

THE MILTONIAN



www.cityofmiltonwv.com

March—April 2014

From the Mayor

I hope this newsletter brings warmer temperatures and plenty of sunshine and my guess is you are wishing the same!

We definitely had our fill of cold temperatures and snow. Our guys did a great job keeping the roads clear. A job that was much easier when we had plenty of salt. We contract our salt order, way before winter arrives. We always ordered the same amount of salt—25 tons. There was quite a bit left over from last winter but we still ordered our usual 25 tons and had to split the load between 2 locations in order to store it all. And, just like everyone else, we ran out and there was none to be found. We did a lot of plowing and mixing sand and salt to stretch it as far as possible. Our salt shed should be complete by next winter and we can store 50 tons of salt.

We are excited to see the Huntingtonized Federal Credit Union underway. The City of Milton appreciates their persistence in this project even though they have encountered some setbacks. We look forward to their opening.

The Milton Municipal Utilities Commission added Scott Fisher as a full-time employee to our water plant. We are happy to announce that he recently traveled to Tridelfia, WV for classes and passed his test as a Class I Operator. He will continue his certifications now working toward his Class II Operators.

Speaking of our water plant, we have received many expressions of appreciation for our assistance during the recent chemical leak that effected so many. I would personally like to thank the employees who put in extra hours so our water was available to those in need, we donated approximately 21,357 gallons mostly to residents from Elkview & Buffalo.

Also, you received a notice with your water bill about our new automated phone call system that the Utilities will be using mainly for termination notifications. However, we feel this system would also be valuable in notifying our customers of any planned or emergency water situations. Please keep the office updated with your current contact information, phone numbers, email address, etc.

Let me remind you, with warmer weather approaching, that we adopted a new Junk Ordinance and plan to enforce it as well as all other property maintenance code and/or ordinances. I encourage you to continue the efforts to keep Milton a beautiful place to live.

The City of Milton is applying for the Home Rule Program. The following is an explanation of Home Rule provided at a WV Municipal League Seminar, "Legislative Findings declare that future economic progress for the State of WV is directly related to the success of its municipalities in that strong municipalities will make for a stronger (Continued on Last Page)

IMPORTANT FACTS....

▶ *When placing cardboard boxes in the recycling dumpsters, break them down to allow more space.*

▶ *In April we will accept Electronic Payments for water using online bill payment services. Pick up a form if you wish to participate..*

▶ *Also, in April we will begin using our automated phone calling system for termination of water for nonpayment.*

▶ *Offices close for lunch at noon.*

▶ *We accept AEP (\$1.00 cash fee) and WV American Water bills. No credit card payments.*

From the Recorder Phyllis Smith

I want to wish you and your families a blessed Easter.

The months of March and April are very busy months at the City of Milton. State Code requires a municipality to meet between March 7 and 28 to prepare our 2014-15 Levy Estimate which must be submitted to the State Auditor's Office prior to March 29. On the 3rd Tuesday of April, we are required to meet to Lay the Levy.

We still await our State audit for fiscal year 2013. Once completed we will let you know the results.



DEBRIS COMES IN MANY FORMS—ABOVE IS ONE EXAMPLE

From the Building Inspector Bill Morris

FINALLY, SPRING HAS SPRUNG

The City of Milton hereby declares that a clean, wholesome and attractive environment is of vital importance to the continued general welfare of its citizens and that regulation of the outdoor storage of junk, rubbish, clutter, litter or debris, regardless of quantity, is hereby prohibited within the sight of persons lawfully traveling the public roads or within sight of one or more neighboring properties anywhere within the City of Milton and declares the same to be a nuisance and a fire hazard.

By an adoption of a junk storage ordinance, the City of Milton declares its intent to preserve and promote a reasonable quality of environment and aesthetics and to prohibit actions and conduct that tend to depreciate not only the property on which it is located but also the property of other persons in the neighborhood and community generally.

