

ON TRACK



A Quarterly Newsletter for the Residents and Businesses of Ashland

January 2013

Ashland's Bandstand: Raise the Roof!

It's that time - the Ashland Variety Show performance dates are March 21, 22 and 23 and will take place at the Blackwell Auditorium on the Randolph-Macon College campus.

The Ashland Variety Show began in 1982 and has been held every odd-numbered year since 1983. This will be year number 17 for the show.

Participants include youth, adults and children from kindergarten on up for the ever-popular show, which supports the Hanover Arts and Activities Center. This year the show's producers/directors, Lorie Foley and Sue Watson, anticipate more than 400 cast members.

The 2013 show will be titled "Ashland's Bandstand: Raise the Roof!" Proceeds support community arts programs and will help the

See Variety Show on Page 2

The Reverend Robert Thompson retires

After 20 years at First Baptist Church of Ashland as its senior pastor, the Reverend Robert Thompson has retired from the pastorate.

The Town Council recognized Reverend Thompson at its December 18 meeting by issuing a resolution in his honor for his involvement in the community and being so agreeable to offer the invocation at council meetings over the past 20 years.

Reverend Thompson will continue to reside in Ashland with his family.

The municipal parking lot



Looking east toward the railroad tracks, the municipal parking lot shows off its new pavers and landscaping.

Pavers, rain garden and vehicles

If you have seen the new Municipal Parking Lot between Hanover Avenue and Railroad Avenue, you probably didn't realize that under the mild mannered outer appearance is a SUPER PARKING LOT!

While the new lot is beautiful, it has a secret identity of which few are aware. We are told that it is the first lot in the nation to combine two green technologies.

The first of those technologies is permeable pavers with storage beneath. This allows rain water to pass between the pavers to the storage area below. Then the water is either absorbed by the earth or released to the second new feature. These pavers were procured from *Eagle Bay Hardscape Products*, an Ashland business. The pavers were installed by *Bract Retaining Walls & Excavating*.

The second green tech feature is a wall-less *Filtterra* bioretention feature. This technology is very new and was supplied by *Filtterra Bioretention Systems*, also an Ashland company. *Filtterra Bioretention Systems* assisted with a great deal of on-site support.

The system receives rain either directly or from the permeable paver section of the parking lot. The water passes through *Filtterra's* proprietary

See Parking lot on Page 4

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Upcoming Events

FEBRUARY

February 1 - Heritage Music Night, West Hanover Boys, The Montpelier Center for Arts and Education, 6:45pm. Free concert

February 1-28 - In Our Gallery, art of Jack Woodson, local award-winning nature photographer, The Montpelier Center

February 6 - Heritage Music Series - Jim Duckett performs country blue grass in the Nelson Taylor Room, Hanover Tavern, 7pm.

February 24 - Richmond Symphony Orchestra, Blackwell Auditorium, R-MC Center for Performing Arts, 798-1212

February 25 - May 3 - Best of R-MC Study Abroad Photo Exhibition, 752-3607

MARCH

March 1 - Heritage Music Night, with West Hanover Boys, Montpelier Center, 6:45pm

March 2 - Beaverdam Honorary Mayor's Ball, Beaverdam Depot, 449-1550 or www.mayorofbeaverdam.com

March 2 - 5th Annual Tiger Trot 5k, Henry Clay Elementary School, 9am, 537-5257 or www.townhound.com

March 6 - Heritage Music Series, jazz tunes, Nelson Taylor Room, Hanover Tavern, 7pm 537-5050 or www.hanovertavern.org

March 21, 22 & 23

The Ashland Variety Show, Blackwell Auditorium, benefits Hanover Arts and Activities Center, www.hanoverarts.org

March 23 - Hanover County's 6th Annual global Yuth Service Day, 11am-1:30pm, American Legion, 8700 Bell Creek Rd, Mechanicsville, 365-4108 or www.hanovervolunteers.org

APRIL

April 3 - Heritage Music Series - Hanover Tavern, 7pm, 537-5050 or www.hanovertavern.org

April 5 - Heritage Music Night, West Hanover Boys, Montpelier Center, 6:45pm

April 27 - Macon A Difference Day, 9am - noon, various locations, Contact Christina Cozart, christinacozart@rmc.edu or 752-3133

April 27 - 35th Annual Railroad Run & Green Fair, Hanover Arts & Activities Center, 7:30am, 798-2728

April 27 - Spring Concert: R-MC Concert Choir, 7pm, free, Blackwell Auditorium, 752-3798

April 28 - 6th Annual Afternoon Tea, Hanover Arts & Activities Center, 2pm - 4pm, proceeds benefit Hilliard House, 236-5800 or www.hilliardhouse.org

Founders Day Celebration

The Ashland Museum will celebrate Founders Day on **Saturday, February 16, 10am to 4pm**. The museum is located at 105 Hanover Avenue. Mayor Faye Prichard will cut the birthday cake at 1pm and all are invited for cake and hot chocolate.

