town Manager

---

With all the uncertainty around us, I've tried to focus on the good things. Although some projects in town may be delayed from this shutdown, Wheeler Avenue has started; and the construction crews are considered essential personnel. It has been exciting to see the progress every few days. Sewer laterals are currently being installed and work has begun on the retaining wall. The project is on schedule to be done by June, just in time for summer.

I remember when I started working at the town two and a half years ago, everyone was ready to have Wheeler Avenue done, but there wasn't any grant funding. The town is very blessed to have been awarded grants from both a Community Development Block Grant and USDA to complete this project. It is our hope that this street can be used as a model and that we are able to secure funding to complete a similar streetscape on Ericsson in the years to come. Of course, that is a long way off. But it doesn't hurt to dream.

It is my hope that you and your family are healthy and that you are adjusting to this new way of life. Please reach out via email if you need anything: [egreenwell@townofbetterton.com](mailto:egreenwell@townofbetterton.com).



## Grab and Go Lunches

---

Grab and Go meals are available at the Betterton Fire Hall from 11:30 am – 1:00 pm Monday through Friday. All children 18 and under qualify for free meals. Children are given 2 bags. One for lunch and one for breakfast the next morning. Bags include sandwiches, fruit, milk, juice, or water, and nutritious snacks. This has been made possible thanks to the KCPS, Social Action Committee for Racial Justice, several partner organizations, and many volunteers. Food donations and volunteers are needed. If you would like to help, email [SACsocialjustice@gmail.com](mailto:SACsocialjustice@gmail.com).



Do you have something newsworthy? Email articles or photos to [egreenwell@townofbetterton.com](mailto:egreenwell@townofbetterton.com) or [info@townofbetterton.com](mailto:info@townofbetterton.com) by June 15th.

It is that time again – once a decade we all have to fill out the census. It is easy to complete. Go Online to [www.2020census.gov](http://www.2020census.gov) and answer the questions. It is vital for a small town like Betterton to have everyone counted. Each person counted means federal and state dollars that our town has access to over the next ten years. We want to see our community continue to move forward. Grant funding is a large part of that. Please help us reach 100% participation.

## News from BVFC

---

The firehouse is having a summer kick-off party again on June 20th. All are invited to join us at the beach for a good time!

The BVFC is looking for groups who would like to be in the Betterton day parade on Saturday, August 1<sup>st</sup>. If you are interested please contact Dan Menchey, Fire Chief at [dmenchey@bvfc5.org](mailto:dmenchey@bvfc5.org).



## Youth Group

---

The Betterton Youth Group is following the State of MD guidelines and will not be meeting in April. The Easter Egg hunt at Betterton Park is also cancelled. If restrictions are lifted, the youth group will meet one more time this year on Friday, May 1<sup>st</sup>. If not, we hope to see you next year.

## BCDC and Betterton Heritage Museum Update

---

Spring is here and it is time to prepare for our busy season. The Betterton Heritage Museum will officially open Saturday, May 24 from 1:00 - 3:00 pm. We have some exciting new displays and items for our gift shop.

All of the photos and postcards that were archived by our Washington College friends are now available for view at [bettertonheritage.org](http://bettertonheritage.org). Visit the site and enjoy the photos and artifacts.

Dates to keep in mind for the Spring are:

Saturday, May 16 - 11:30 - 2:00 will be our annual Lunch and Learn. This is a time for all Volunteers and others to gather and learn more about the museum. Watch for more information on Constant Contact closer to the date.

Story Hour for Teens - Sundays, 2:00 - 3:00 pm at the museum in May, June, July, and August. Stories for Teens will be led by Colonel Joe Sanders who loves reading with youth.

Museums of Kent Driving Tour - June 6 and 7, 10:00 - 4:00. All 11 of the museums in Kent County will be open with special events. Prizes for those who visit all museums.

Special Concert by Phillip Dutton and the Alligators - Sunday, June 7 from 2:30 - 4:00 at the museum. Free admission for a fun time with great music.

Betterton Day - Saturday, August 1 - museum will be open after the parade.

BCDC and the Betterton Heritage Museum are operated by all volunteer committees. We rely on our wonderful museum docents to keep the museum open and vital. We also plan many activities for the community and need volunteers to help organize activities. If you would be interested in helping to organize the Community Yard Sale in August or the Holiday Greens Making workshop in December, contact Candi Sorge at [ccsorge@gmail.com](mailto:ccsorge@gmail.com). We are also open to new ideas for activities.

