



# TOWN OF APPOMATTOX VIRGINIA

VOL 1, ISSUE 2

CITIZEN UPDATE

FALL 2009

## What Future Do You Want For the Town?

The Town Council and Staff are excited to announce a visioning process to map out the path to the future for the Town. You are invited to be a stakeholder in this future. The process will begin on November 11, 2009 at 7:00 pm at the CVCC Appomattox Center in room 108 with an introduction to the process and potential areas of focus. The process is one that will be driven by citizen input.

The citizen driven process will engage you for your ideas and thoughts on what the Town should strive to look like in the year 2025. The process will be facilitated by Mr. Art Meade

of The Weldon Copper Center of the University of Virginia and assisted by the Town Manager.

A vision survey has been mailed to you to solicit and record your thoughts and ideas for creating a path to the future. This survey should be filled out and returned to the Town Office by November 20th. You can place it in the utility payment drop box or on the utility payment counter. The information will be correlated by the facilitator and used to help guide the vision.

The process will involve a series of meetings to garner input for the

direction and final outcome of the vision. The schedule of meetings is provided below. Again we would like to invite you to be a part in determining the future of the Town of Appomattox.

- November 11, 2009 7-9 pm  
CVCC Appomattox-room 108
- November 18, 2009 7-9 pm  
CVCC Appomattox-room 108
- December 2, 2009 7-9 pm  
CVCC Appomattox-room 108
- December 9, 2009 7-9 pm  
CVCC Appomattox-room 108
- December 16, 2009 7-9 pm  
CVCC Appomattox-room 108

## Town Begins Citizen Academy

A citizen academy program is being established to offer a continuous educational opportunity for interested citizens. The program will be divided into sections to facilitate an increased knowledge of key governmental functions.

These sections will include the following areas: government form - Council/Manager form and council processes (code of ordinances, etc.); town finances (budget, revenues, billing, etc.); utility systems and treatment operations; streets, grounds and solid waste operations; planning and zoning administration; and tourism.

The classes will be held once a week for two hours for a period of 5 weeks. The

class size will be limited to a maximum of 15 citizens.

The first academy is planned to be held during February and March of 2010. The program should provide a more educated citizenry on government operations and an increased group of people ready to serve the community on boards and committees.

The Town Council would like to invite you to be a participant in the program. An application is available at Town Hall to sign up for the program. The academy is open on a first come first serve basis. The Town staff looks forward to presenting this program.

## Community of Candles/Christmas Parade Dec. 6

This year's Community of Candles event will be held Sunday, December 6, 2009. Events will begin at 2:00 p.m. and will feature carriage rides around the town, the annual Christmas parade at 4:00, music, and free refreshments.

All businesses and residents are asked to please place white candles in their windows by Friday, December 4 for the Community of Candles program. If you would like your business, municipal building or school judged, please have your decorations up by Thursday, December 3, 2009

## A Message From Town Manager, Bart S. Van Nieuwenhuse



I hope everyone is doing well. The fall season is upon us and the 37th Annual Railroad Festival was held on October 10th & 11th. I want to take the time to thank everyone who attended this fall celebration and the many volunteers who helped make it a great success.

The Town of Appomattox is proud to present its second newsletter. The newsletter is produced to

inform the citizens of town services and activities. Some upcoming activities include a visioning process and citizen academy. The visioning process will involve a series of town meetings where citizens give their input on what they want the town to look like in the future. A vision survey has been mailed to allow citizens to give their input into the process. Please take the time to fill it out and return it to Town Hall. The more input we receive on this endeavor will insure a viable roadmap to the future.

The Citizen Academy is being developed to help educate the public on the services and operations of the Town government. The

program will be a series of seminars on the town's services and each citizen will receive a certificate for completing the program. The first program will be held in the spring of 2010. An application for the program is available at Town Hall if you are interested in participating.

As the Holiday season comes upon us, I want to remind you of the Community of Candles and Christmas Parade events. The season is one for family and friends and to give thanks for the many blessings each of us has received. Here is wishing each of you a joyous holiday season.

## Recently Adopted Ordinances

The following ordinances have been recently adopted by the Appomattox Town Council. A summary of each ordinance appears below:

### Chapter 126-10 License Fees (Business License Tax)

§126-10. Licensee fee and tax rates

A. Except as may be otherwise provided in Code of Virginia, 58.1-3712, 58.1-3712.1 and 58.1-313, every person or business subject to licensure under this section with annual gross receipts of more than \$100 shall be assessed and required to pay annually a license tax on all the gross receipts of such persons includable as provided in this section at a rate set forth below for the class of enterprise listed.

### Article XIII – Sign Ordinance

§ 195-133. Intent

It is the intent of the sign ordinance to promote the public necessity, convenience, general welfare and good zoning practice by regulating the placement, height and size of signs. The goals of the sign

ordinance are to provide sign requirements that will prevent visual blight, clutter, and impairment to sight lines of vehicular traffic and the obscuring of other permitted signs that result from the unregulated placement of signs while ensuring public safety and promoting the Town of Appomattox as a great place to live and work.

It is not the intent of the sign ordinance or the Town of Appomattox to suppress any free speech activities protected under the First Amendment to the United States Constitution.

### Chapter 177 – Urban Forestry (Tree Board Ordinance)

§ 177-1. Purpose and intent of this chapter.

A. It is the purpose of this chapter to promote and protect the public health, safety and general welfare by providing for the regulation of the planting, maintenance, preservation and removal of trees and shrubs, on public property within the Town of Appomattox.

