



Stephens City Newsletter

Volume 33 Issue 3

May and June 2014



As the latest example of its efforts to attract top-drawer entertainment to Stephens City, the Newtown Heritage Festival is proud to welcome Blue Moon Rising to the Commons Stage on Festival Saturday, May 24. This nationally acclaimed bluegrass band will perform in the pivotal 7:00 pm concert slot that evening right before the fireworks. Blue Moon Rising has been a staple on the bluegrass circuit since its formation in 2005. Nominated for the International Bluegrass Music Association's Emerging Artist of the Year award in 2006, the band has five albums and a number of individual hits including "This Old Martin Box" and "The Hanging Tree" to its credit. Come see Blue Moon Rising on Festival Saturday, May 24.

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The Town Newsletter is published by the Town Government of Stephens City for its citizens; to inform, to apprise, and to clarify the issues and undertakings before the Town Government. Citizen feedback is encouraged. Contact the Town Office at 1033 Locust Street weekdays between the hours of 8:30a.m. and 5:00 p.m. or by mail: P.O. Box 250, Stephens City, VA 22655

Phone: 869-3087

Fax: 869-6166

Police: 868-1012

Website:

www.stephenscity.vi.virginia.gov

Sherando High School Spring Band Concert

Thursday, May 22nd
7:00pm

Newtown Commons



Be sure to pick up the 2014 Newtown Heritage Festival commemorative! The pottery is better than ever! This year's commemorative is a butter crock and will be a great addition to your collection of commemoratives for Heritage Festivals of the past. The Butter Crock is \$25. The Festival will also offer a pewter pin of the wagon as an additional commemorative for \$8. And re-



Newtown Heritage Festival
Thursday, May 22, 2014 -
Saturday, May 24, 2014
Don't Miss It!





**BATTLE OF
THE BANDS**

**FRIDAY, MAY
23**

6PM TO 9PM

**AT THE
NEWTOWN**



PARADE

Saturday, May 24th

2:00PM

Down Main Street
(Streets close at 1:30pm)

QUILT SHOW 2.0

The response to the quilt show at the Newtown Heritage Festival celebration was overwhelming. There were many visitors who trekked down to the Old School who enjoyed beautiful examples of locally made antique quilts (and the stories of the quilters) along with the wagon across the hall.

Two local quilt guilds have collaborated to present this year's version of our quilt show. There will be antique quilts, contemporary quilts, quilting demonstrations, quilts for sale and information on how you could become part of this creative process.

Please join us at the Old School on Saturday, May 24 to see some of the best stitches in the Valley.

ADMISSION IS FREE



"Happy Feet"

Cloggers

5:45pm- 6:45 pm

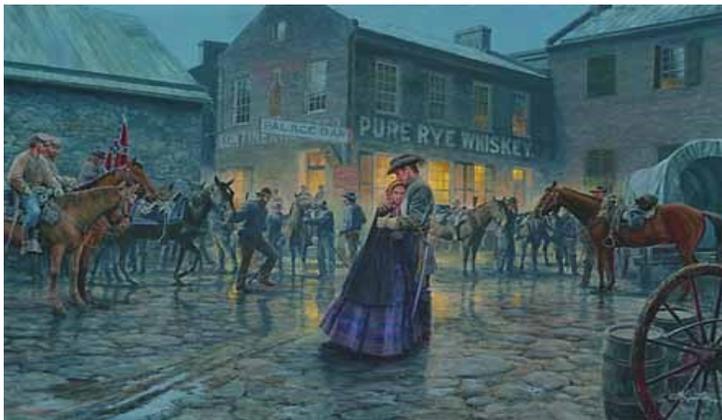
Saturday, May 24th
at the Newtown Commons

Honky Tonk Blues

takes the stage on Saturday, May 24th at Noon at the Newtown Commons stage.

Robbie Limon Band

takes the stage on Saturday, May 24th at 3:30 pm at the Newtown Commons Stage



"The Palace Bar" by Mort Kuntzler – print signed and framed

Donated by Kevin Bowers

To be raffled to benefit the Veterans' Memorial – \$5.00 per ticket

***Veteran's Memorial
Brick Sponsorship***

The Parks and Recreation Committee along with the Town Council have decided that the brick sponsorship is to honor the memory of those who served, to honor those who have served or are serving in any of the five branches of the service, (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and the US Coast Guard).

Festival Support!!

All the proceeds from the



REMINDER!

Fireworks at DUSK

Saturday, May 24th

"Is Newtown Burning?"

Did you know that 150 years ago this spring, our dear little burg was nearly put to the torch? Well, it's true. Angered by partisan military activity, Union Gen. David "Black Dave" Hunter threatened to burn Newtown.

This week-long episode will be the subject of a dual presentation sponsored by the Newtown Heritage Festival on Friday evening, May 23—150 years, to the date, since partisan raids sparked the confrontation. Jonathan Noyalas, Professor of History at Lord Fairfax Community College, will kick off the evening's events with a lecture and multimedia presentation about civilian life in Newtown circa 1864. Following this presentation will be the premiere of a historic video ("Is Newtown Burning?") specially commissioned for the festival by Sherando High senior Meagan Arnold. An apple pie a la mode dessert will follow. This event, FREE to the public, will take place at the Stephens City United Methodist Church parish hall. The time, again, is 7 p.m. Please reserve the date. This is OUR history.

Newtown Heritage Festival 2nd Annual 5K Fun Run

The 5K Fun Run will begin at 8:00 am with registration at 7:00 am at the ball field next to the town office on Locust Street. Race tickets are \$20.00 and all proceeds will benefit the Stephens City Veterans' Memorial. For more information on pre-registration and registration forms, please call 540-508-0369.