## Betterton-Still Pond Lion's Club News

---

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Betterton-Still Lions Club was forced to cancel its "Night at the Races" video horse races originally scheduled for March 14. This event is the major fundraising activity for the Lions Club and has raised over \$200,000 over the years to benefit Kent County non-profit organizations and local charities. While a new date has not been officially set, the Club is anxious to reschedule. The two non-profits that were chosen to support this spring are the Animal Care Shelter for Kent County, and the Betterton Volunteer Fire Company's Cadet Program. The Lions Club will support these two organizations when the event is rescheduled.

Two new members have joined the Betterton-Still Pond Lions Club. Betterton Town Councilman Wayne Gilchrest has joined. Wayne has taught high school, is a former US Congressman, representing Maryland's 1st District, and currently directs the Sassafras Environmental Education Center, an arm of the Eastern Shore Land Conservancy. Also joining the Club is Bryan Greenwood. Bryan Greenwood has a special connection with the Betterton-Still Pond area because that's where his grandparents lived. After college, Bryan started a small trucking business, Greenwood Ventures, that specialized in Hauling liquid fertilizer. He also owned several busses for the Kent County School system. In 2019, he joined the Fleetwood Insurance Group specializing in serving the construction and agriculture industries.

To find out more about membership in the Betterton-Still Pond Lions Club, contact either King Lion Terry Rabinowitz at (443) 480-6706, or Membership Chair Dick Story at (410) 236-2782.



New Lion's Club Members Wayne Gilchrest and Bryan Greenwood.



# Recycling

---

Recycling should be divided into two containers as follows:



## Mixed Containers

- Glass bottles
- Plastic bottles
- Metal Cans
- Jars
- Milk Jugs



## Mixed Fibers

- Cardboard
- Paper
- Books
- Newspapers
- Magazines

Please rinse out containers, remove lids, flatten containers and boxes.

Clothes that are clean and dry and in bags may be recycled.

Small electronics (phones, radios, computers) may be recycled.

NO plastic bags NO lightbulbs NO mirrors NO pillows NO blankets NO rugs NO TVs

NO monitors NO appliances NO motor oil

# Yard Waste

---

Yard waste pick-up is a service provided by the Town of Betterton on Mondays as a courtesy for residents who otherwise would have no means of disposing yard waste safely and efficiently and to reduce tipping fees from yardwaste ending up in the weekly trash.

Please adhere to the following policies:



**Leaves should be in bags. Limit of 4 bags per week.** Please note, our public works staff is not expected to collect a dump truck load of unbagged leaves from your property. Please do not leave more than 4 bags of leaves at a time.

**Branches should be cut into pieces. Maximum 5 feet in length per branch. Maximum 3 inches in diameter.** A good rule of thumb is if you cannot easily lift the branches, they need to be cut down to a smaller size.

# Sons of the American Legion

---

## Helping the community

The Sons of the American Legion are helping those in our community who have needs during this difficult time. If you have a need for groceries or prescriptions to be picked up and are a senior, shut-in, or immuno-compromised, please contact Jason Miller (call or text) at [484-502-5133](tel:484-502-5133). He will coordinate to make sure you have the supplies you need.

## Challenge Coins

Challenge coins have been an American military tradition for nearly a century. For a minimum donation of just \$5.00 you can help support the Sons of the American Legion, Squadron 246. These funds assist us with serving our veterans, children & youth and local community. As a token of thanks, we will provide you with one of these colorful challenge coins, featuring our emblem, our country and state flags, the military branches of the veterans we serve, our motto and the four pillars of the American Legion.

We thank you in advance for your support of our Squadron. If you would like to order a challenge coin, please comment below with the quantity or feel free to message or email, [SAL246Betterton@gmail.com](mailto:SAL246Betterton@gmail.com). We will reach out as soon as they come in!

## Join the Legion Family

For nearly a century, The American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary and Sons of The American Legion have worked steadfastly, side by side, promoting patriotism and national security while supporting youth and advocating for veterans and active-duty military personnel and families.

The Sons of the American Legion welcomes males of ALL ages who have parents or grandparents that served. Start them early as they are our future! Please contact us for further information and we look forward to calling you family!

## Shoe Drive

Please donate your gently worn shoes to the American Legion. There is a drop-off box in the Fire Hall. Funds raised are used in our community plus the shoes are donated to people in need. Thanks for your support!



Help us raise funds for our organization by donating your gently worn, used and new shoes!

And don't forget to ask friends, family, neighbors and co-workers to donate too!



**FREE**  
for Maryland  
Residents 65+

**Maryland**  
DEPARTMENT OF AGING

**Senior Call Check**  
A daily call to check on  
residents home alone.

**CALL 1-866-50-CHECK**  
or Register Online  
[aging.maryland.gov](http://aging.maryland.gov)