**Randolph-Macon College
Macon a Difference Day
April 27, 9 a.m. - 12 noon
www.rmc.edu**

Variety Show continued from Page 1 Center replace its roof.

Tickets go on sale February 11 and reservations may be made by calling 804 798-2881. For information and details, contact Sue Watson 798-5686, Lorie Foley 798-0704 or Tayloe Moore at 798-2728 or you can visit the website for the Hanover Arts and Activities Center for additional details.

**Saturday, April 20, 2013
10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.**



**80th Historic
Garden Week
in Virginia**

**Ashland
Elmont**

*Advance Tickets: \$25.00
www.vagardenweek.org
or call (804) 227-3140*

Sponsored by The Ashland Garden Club

Amtrak's Whistle Stop celebration

Virginia-Amtrak has added Norfolk to its passenger service line. On Tuesday, December 11, Amtrak's Whistle Stop Train Tour made its first stop in Ashland for a brief celebration with local and railroad officials.

CLOSED
**Town offices will be
closed on
Monday, February 18th
for Presidents' Day.**

Comments from the Mayor

A new year is always an opportunity to look back over the events of the previous year and take stock of what went well, what didn't, and where we go next. Certainly this is part of the job of the mayor and the town council. And while we don't always get everything right, we can only hope that 2013 will be as fortunate for the town as 2012 has been.



At its very core the town's mission is twofold; we have to keep the town economically successful while protecting and improving the quality of life that Ashland citizens cherish. Frankly, it's a pretty delicate balance. If we don't have the right mix of businesses, we can't afford to pay for the services we provide. But economic viability would be pretty hollow if we had to sacrifice the small town qualities that make Ashland truly unique. In this past year, we've worked very hard to make sure that we kept that balance while moving the town forward in what we think are some very important ways.

One of our greatest accomplishments in the last year was a complete update of our Comprehensive Plan, the Town's long-term planning document. This plan, which took countless hours of work on the part of the Planning Commission and the staff, included tremendous citizen input. The plan looks forward twenty years and will guide the town in every development decision that we make. We are very proud that we've developed a plan that reflects how and where Ashland citizens want to see the town grow. This detailed plan is also helping us to move forward with a comprehensive update of Town ordinances.

Another major accomplishment this year was finally paying off all of the Town's debt. While this would be an accomplishment to be proud of any time, it feels especially good during such tough economic times as we've had the last few years. We are very grateful to have a staff that has been proactive in making the town as fiscally responsible as possible. We've drawn some major businesses to town and those businesses will bring very good jobs. We've adopted a policy of actively pursuing the kinds of business we'd welcome into the town and showing those businesses that the Town of Ashland is a welcoming place.

There are many accomplishments from the past year for Ashland to be proud of but one concern that citizens often raise is how slowly government works. We find that frustrating sometimes too. One project that has certainly suffered from that problem is downtown sidewalks. There have been a myriad of problems in getting that project done. Other projects in town have started and been finished while the sidewalks remain in their present state. While we wish we could make this go faster, we are happy to report that we believe we've carefully listened to all of the stakeholders in that project and it should be well underway this year.

The council and I are very lucky to serve the citizens of Ashland. We understand every day that we have been given a sacred trust to protect and improve our town. We hope that in the coming year, we will have every opportunity to continue what we see as very positive work. But we also invite you to become a part of the process. We'd like to see more citizens come to our council meetings and we'd like to hear from you about your concerns but also about your ideas for our future. On behalf of the council I wish you a happy and healthy 2013 and hope that we will see more of each other.

Faye O. Prichard, Mayor

Ashland Main Street looks forward to an exciting 2013!

The Ashland Main Street Association is on a *new* track and picking up speed as we roll into 2013. We are ringing in the New Year with a new board president, Nancy Cozart, and a newly created executive director position, filled by past-president Tom Wulf. We have much to celebrate as we look back on 2012 and look forward to the coming year.

As you may know, Main Street's mission is to "preserve, enhance and promote" downtown Ashland, and we believe we made significant progress in 2012. We certainly learned a great deal from our residents, businesses, non-profits and R-MC through our series of five leadership roundtables. The roundtables were initiated to bring the

Town and its stakeholders together to create a shared vision of our downtown's future, and we had many valuable conversations. We still have some communication opportunities, and we're confident we can improve upon them by working together.

