

Council Chatter

January 2020

Town of Grottoes

Mayor's Corner

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Happy New Year! It is amazing to think it is already January 2020. I hope each of you had a great Christmas with your family and friends and are ready to begin the new year! This is the time of year that we start to think about colder weather, even snow! During this time, be cautious and safe while traveling.

As a council, we are working on budget items for the town for the next budget while beginning to plan special events for 2020. We will

continue our event cards this year: we will be having two cards to showcase our events, one for spring/summer and another for fall/winter.

Lastly, I would also like to make all Grottoes citizens aware that we are seeking a member for the Board of Zoning Appeals. If you are interested in serving the

town as a member, please contact town hall and speak to our Town Manager, Nathan Garrison or the clerk of council, Tara Morris.

Again, Happy 2020!

Emily Holloway
Mayor



South River Elementary School Events

School
MUSICAL
February 5th

South River Night At



First Tuesday of each
month

4 - 9 pm

Manager's Message

2020. That is incredible. Happy New Year, Everyone! I hope you all were able to take a moment to enjoy some of our Christmas events we had this past month. We had great weather and turn out for our Parade & Tree Lighting Ceremony, as well as a fantastic turn out to Caroling in the Caverns. I always enjoy having the community together during the holidays and I thank you for coming out. Now that Christmas has passed, once you feel ready to get rid of your Christmas tree, the Rockingham County Container site located on 20th street is accepting them to dispose of for you. Let see who the last house is with their lights and tree up!

It has been a busy 2019. Town Development has continued to be on the rise with many new residential houses

being built. We have been able to welcome two new restaurants into Town, Lil' Gus's and East Side Smoke Company. If you haven't visited them, be sure to do so soon! We also were able to open our Dog Park at Mountain View Park, which has been a great hit.

Speaking of our Parks, if you have been into Grand Caverns Park recently you have seen some movement at the pool. We are in the middle of renovations and the pool is shaping up extremely well. A brand new feature includes a walk - in beach entry with a Water Umbrella and water jets! A complete renovation is being done and it is going to be incredible once it is finished. We plan to be open for the summer!



If you have any concerns or topics to discuss please feel free to call me at 249-5896 or drop by Town Hall anytime during office hours.

Happy New Year!
Nathan Garrison
Town Manager

Significant planning is being done for our Town across all Departments. We are focusing on identifying the Town's needs and projects that we can accomplish. Town Staff is working very hard in order to ensure we continue to meet the needs of our citizens and meet our goal of providing exceptional service to everyone here!

Library News

M-F 1-6 pm 540-434-4475 option 3

January is Puzzle Month: Come sit down to our family puzzles, 300-500 pieces, for an hour or two—or more! We continue into February, as interest remains.

We also have a puzzle exchange; bring your puzzles and pick out new-to-you ones.



February Valentines:
We celebrate Valentine's Day all month long by displaying hearts on the circ desk wall: *At the library it is sweet to....* Share what you enjoy doing here.

Family Fun Story Time email: We have started a group email to all people interested in our Family Fun Story Time on Wednesday. It arrives Tuesday, stating the theme & craft. If you are interested in adding your name to this list, let me know.

Inclement Weather: Please check our website: www.mrlib.org for info about library closings.

Wishing you a year filled with many happy reading experiences!

Cheryl Keeler
Grottoes Branch Manager

Happening @ the library in Jan & Feb:

- Jan 7: **Brown Bag @ noon**
- Jan 8: **Family Fun Storytime 1 pm**
- Jan 9: **Crafty Kids 4 pm**
- Jan 15: **Family Fun Storytime 1 pm**
- Jan 16: **Board Games 4 pm**
- Jan 21: **Teen & Adult Coloring 4 pm**
- Jan 22: **Family Fun Storytime 1 pm**
- Jan 23: **Keva Planks 4 pm**
- Jan 29: **Family Fun Storytime 1 pm**
- Jan 30: **Lego Club 4 pm**
- Feb 4: **Brown Bag @noon**
- Feb 5: **Family Fun Storytime 1 pm**
- Feb 6: **Lego Club 4 pm**
- Feb 12: **Family Fun Storytime 1 pm**
- Feb 13: **Crafty Kids 4 pm**
- Feb 18: **Teen & Adult Coloring 4 pm**
- Feb 19: **Family Fun Storytime 1 pm**
- Feb 20: **Game Day 4 pm**
- Feb 26: **Family Fun Storytime 1 pm**
- Feb 27: **Keva Planks 4 pm**

Grottoes Rescue Squad

The members of the Grottoes Rescue Squad would like to thank the community for their support in 2019 and wish everyone a wonderful and safe new year. Please watch our Facebook page for upcoming events throughout the next year.

We are always looking for new members. If you are interested please stop by the station or call 540-249-5797 for more information.



From the Chief's Desk...

I hope everyone had a great and safe holiday season. Now that winter is here, please remember to take care of your pets. It is your responsibility to keep them safe from the elements. If your pet lives outdoors, it is important to provide them with adequate shelter from the cold weather. Animals tend to burn more energy in cold weather in their attempt to keep warm. Therefore, it is important to routinely check your pet's food

and water supply. When their water supply freezes, there is the risk of dehydration. Every year we receive numerous complaints in reference to the welfare of outdoor animals. Remember that our pets rely on us to keep them safe.

