



**TOWN NEWSLETTER**

**3820 40TH AVE, COTTAGE CITY, MARYLAND 20722  
(301) 779-2161**

**DECEMBER 2014**

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**COMMISSION**

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**Patricia Gross, At-Large**

Vice Chair, Admin. Liaison, Secretary

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**Donna Hayes, Ward 2**

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**Melanie Jones, Ward 3**

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**Sheila Butler, Ward 4**

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**ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF**

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**PUBLIC WORKS**

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**POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**Robert Patton**

Chief of Police

[chief1@cottagecitymd.gov](mailto:chief1@cottagecitymd.gov)

**HAPPY  
HOLIDAYS**



***BREAKFAST WITH SANTA!***

***Saturday, December 20, 2014***

***From 10am-12pm.***

***Santa is coming back to Cottage City!***

***Hot breakfast will be served,***

***Christmas caroling and free pictures***

***will be taken with Santa,***

***Come join us at the Town Hall***

***RSVP by December 15<sup>th</sup>!***



## **COTTAGE CITY NEWS:**

### **Code Enforcement Corner-**

Code Enforcement has been beefed up to ensure that your neighborhood remains a safe, healthy and economically viable place to live and to maintain the highest value for your property investment. Areas that become blighted with boarded up/abandoned buildings, debris, overgrowth and graffiti are more susceptible to crime than areas that remain free of code violations.

The Town code requires that the number of trash cans be sufficient for trash generated and that the cans have tight fitting lids. Yard wastes will NO LONGER BE ACCEPTED IN PLASTIC BAGS. Yard waste must be placed in heavy-duty paper bags or re-usable trash cans with handles and a secure lid. Cans must be clearly marked YARD WASTE OR YARD DEBRIS for collection. Cardboard boxes are not acceptable containers.

### **Leaf Pick Up-**

Leaf season is officially upon us! Please remember, leaves must be in PAPER bags, **NOT** plastic. You can put them in a trash can specifically labeled YARD WASTE or YARD DEBRIS. Leaf and yard debris are picked up every Wednesday. Curb-side leaf pick up is every day, as weather permits. Curb side leaf pick up will stop after December 31, 2014. If you have any questions, please call us at the town hall.



## **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**Cottage City Advisory Group, Monday, December 8, 6:30 pm.** Meetings are held on the second Monday each month at Town Hall. The Advisory Group is an informal group of Cottage City residents who meet to discuss concerns about our community. Please join us, and tell your neighbors to come also. GRUPO ASESOR DE COTTAGE CITY – Próxima reunión: lunes 8 de diciembre, a las 6:30 pm, en Town Hall. El Grupo Asesor está formado por vecinos de Cottage City que se reúnen para tratar asuntos de interés a la Comunidad. Esperamos verlo; invite a sus vecinos!

**Dumpster Day, Saturday, December 13<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup> from 8am-2pm.** Clean out your basements, backyards, or home. Dumpsters will be located at the Town Hall parking lot. Free for Cottage City residents only.

### **Breakfast With Santa, December 20, 10am-12 pm.**

The annual Christmas party for children will include a visit from Santa, a hot breakfast served at 10 am sharp, and Christmas caroling. Please RSVP by December 15<sup>th</sup> including both residents and Commissioners. All children must be accompanied with at least one adult. When you RSVP, please indicate how many boys and girls will be attending.

**Christmas Caroling Sign-Up** – We are looking for carolers to sign up for some Christmas caroling in December! Irvin Peterson will be conducting a rehearsal on Wednesday, December 10, 2014 from 6-7pm. Below are tentative dates for caroling:

- Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> (6pm-8pm) – Throughout the town.
- Dec. 20<sup>th</sup> (10am-12pm) - Breakfast with Santa.
- Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup> (6pm-8pm) –Shopper’s located in the town shopping center. Please contact the Town Hall at 301-779-2161 to sign up!



### **Paid Job Training at Joe’s Movement Emporium in Mt. Rainier, MD-**

Cottage City youth are you interested in theater lighting and sound, video and digital production? Eligibility criteria: (1) Resident of Prince George’s County, (2) Between the ages of 17 and 21 and (3) Meet household income requirements based on family size. If interested, contact Shonique McBayne, today at 301-699-1819 or [shonique@joesmovement.org](mailto:shonique@joesmovement.org).