Any person may file a complaint with the City of Milton that a violation of the ordinance may have taken place, the complaint will then be forwarded to the code official and will be investigated. If a violation is found to exist a notice to comply shall be issued giving the violator ten (10) days in which to comply. If the violation continues beyond the ten (10) day period the officer is authorized to issue a citation not more than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) and/or up to Thirty (30) days in jail.

It's time to spring up and cleanup and make the City of Milton beautiful. Take pride in your neighborhood, it's the neighborly thing to do.

As always, if you have any questions regarding building or property maintenance compliance please contact me Monday, Thursday or Friday at 304-743-3032, Extension 202.

Public Works News from Gerald Clagg

We are in the process of installing new water meters to replace the old, faulty or dead meters throughout our water system. Meters should be tested annually, which takes about one hour per meter, or replaced every 7 years to keep up with the current standards.

Our Spring Clean up is scheduled for April 28—May 2. Mark the date so you won't forget. In an effort to cut costs there will be no Fall Cleanup. See below for details.

A couple of projects in the works for 2014: (1) lay new lines to the north tank on Glenwood, and (2) lay new lines on Mason to connect to the new lines on Washington.

As weather permits, we will continue smoke testing to remove infiltration from our sewer system. This is an ongoing process. If smoke enters your home you need to contact a plumber to repair your leak.

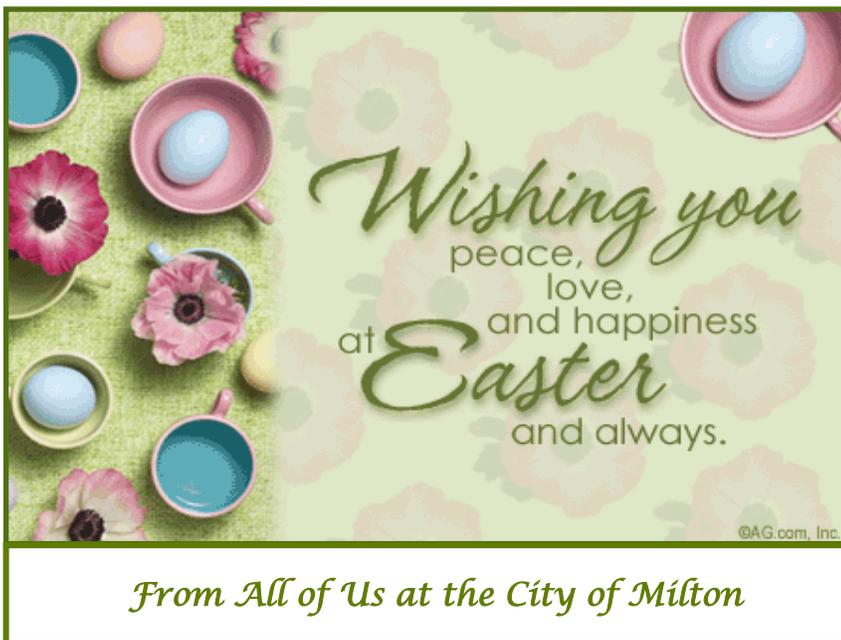
Also, as weather permits, we will continue to patch pot holes throughout the City and there are more than ever with all the salt use



Annual Spring Cleanup

For resident in the city limits. Items must be in front of your house by 8:00 a.m. Monday. No car parts, batteries, tires, or appliances. **Note:** One (1) pickup load per house, extra pickups are \$50.00 per trip.

APRIL 28 – MAY 2



DEP “Old Tire Take Back” Parking Lot by Milton Pre K

The DEP is once again sponsoring an “Old Tire Take Back” on Saturday, March 8, 9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m. on the east parking lot of the Milton Pre K (please note the change in location). This is the perfect opportunity to dispose of old tires in an environmentally safe way. The limit is ten (10) tires, off the rim, 16” or smaller, per resident with proof of ID. No large truck tires. This disposal is free to the public. Too many tires are found over hill sides, in creeks and even in our City drains. Please mark this date on your calendar if you have old tires to dispose.

