



Stephens City Newsletter

VOLUME 30, ISSUE 2

MARCH AND APRIL 2011

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Stephens City Newsletter is proud to enter its 30th year of publication. Throughout the year we will highlight the significance of this Town Newsletter. 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

“HOP IN”
(Sponsored by the Stephens City Business Association)

Saturday, April 16, 2011
Hunt Date: April 17, 2011
2:00pm to 4:00pm
At the Newtown Commons
Main Street
Stephens City, VA
(If you have any questions, please call 869-3087)

This will be a social celebration for family and friends.

There will be an Easter Egg Hunt, Games, Face Painting, Meet the Easter Bunnies, have some fresh baked Refreshments and much more for children 3rd grade and below and their family and friends.

REGISTRATION BEGINS PROMPTLY at 2:00pm
2 Separate EGG HUNTS with a limitation on eggs per child
2:15pm – Pre-Schoolers through Kindergarten
2:45pm – 1st Graders through 3rd Graders
All other events will during the Egg Hunt

It's going to be one Hopping Event!

Printing Courtesy of Commercial Press, Inc.

The Stephens City Business Association is proud to sponsor the 3rd Annual “Hop In” at the Commons. This year the event moves back to the Newtown Commons and will feature two separate Egg Hunts for children 3rd grade and below. Each Egg Hunt will be at separate times so the parents with multiple kids in the different age groups will be able to enjoy all the fun. This year we will also be placing a limit on the number eggs each child can find so that everyone who is involved will have the ability to find some eggs. There will be the several other events as usual ranging from story time with the Easter Bunny to Egg Decorating. Come one, Come all to the 3rd Annual “Hop In” on the Commons on Saturday, April 9th, 2011 from 2-4pm.

Newtown Heritage Festival

The NHF committee is hard at work preparing a great line of events for 2011 Festival. Look forward to NEW commemoratives, NEW tee-shirt design, and some NEW Bands added to the entertainment lineup this year. Look forward to the return of the coupon in your local Newspapers for special offers.

If you haven't sent in a Recipe Story for “*The Stephens City Family and Friends Cook Book*”,

there is still time. This is a great collection of recipes and stories to be shared and remembered through the years. Please submit your recipe stories via Stephen City's Town website, or send them in by mail to: Stephens City Town Hall, P.O. Box 1, Stephens City, VA 22655, Attn: NHF Recipes.

The Bandstand will be the back drop for a new committee fundraiser by Donna Stewart. The NHF will be selling

squares and stars for families to purchase as in memorial of or in honor of anyone who has served in our Military. All proceeds from this NHF fundraiser will be donated to The Stephens City Veterans War Memorial.

If you are interested in Sponsoring a NHF activity, or a donation please contact Mike Kehoe at Stephens City Town Hall.

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SNOW REMOVAL

We are half way through winter, but as we all know there is still a very real possibility of snow, so in short this is what is required by the Town Code.

Property owners or occupants must clear all public sidewalks of snow where sidewalks front their property.

This must be done within 6 hours after snow has ceased to fall or no later than noon the next day if snowfall stops overnight. Please contact the Town Office if you have any questions.

Water and Sewer Billing

Water and sewer bills for the bi-monthly billing end **Thursday, February 24, 2011** and *are due upon receipt*.

After **April 4, 2011** a **10% penalty** will be added. On **Monday, April 11, 2011** 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.

Town Calendar of Events

MARCH		APRIL	
March 1	Town Council at 7:30pm	April 4	Water/Sewer Bills Due without penalty
March 8	Personnel Committee meeting at 6:00pm		Penalties added to Water/Sewer Bills
March 15	Historic Preservation Commission at 5:00pm	April 5	Town Council at 7:30pm.
March 17	Happy St. Patrick's Day	April 11	Water Shut Off Date
	Water/ Sewer meeting at 5:30 pm	April 12	Personnel Committee at 5:00pm
	Public Works meeting at 6:00 pm	April 19	Historic Preservation Committee at 5:00pm
	Newtown Heritage Festival Mtg. at 7:00pm	April 21	Water/ Sewer Meeting at 5:30pm
March 23	Finance Committee at 5:00pm		Public Works Meeting at 6:00pm
March 28	Parks and Recreation Committee at 5:00pm		Newtown Heritage Festival Mtg. at 7:00pm
March 29	Planning Commission at 7:30pm	April 25	Parks & Recreation Commission at 5:00pm
		April 26	Planning Commission at 7:30pm
		April 27	Finance Committee at 5:00pm

Happy  St. Patrick's Day

** All meetings subject to change without notice w/ the exception of the Town Council meeting.*

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If you haven't already picked up your NHF Calendar of never before published pictures, there are still some available at Town Hall.