AN ELECTION YEAR

This year voters will go to the polls to elect a Mayor to serve for four years and three members to serve on Council for four-year terms each. ANY CITIZEN of the Town of Stephens City can file to run for a seat on Council if they meet candidate requirements as set by the State Board of Elections. Information about requirements and filing are available at the Town Office or from the Voter Registrar's Office at 107 N Kent St., Winchester, VA (540-665-5660). Candidate forms can be filed with the Registrar's Office after January 1, 2014. The deadline for candidate filing is Tuesday, June 10, 2014 by 7:00 pm in the Registrar's Office.

Elections for Town Council will be held on Tuesday, November 4, 2014 with polls open from 6:00 am to 7:00 pm at the Robert E. Aylor Middle School located at 901 Aylor Road. In order to cast a ballot, you must be registered with the Office of Voter Registration and Election Administration located in Winchester as noted above. The deadline to register to vote is Tuesday, October 28, 2014 by 5:00 pm. Deadlines to apply for an absentee ballot are Tuesday, October 28, 2014 by mail, and Saturday, November 1, 2014 in person. If you have any questions regarding voting requirements, please contact the Voter Registrar's Office at 540-665-5660 or via e-mail at fcvotes@co.frederick.va.us.

All residents of the Town of Stephens City are greatly encouraged to participate in the election process. Vote for those who will represent you and your interests in local government.

Water and Sewer Billing

Water and sewer bills for the bi-monthly billing period ended on **Tuesday, April 22, 2014** and are **due upon receipt**.

After Monday, **June 2, 2014** a **10% penalty** will be added. On **Monday, June 9, 2014** service will be discontinued for delinquency. A reconnect fee of **\$25** plus the full amount of the bill must be paid before service can be restored.

Just a reminder, for your convenience a night drop is available at the Town Office for dropping off **check or money order** payments and payments can also be made online at the Town's website. ***It is important to note that, if you pay your bill online after midnight the day it is due, it will not be posted until two business days after the due date and will be subject to additional penalties or shut off.***

Water/Sewer bills can be paid using a Visa, MasterCard or Discover. If you pay a bill online after the due date, you will still be responsible for the 10% penalty and if the bill is paid after the shut off date, the \$25 reconnect fee will need to be paid as well, prior to reconnection.

DO NOT PUT CASH IN THE DROP BOX!

**NEWTOWN HERITAGE FESTIVAL
1ST ANNUAL
CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT
Saturday, May 24th
CASH PRIZES!**

Must be 18 to participate. All entries must be received by May 12th. \$30.00 entry fee per team.

The tournament will begin at 10:00 am at the baseball diamond on Locust Street. For more information and entry forms call 540-508-0369

*Newtown Heritage Festival
Pageant Winners*

- Wee Baby— Za'Ryra Smallwood*
- Baby—Bentley Sexton*
- Tiny Miss—Lillian Shearer*
- Petite Miss—Raea Crabill*
- Pre-teen Miss—Ryleigh Holzbauer*
- Junior Miss—Natalie Loving*
- People's Choice—Jayzmen Marsell*
- Senior Miss—Brooke Simpson*
- Ms. Newtown—Sara Brown*
- Mrs. Newtown—Sarah Fleming*

Tax Billing Information

Currently, the Town of Stephens City sends out tax bills twice a year. The first bill you receive is due in June and this bill includes the fee for decals for your motor vehicles and trailers. The bill you receive in the second half is for the remainder of the year and is due in December.

The Town of Stephens City in a non-prorating jurisdiction. Which means any property you own on January 1st of each year is taxed. If you should acquire property on any other day of the year, you will only be taxed on it for the following tax year. Likewise, if you move or dispose of that property throughout the year, you still owe the entire year's tax to the Town.

The value of the property, (both real and personal) is set by the Commissioner of Revenue for Frederick County. Based upon the value Commissioners office assesses, Stephens City applies the tax rate and that is how we arrive at the amount of taxes you owe. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions you may have. If you have questions about the assessment, please contact the Frederick County Commissioner of Revenue at 540-665-5681.



Town Calendar of Events

May 2014

- May 6 **Town Council at 7:30pm**
- May 2-4 Apple Blossom Festival (Winchester)
- May 13 Personnel Committee 5:00pm
- May 15 Newtown Heritage Festival Comm. 7:00 pm
- May 20 Historic Preservation Committee at 5:00 pm
- May 21 Public Works Committee at 4:30 pm
Water/Sewer Committee at 5:30 pm
- May 22 Public Safety Committee at 5:00 pm
- May 23-24 Newtown Heritage Festival Comm. at 7:00pm
- May 26 **Memorial Day—Offices Closed**
- May 26 Parks and Recreation Committee at 5:00pm
- May 27 Planning Commission at 7:30 pm
- May 28 Finance Committee at 4:00 pm

June 2014

- June 3 **Town Council Meeting at 7:30pm.**
 - June 4 **Water/Sewer Bills Due without penalty.**
 - June 5 **Penalties added to Water/Sewer Bills**
 - June 11 **Water Shut Off Date**
 - June 10 Personnel Committee at 5:00pm
 - June 17 Historic Preservation Commission at 5:00pm
 - June 18 Public Works Committee at 4:30 pm
Water/Sewer Committee at 5:30 pm
 - June 19 Newtown Heritage Festival Committee at 7:00pm
 - June 23 Parks & Recreation Committee at 5:00 pm
 - June 24 Planning Commission at 7:30 pm
 - June 25 Finance Committee at 4:00 pm
 - June 30 Parks & Recreation Commission at 5:00 pm
- *All meeting subject to change without notice with the exception of the Town Council meeting.*