The “Miltonian”

The “Miltonian,” the City of Milton’s bimonthly newsletter is mailed to residents within the city limits. In order to cut cost we have discussed mailing the newsletters quarterly. Another option is to see how many residents would view the “Miltonian” on the City web site. If you are willing to do this send an email with your mailing address to miltoncityclerk@suddenlinkmail.com and we will remove you from our mailing list.

UWA Wrestling MVFD

Mark your calendars for the following matches which provides a fun and clean atmosphere for the whole family! The “Meltdown” match will be Saturday, March 15, and the “Wild & Wicked” match will be Saturday, April 19. They begin at 7:30 p.m. but bring the family and come early for our delicious variety

Milton Baptist Church Events

SPRING BREAK SPECTACULAR

You are invited to a Spring Break Spectacular at Milton Baptist Church, 1123 Church Street. This is for children ages Pre K—5th Grade. The event will be held March 17 – 21, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. in the church gym. There will be free food, games, special guests, illusionist, balloon artist and an opportunity to ride a mechanical bull! Each night will have a theme. For additional information call the church office at 304-743-3461.

UNCOMMON, THE MOVIE

You are invited to the movie *Uncommon* on Friday, April 4, 7:00 p.m., at Milton Baptist Church. This is free to the public and the exciting new is **Erick Estrada**, one of the stars of the movie, will be in attendance.

The film about religious liberty in public school stars Erik Estrada (CHiP’s), Ben Davies (Courageous), Irma P. Hall (Soul Food), and Grammy Award-winning Christian Musician Jason Crabb. *Uncommon* will inspire and encourage young people to stand up for their Constitutional rights and make a positive impact in their schools. While the film will certainly entertain, it will also educate and inspire young people to live life with conviction and purpose. What do we really know about religious liberties in public schools? Can students pray? Can they have a bible study? Can they mention God or even wear a Christian themed t-shirt? The prayer in public school debate has caused a firestorm in the past; but with this film Liberty Counsel hopes to set the record straight.

www. <http://uncommonfilm.com>

Spaghetti Dinner Sponsored by Milton Rotary

Bring the family and join the Milton Rotary for their annual Spaghetti Dinner Saturday, March 8, 4:00—7:00 p.m., at Milton Baptist Church. The cost is \$6.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children. Our community service projects include: EC-CHO, Milton Youth Sports, 3rd Grade Dictionary Distribution, Cabell County Fair Animal Purchase, Tri-State Area Boy Scouts, Huntington City Mission, Barbourville Veterans Home, Hospitality House, Ronald McDonald House, and College Scholarships to 3 high schools. For more info contact Phyllis Smith at 304-743-3689.

Shelter in Place

Milton Baptist Church is once again a shelter during major emergencies. They are located at 1123 Church Street and will open as an emergency shelter to those in need when flooding, tornados, or extreme temepatures effect our area.

Monthly Meetings

First and Third Tuesday.

Municipal Court

Second Tuesday of each month.



ONE OF THE MILTON POLICE DEPARTMENTS NEW CRUISERS

Police News from Chief Chuck Zerkle

With the writing of this newsletter hopefully this horrible winter is about to pass us by. With all the snow and ice that has been dumped on us we have been fortunate not to have any fatal crashes on our roadways.

Also, with warmer weather approaching, this will bring the children back out on our streets playing and riding their bicycles. It is all of our responsibility to be responsible drivers, obey the speed limits at all times and be alert and constantly aware of our surroundings.

Remember the State of West Virginia passed laws last year making it illegal to text or talk on a cell phone while driving unless you use a hands free device. The fine for violation of these charges is \$100 dollars. With that said there are a lot of people still talking and texting while driving. Let this serve as a reminder of the law.

Myself and the rest of the Police Department are hoping that we can go the entire year of 2014 without a traffic fatality in our city. In closing I would again like to remind you to drive safe and always wear your seat belts.

Milton Cemetery News by Bonnie Hancock

Spring is just around the corner, with Spring we have a wonderful event to celebrate—Easter and the resurrection of our Lord!