Main Street was excited to host several wonderful Ashland events in 2012. Of course, we celebrated our third annual Ashland Chalk Walk and the 10th annual Ashland Train Day this year. We also partnered with the Ashland Museum to launch an historic marker program and celebrate the 100th Anniversary of Cross Bros. Grocery. We so much appreciated the support of our local nonprofits (alas, too numerous to mention), and all of our residents and visitors who participated in these events. We couldn't have pulled them off without considerable help from the Town, especially Chief Doug Goodman

and the APD, and our tireless volunteer coordinator, Bill Gatewood.

We hope Main Street cast a positive glow on the Center of the Universe in 2012, as we featured Ashland in multiple media appearances throughout the year. We welcomed Senator Mark Warner to Ashland in April and gave him a tour of our historic downtown. The senator met with dozens of downtown business owners and presented a congratulatory letter to Cross Bros. Grocery on its 100th anniversary. The Market Ashland Partnership invited us to help coordinate a terrific "Ashland Week" on CBS 6's Virginia This Morning December 10-14th. And we capped off a year of good press with the Amtrak Virginia – Norfolk Inaugural Whistle Stop Tour on December 11th, during which Main Street provided refreshments.

In 2013, we will work with the Town and the Ashland Economic Development

See AMSA on page 7

Preventing Stormwater Pollution (a series)
Trouble Shooting Problems with Your BMP
Sediment Removal and Disposal

Impact on Facility Performance

The purpose of a stormwater treatment facility is to remove pollutants, including suspended solids, by capturing sediment. Sediment can include dirt, leaves, and litter. These materials can restrict or clog a facility. Timely removal of sediment will improve infiltration rates, water quality, and help prevent clogging and flooding.

Type of Facility This Applies To

Remove Sediment When

<p>Vegetated - Vegetated Rooftops, Bioretention Facilities, Ponds, Constructed Wetland Forebays, Swales, and Vegetated Filters</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Sediment depth is damaging or killing vegetation or •Sediment is preventing the facility from draining in the time designed (usually 48 - 72 hours).
<p>Underground - Manufactured Facilities, Sand Filters, Underground Detention</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Sediment depth is damaging or killing vegetation or •Sediment is preventing the facility from draining in the time designed (usually 48 - 72 hours) •At least once a year or •When the basin is half-full of sediment, whichever comes first.
<p>Infiltration - Permeable Paving Materials (Grasscrete, permeable pavers, gravel), Infiltration Trenches</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Sediment is preventing the facility from draining in the time required (usually 48 hours).

What to Do

•For **small facilities**, sediment can be removed by hand. **Large facilities** and **underground facilities** will need to be cleaned with heavy equipment by trained professionals. For example, a vacuum truck may need to be used for confined spaces.

•Remove sediment during dry months when it is easiest to remove because it weighs less and creates fewer secondary environmental impacts, such as wet sediment running off the site.

Vegetated Facilities:

- Use rakes and shovels to dig out accumulated sediment.
- Avoid damage to existing vegetation. If sediment is deep, some plants may need to be removed to excavate sediment.
- Reseed, replant, and mulch disturbed area to prevent erosion.
- Excavate sand and gravel and clean or replace.

Underground Facilities:

- Use a vacuum truck to remove sediment from the vaults or chambers.

Infiltration Trenches:

- Excavate sand or gravel and clean or replace.
- Permeable Paving Materials: Remove accumulated sediment from the surface with a dry broom, vacuum system, or other hand tools. A vacuum truck or street sweeping equipment may also be used, with professional assistance.

How to Reduce Sediment Accumulation in the Facility

- Minimize external sources of sediment, such as eroding soil upstream of the facility.
- Sweep surrounding paved areas on the property regularly.

Parking lot

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planting medium before any excess is released to the town’s existing storm water system. The “secret” medium has plantings that are specifically chosen to reduce pollutants in the runoff. *Filtterra* donated this planting medium and some of the plantings.

Eagle Bay Hardscape Products and *Filtterra Bioretention Systems* will be using our project to showcase their products and services.

Three existing Crepe Myrtles were removed and replanted by *JGB Creative Services*, the landscaping contractor.

Construction was started at the beginning of October with the lofty goal of 80 percent completion by November 10, in time for Ashland’s annual train day. That goal was achieved. The paver portion of the lot was ready for the festivities. This would not have been possible without the great work of our Town contractor, *Talley & Armstrong, Inc.*

The design was supplied by *A. Morton Thomas & Associates, Inc.* They supplied a great amount of support through the entire project.