The NHF Committee is looking forward to celebrating another wonderful Festival here in the Town of Stephens City.

Dates to remember are:

Sun, Apr. 17th - Beauty Pageant At Aylor Middle School - Contact- Michelle Ritter

Thu, May 26th - SHS Concert at Commons

Fri., May 27th - Battle of the Bands

Sat., May 28th - Parade, Music, Craft & Food Vendors

For more information, continue to check out the Town's Website and click on the Newtown Heritage Festival.

www.stephenscity.vi.virginia.gov

Stephens City Communications Survey!

On the following page is a Communications Survey that is being performed by Sherando High School Service Learning Students in partnership with the Town Government.

The purpose of this survey is for the students to be able to make recommendations to the Town Government as to how well the Town communicates with their citizens and the citizens can communicate with the Town. The students are looking at various methods of communication ranging from newspaper to more current forms of social media, such as Facebook.

Please take five minutes or so to complete the survey and return it to the Town Office prior to March 31, 2011. The success of the students project, depends upon citizen participation. We are hoping to have an online version of the survey on the Town Website by the time you receive this newsletter!

This survey is being administered by the Sherando High School Service Learning Government class and the government of the Town of Stephens City. The results will be recorded and analyzed in effort to improve communication throughout the Town. Please fill out this survey to the best of your ability so that we might be able to help you. This survey is due on THURSDAY, MARCH 31, 2011 at the Town Office. This survey can also be found on the Town's website at www.stephenscity.vi.virginia.gov.

General Information: (please circle response)

1. Age: 18 and under 19 to 30 31-45 46-60 60+
2. Gender: Male Female

Communication: (please check appropriate box)

	DISAGREE	SOMEWHAT DISAGREE	SOMEWHAT AGREE	AGREE
3. I am kept well informed about Town's plans and progress	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. There are opportunities available to express my ideas to the Town administration/ local government	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. There is good communication between the Town and its citizens	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. I am kept well informed by Town administration and Council on what is going on in the Town	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. I am satisfied with the quality of communications within the Town	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Information: (please circle response)

8. How do you obtain your daily news information?	Internet	Newspaper	T.V.	Newsletter	Radio
9. How do you find news about the Town?	Internet	Newspaper	T.V.	Newsletter	Radio
10. Rate how much information that you receive from each source. (Five being the most and one being the least)					
Internet	Newspaper	T.V.	Newsletter	Radio	

(please circle response)

11. Do you watch local news on TV-3 Winchester?	Yes	No
12. Are you interested in seeing more local news on TV-3 Winchester?	Yes	No
13. Did you know that the Town of Stephens City's newsletter is available online at the Town's website?	Yes	No
14. IF YES: Do you ever read the Town's Newsletter online?	Yes	No
15. IF NO: Would you go online and read the Town's Newsletter now?	Yes	No
16. If available, would you be interested in subscribing to the Town's Newsletter through e-mail?	Yes	No

Billing: (please circle response)

17. How often are you online?	Once a Day	Multiple Times a Day	Never
18. Have you ever paid bills online?			Yes No
19. Do you prefer online billing/ payments?			Yes No
20. Would you be interested in e-billing if the Town could provide this service?			Yes No
21. Did you know that the Town of Stephens City's website has a place for citizens to bills online?			Yes No
22. IF NO: Would you use the online billing application on the Town's website?			Yes No
23. IF YES: Is the online bill payment application helpful?			Yes No

Social Media: (please circle response)

24. Do you have a Facebook or Twitter account?	Yes	No		
25. Do you think the Town of Stephens City should have a Facebook or Twitter Page?	Yes	No		
26. Would you join the Town's Facebook or Twitter page?	Yes	No		
27. Would you benefit from the Town having a Facebook or Twitter page?	Yes	No		
28. If the Town had a Facebook or Twitter page what would you use it for?	Emergency Information	Information	Events	Miscellaneous
29. On average how often are you on Facebook or Twitter?	Multiple Times a Day	Once a day	Rarely on	Do not have a Facebook or Twitter Account

The Sherando High School Service Learning Government class and the Town of Stephens City would like to thank you for your time to complete this survey. Please turn the survey back in at the Town Office located at 1033 Locust Street.