The Cemetery will be celebrating the Rising of Jesus Christ with an Easter Sunrise Service on April 20, at 6:45 a.m. We are privileged to have special music by Bonnie Lewis beginning at 6:40 a.m. and Rick Watson, Pastor of Union Baptist Church as our guest speaker. We hope to see you and yours there to help celebrate such a blessed event! For more information you can contact me at 304-634-2363 or 304-743-3032, extension 205.



Milton Fire Department from Timmy Chastain

The members of the Milton VFD would like to thank the community for their support in 2013 and we look forward to serving our community with the best services possible in 2014.

We would like to welcome two new members to our staff, Dean Bishop and Justin Carter, Congrats guys!

As you are aware, the recycling bins are now located behind our station, we hope that everyone will utilize them in the proper way and we ask that you please make sure that everything goes into the bins and not on the ground.

We continue to have great country music provided by Robert Trippett and the Star Light Band every Friday evening beginning at 7:00 p.m. We hope to see you there.

We also hold fund raising events throughout the year such as UWA Wrestling. These events provide a fun and clean atmosphere for the whole family! The next events are scheduled for Saturday, March 15, "Meltdown" and Saturday, April 19, "Wild & Wicked." The events begin at 7:30 p.m. but bring the family and come early for our delicious variety of concession items.

As always we will be holding several fund raisers and will be working hard to obtain funds for this year in order to replace equipment such as our SCBA bottles. The bottles, which keeps our firefighters safe, are an expensive purchase required by law. We continue to ask for your support and as always we appreciate that you continue to give your support!

We have applied to obtain smoke and carbon monoxide detectors for distribution within our community at no cost. We hope to receive a response before spring. We will announce to the public if and when we receive them.

We ask that you please be safe and enjoy the upcoming spring and summer. We hope 2014 will be rewarding to everyone!

Ross Drug Chili Cook-Off to Celebrate 1 Year Anniversary

Join us as we celebrate our 1st year of business in the City of Milton. We appreciate the community's support and would like to show our appreciation by inviting you to join us as we celebrate with a "Chili Cook-Off" on Friday, March 21. Stop by our location at 340 East Main Street, sample some chili and place a vote for your favorite from 10:00 a.m. — 2:00 p.m. There will be 2 winners: a Community's Choice and the Mayor's Choice. Stop by and celebration with us.

Spring Open House Event & Warehouse Sale at Blenko

Blenko Glass Company's Spring Open House Event, will be Saturday, March 15 at the Visitor Center offering glass signing, Limited Edition Items, seasonally inspired items, refreshments and a variety of classes such as: *Make Your Own Easter Eggs, Blow Your Own Mini Water Bottle, Stained Glass Mosaic Art.* To sign up for classes or for more information call 877-425-3656. Also, the annual warehouse sale will be March 15-29.

Recycling Bins Relocated

Our recycling bins at Perry Morris Square have been moved behind the Milton Fire Department. The bins are for recycling only, no household trash. Glass is now accepted along with the plastic and cardboard. Thank you for recycling it is important to take care of our earth.

From the Mayor (Continued)

WV; Municipalities face numerous challenges managing budgets and delivering services required and are sometimes restricted by the state preventing them from carrying out their duties in a cost effective, efficient and timely manner..." Cities can ask for a 1% sales tax which will be collected by the state and distributed to the Municipality. This will not effect local businesses, it is the customer who pays the tax and not just Milton customers but anyone who purchases within our City. If approved, these funds would be used primarily for streets and sidewalks which are two main areas that would benefit our residents. There will be scheduled Public Hearings and notices as well as copies



of ordinances and other information that would be informative to the public. We are working with our attorney on this application and a timeline which will be available soon. Our goal is to have the required meetings at the end of March or early April. There are many ways Home Rule could improve the City of Milton. We will keep you posted.

I continue to strive to make the City of Milton a wonderful place to live and raise a family. Thank you for allowing me to be your Mayor.

WELCOME TO THE CITY OF MILTON.....WHERE LIVING IS A PLEASURE!

City of Milton

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Contact Us

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