For the full text of each of these ordinances, please contact the Clerk's Office – Town of Appomattox – 434-352-8268.

## Did You Know?

Through September of this year, Appomattox Visitor Center attendance is up 14.8% over the same time last year.

## Town Council Meetings On TV

All Council Meetings are videotaped. The tapes are edited to exclude periods of inactivity so that they fit a two-hour time period provided by Alive TV, a ministry of Gethsemane Baptist Church, Lynchburg, Virginia. The meetings are aired on Cable Channel 7 and UHF Channel 33.

Times: Friday following meetings  
10:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.  
Saturday following meetings  
8:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

## Meet the Town's New Treasurer, Carla Moore



Having grown up in Appomattox, it is a delight to return to the area and work for the Town. After graduating from Appomattox County High School, I earned a Bachelor of Business Administration degree and a Master of Education degree from James Madison University in Harrisonburg, VA. I worked as an intern in corporate tax accounting at Rocco Enterprises, Inc. in Harrisonburg and worked in college admissions and advising for 8 years at James Madison University and Blue Ridge Community College. In 2007 I returned to finance and accounting, working for Massanutten Presbyterian Church in Penn Laird, VA. I enjoy being a part of the Town of Appomattox staff and look forward to getting reacquainted and working with you.

## Railroad Festival Big Success

The Historic Appomattox Railroad Festival committee would like to thank all the sponsors, volunteers, and staff who made this year's festival a huge success. It could not have been done without the generosity of the whole community. Thousands of folks from across the region converged on Appomattox for two fun-filled days of family-friendly activities.

T-shirts from this year's festival are still available for sale at the Town office: \$10 for adults, \$8 for kids.

If you are interested in volunteering for the 2010 HARF, please contact the Town office.

## Appomattox Town Council Meeting Schedule

All meetings are held at the Town of Appomattox Municipal Building,  
210 Linden Street, Appomattox, Va.

### November 2009

Monday, November 9, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. – Regular  
Tuesday, November 24, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. – Workshop

### December 2009

Monday, December 14, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. – Regular  
Tuesday, December 29, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. – Workshop (5th Tuesday)

### January 2010

Monday, January 11, 2010 at 7:30 p.m. – Regular  
Tuesday, January 26, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. – Workshop

\*Code of the Town of Appomattox.

§5-8. Time and Place. If the second Monday of the month is a holiday, the meeting shall be held on the following day.

If a Council Meeting (Regular or Workshop) is canceled due to inclement weather, the council will meet the following night. A motion duly seconded and voted upon by council could change or remove any of the above dates or times.

## Recent Tourism Developments

### Economic Impact of Travel on Appomattox

A recent economic impact study conducted by the Travel Industry Association for the Virginia Tourism Corporation showed that in 2008, domestic travelers spent \$8,770,605 on transportation, lodging, food, entertainment, and recreation in Appomattox County. This direct spending by travelers marks a 2.4% increase over the traveler spending estimate of \$8,565,933 for 2007.

Direct spending by domestic travelers in Appomattox supported 102 full-time and seasonal jobs which in turn generated more than \$1,734,082 in wages and salaries (payroll).

State tax revenues, including state sales taxes and taxes on personal and corporate income, generated from travelers remained flat at \$413,000. Local taxes, including local sales and property taxes generated \$269,000 for Appomattox.

### New Visitors Guide Available

The Town and County have recently released the brand new Appomattox Visitors Guide. The guide is used to fulfill requests for travel information and promotes tourism-related business in Appomattox. If you would like a copy of the new guide for friends or relatives visiting the area, please stop by the Visitor Information Center in the Depot at 214 Main St. for a free copy.



### Are You A Fan Of Appomattox?

Over 500 people have become fans since the Town of Appomattox started a fan page. Stay up-to-date on local events at [www.facebook.com/appomattoxva](http://www.facebook.com/appomattoxva)

## Notes About Garbage Collection

Garbage is collected on Tuesday of each week. On the day of residential and business collection, the roll-out cart must be placed at the curb by 7:00 a.m. and removed from the curb by 12:00 midnight that same day.

Each household/business is issued one 96 gallon roll-out cart for garbage. Additional roll-out carts may be purchased by calling the Appomattox Town Office at 434-352-8268.

Only the green roll-out cart will be dumped. Please bag and tie all trash placed in the roll-out cart as this helps keep the roll-out clean and trash cannot fly out during the process of being dumped.



### TOWN OF APPOMATTOX LEAF COLLECTION

The Town of Appomattox will begin leaf collection starting November 1. Leaf collection will take place in all areas at least once a week.  
**No Phone Call Is Necessary.**

**LOOSE LEAF COLLECTION** *November 1 - December 31*  
Loose leaves should be raked to the curb, but not into the street or blocking driveways. Leaf piles should be free of sticks and rocks.

**BAGGED LEAF COLLECTION** *November 1 - January 31*  
Bagged leaves should be bagged and tied in clear bags and placed at curbside for pickup. The Town will provide replacement bags (**for each bag used**) for those who wish to bag leaves and will be left at your residence during collection.

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Town of Appomattox  
PO Box 705  
Appomattox, VA 24522

First Class Mail  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
APPOMATTOX, VA  
Permit No. 70  
CAR-RT Sort

**Office Location**  
210 Linden Street  
Appomattox, Virginia

**Office Hours**  
8:30 am - 4:30 pm  
Monday-Friday

**Phone Number**  
(434) 352-8268 Office

**Water Emergency**  
Daytime (434) 352-8268  
Evening (434) 352-8241