**The following motions were passed at the November 11, 2014 Town Hall Meeting:**

- Motion made to adopt Ordinance 2014-02 concerning parking spaces for individuals with disabilities.
- Motion made to pass the Salt Utilization Agreement for the total amount to be invoiced during the winter of 2014-2015 not to exceed \$1,500.00.
- Motion made to have dumpster day on December 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>.
- Motion to sell the used police vehicles to Mr. Yousef Dabbagh.
- Motion to approve the town hall meeting minutes from 10/8/2014 and closed meeting minutes from 10/15/2014 with corrections.
- Motion to approve the financial statements for October 2014.
- Motion to accept Hartford Group Term Life Insurance/Short Term Disability at a total monthly cost of \$262.80 for all ten full-time employees
- Motion to hire the candidate for seasonal work with Public Works pending Commissioner Hayes' interview of the individual, for pay at \$12.00 per hour.
- Motion to approve D&D's snow tires in the amount of \$1095.68 unless he finds a better tire pending an investigation of King Vic's tires.
- Motion to allot \$150.00 from the movie night budget line item for a choir for Christmas caroling at the Breakfast with Santa event.



**PLEASE NOTE THAT THE WORK SESSION HAS BEEN MOVED TO FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5.**

**December 5 Work Session @ 6:30 p.m.**  
**Tentative Agenda Items**

- Funding of the award winning community garden including Mark Haskell, Master Gardener, who has provided dedicated services to the town. Many vegetable beds are in dire need of repair and/or replaced.
- Report of final budget allocations for recreation activities, i.e. the Halloween event, and Senior Harvest Dinner. Discussion to be held about proposed allocations for the Breakfast with Santa.
- Special meeting to be announced to address the Advisory Group's email titled, "Concerns of the Townspeople," dated 10/15/14.
- Discussion whether a hearing should be held regarding the reduction of the speed limit that was approved at the November 2014 Work Session.

**December 10 Town Hall Meeting @ 7:00 p.m.**

The Town Hall Meeting agenda will be devised after the December 5 Work Session.



## Town of Cottage City December 2014 Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 Yard debris, and Recyclables Pick-Up	4	5 Work Session 6:30pm  Regular Trash Pick-Up	6
7	8 Advisory Group 6:30pm	9 Regular Trash Pick-Up	10 Town Hall Meeting 7:00pm  Yard debris and Recyclables Pick-Up	11	12 Regular Trash Pick-Up	13 Dumpster Day 8am-2pm
14 Dumpster Day 8am-2pm	15	16 Regular Trash Pick-Up	17 Yard debris and Recyclables Pick-Up	18	19 Regular Trash Pick-Up	20 Breakfast with Santa 10am-12pm
21	22	23 Regular Trash Pick-Up	24 Town Hall closing at 1pm  Yard debris and Recyclables Pick-Up	25 Christmas Day  TOWN HALL CLOSED	26 Regular Trash Pick-Up	27
28	29	30 Regular Trash Pick-Up	31 Town Hall closing at 1pm  Bulk trash, yard debris and Recyclables Pick-Up	1 New Year's Day  TOWN HALL CLOSED	2 Regular Trash Pick-Up	

- Every Wednesday: recyclables pick up and yard debris including leaves.
- Last Wednesday of the month: bulk trash.
- Questions and/or complaints about trash, yard debris and/or recyclables pick up, please call PG County at 311.
- The Town Hall will close at 1 pm on Christmas eve and New Year's eve. The office will be closed on Christmas Day and New Year's Day.
- In case of emergency, call 911 and for a non emergency call 311.



### *Holiday Message to Cottage City Residents:*

*The Commissioners would like to wish you and your families Happy Holidays. It has been a very busy year!*

*As this year comes to a close, we are happy to report that some projects that were started by previous Commissions have been completed such as:*

- The brick wall in front of the Town Hall. Finally completed this year.*
- Installation of a new roof for the Town Hall building. Solar Panels were previously installed on the old impaired roof in order to presumably save cost. However, the time came to replace the roof which incurred additional costs to remove the solar panels in order to install a new roof. We now have a new roof, and those same solar panels that were removed were put back on the roof.*

*This Commission will balance the benefits and the costs involved before spending town money. This Commission is constantly seeking ways to improve the quality of life for its citizens and for the town. In spite of inflation and unexpected emergencies, we are continually seeking ways to reduce cost such as:*

- Reduction of legal fees. We are in the process of establishing policies geared toward limiting access to the town attorney by only authorized individuals in order to reduce legal fees.*
- 2014 Grants Approved: (1) MEA grants were received for vehicle upgrades, a town vehicle for office use, energy upgrades for the Town Hall, and grants for home improvement upgrades. Twelve homes were renovated. (2) Port Towns Community Health Partnership grant for the community garden. (Amount to be determined.)*

*We will continue to serve you and the town to the best of our abilities during this upcoming new year. Be safe and stay warm during this holiday season.*

*Best regards,  
The Cottage City Commission*