Thomas James
Chief of Police



Grottoes Volunteer Fire Department

Grottoes Volunteer Fire Department wishes everyone a safe and healthy 2020. Our Sunday Lunches will continue the 3rd Sunday of each month from 11am until 1pm unless sold out prior to 1pm.

Jan 19th - Fried Tenderloin with gravy

Feb 16th - Roast Beef with gravy

March 16th—Fried Cube Steak with gravy.

GVFD Officers for 2020

President - Linda Kegley
Vice-President - Megan Roach
Secretary - Rebecca Acker
Treasurer - Chris Conner
Gaming Treasurer - Cindy Martin
Historian - Jeanie Kirby
Chaplin - Wanda Rittenhouse
Chief - Andrew Holloway
Assistant-Chief - C.J. Chandler
Captain - Ben Brown

Lieutenant - Donald Simmons
Lieutenant - Daniel Wonderley
EMS Officer - Mike Arbaugh
Safety Officer - Rilo Michael

Board Members - Bill Martin ,
Wanda Rittenhouse, Jeff Morris,
Josh Holloway, Rilo Michael, and
Sam Batton

Park Place

I hope everyone enjoyed their holiday season. We sure did! Grand Caverns and the Grottoes Ruritans had another successful Caroling in the Caverns. 880 people attended, resulting in 250 donations and over \$3,275 raised for the South River Boys and Girls Club and



the Grottoes Ruritan Scholarship Funds!

Starting March 1st, you will be able to reserve shelters at Mountain View and Grand Caverns Parks for the 2020 season both in person, over the phone, and online. To reserve your shelter online, visit [www.grandcaverns.com/shelter-](http://www.grandcaverns.com/shelter-rentals.html)

[rentals.html](http://www.grandcaverns.com/shelter-rentals.html) and click the gray "Book Now" button to reserve a Grand Caverns shelter, or click the orange "Book at Mountain View" hyperlink for Mountain View Park. If you have a date you want, be sure to reserve ASAP on March 1st, as shelters go very quickly!

Ashley Collier

Town of Grottoes
P.O. Box 146
601 Dogwood Avenue
Grottoes, VA 24441

Phone: 540-249-5896
Fax: 540-249-5726
www.ci.grottoes.va.us

CHRISTMAS TREES

The Rockingham County Container Site, located at 1005 20th Street, has set up a container to collect Christmas Trees. If you have any questions, please call 249-5896.

Home Decorating Contest Winners

Reason for the Season - 1457 Mandolin Avenue

Clark Griswold - 800 Birch Avenue

Elegance - 607 14th Street

Thank you for all who participated!

ERMA Food Pantry

Grottoes United Methodist Church
located at 300 4th St.
(corner of 4th St & Cherry Ave)
Every Monday
Doors open at 6:30 p.m.
For more information call
249-5893

The Rockingham County Recreation Department **Senior Citizens BINGO** for the Grottoes area is held at the Grottoes Town Hall in the community room on the fourth Monday of each month from 10:00 a.m. until 11:00

Mountain View & Grand Caverns Parks

Shelter rentals will begin on **March 1, 2020**. Please call the Stone Lodge at 249-5705 to reserve a shelter for your family reunion, graduation picnic, company picnics, or whatever the occasion. Plan now, shelters rent out quickly!

Brush Site Open

Feb 1st 8 am - 12 pm
Mar 7th 8 am - 12 pm

If you have questions please contact the Town during regular business hours at 249-5896

Grottoes Community Little League

BASEBALL & SOFTBALL SPRING REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

Online registration is open for the Grottoes Little League 2020 spring season!!!! Follow the address below to our website to sign up online. It is quick and easy and can be done from the convenience of your couch!!

<https://leagues.bluesombrero.com/Default.aspx?>

In person registration will be held on:

Saturday, February 1st 1:30 - 3:30 pm

Saturday, February 8th 1:30 - 3:30 pm

Grottoes Town Hall

Grottoes Town Officials

Town Council

Emily Holloway, Mayor
David Raynes
Mark Keeler
Joshua Bailey
Tim Leeth
C.W. Stephenson
Jo Plaster

Planning Commission

Justin Neitzey, Chairman
Jen Smith, Vice-Chairwoman
Mark Keeler
David Bradley
Kevin Campbell
Miriam Miller
Nathan Foerster

Board of Zoning Appeals

Margie Mayes, Chairwoman
Justin Neitzey
Ellen Showers
David Gorjup
Vacancy

Council meets the Second Monday of the month at 7:00 pm in the Council Chambers of the Town Hall. Council may also hold a workshop at 6:00 pm prior to the monthly meeting.

Planning Commission meets the last Tuesday of the odd months at 7:00 pm in the Council Chambers of the Town Hall.

BZA meets the Third Tuesday of the month (when needed) at 7:00 pm in the Council Chambers of the Town Hall.