The end effect of these technologies will be less, and much cleaner, water entering the streams of Ashland.

New major/minor

Randolph-Macon College now offers an engineering physics major/minor.

Approved recently, this multidisciplinary field of study blends courses from engineering, physics and math to prepare students for graduate studies in engineering as well as employment in many technical and applied-science jobs.



Enhanced curbside recycling program

The Ashland Town Council voted November 5 to upgrade recycling services for Town residents. The Town will also initiate an incentivized program to reward residents for recycling.

Residents will receive at no cost a 96 gallon wheeled recycling cart the first week in January. With the much larger carts replacing the small recycling bins, collection of recyclables will occur **EVERY OTHER WEEK** beginning **January 7, 2013**.

“Town Council is eager to get our new recycling carts on the ground and in service, said Town Mayor Faye Prichard. “We’re proud to offer residents this enhanced recycling program with rewards.”

The larger recycling cart will provide increased storage capacity for recyclable items (4 times the capacity of the current bin); has wheels making it easier to get to the curb; and has a lid to keep materials dry and from blowing around. No more lugging multiple bins to the curb!

Ashland residents will be the latest to join hundreds of thousands of other customers state-wide already participating in TFC Recycling’s popular incentive program, Recycling Perks. Recycling Perks rewards curbside recyclers with points that accumulate at each collection and can be redeemed for discounts and coupons at a wide variety of local restaurants and retailers.

“We are excited to be working with the Town of Ashland by having them join our growing list of cities across the country. Our Recycling Perks program is designed to raise awareness on the benefits of recycling, encourage residents to support local businesses in Ashland and increase material collected,” said Recycling Perks President, Bill Dempsey. “This program has proved very successful in other communities we serve and we expect to see that trend continue here,” Dempsey added. Visit www.recyclingperks.com for more information.

While being good to your car, don’t be bad to the river.

Ever wonder where all that dirty, soapy water goes after it runs off your drive-way? The waste-water flows directly into local streams without treatment.

Wash your car on your lawn, an area that does not drain directly into the street, or take it to a carwash facility that recycles its wash water.

For more information, please visit www.town.ashland.va.us/carwashing



Comments from the Town Manager

As the snow melts and the winds blow, I am pleased to see new commercial and residential construction underway in Ashland.

While households and businesses continue to trim their



expenses to make do in this economy, it is pleasing to see projects such as the Vitamin Shoppe, Chick-fil-A, and the Lance and Bridle subdivision take shape.

One of Town Council’s goals is to help make the Town of Ashland economically and environmentally sustainable. These projects are great examples on both fronts.

We will continue to strive to improve our service so we can help provide a business-friendly atmosphere in our community following the vision of the Town’s Comprehensive Plan.

We also look forward to continuing our productive partnership with Hanover County officials in attracting new economic prospects to Ashland, while also supporting our existing business community.

Thank you for continuing to make the Center of the Universe a great place to live, work, and play!

Charles W. Hartgrove





News from the Visitors Center

The volunteers and staff of the Visitors Center took a tour of the Berkeley Plantation in October.



The 1726 Georgian Mansion is said to be the oldest 3-story brick house in Virginia that can prove its date and the first with a pediment roof. A few facts gleaned while on the tour: in 1862, President Lincoln visited Berkeley and reviewed General George McClellan's army of 140,000 Union soldiers; "Taps" was composed at Berkeley in 1862 while Union Forces were encamped at the plantation; Benjamin Harrison, son of the builder of Berkeley, and its second owner, was a signer of the Declaration of Independence and three times Governor of Virginia.

Lunch was at Cul's Courthouse Grille. The building is an 1872 general store that has been renovated to serve as a grille.

*Pam Crisp
Visitors Center Manager*

Mobile DMV services in Hanover

DMV 2 Go is a full-service DMV on wheels and will be in Hanover County on the second Wednesday of every other month and will be located in the Courthouse Complex. This service began 12/12/2012.

The zoning corner

Portable storage containers, or PODS as they are sometimes referred to, are a great way to store your belongings during a remodel or relocation. Most of the companies who market these products will deliver the container to your site, and once the container is full, will come back, remove the container and store it at their site until you are ready to retrieve the items. At that time they will re-deliver the container so that your items can be unloaded. However, in some instances, the consumer will choose to have the container remain on their property for an extended period of time. Because of this, the Town of Ashland, as well as other municipalities, has adopted ordinances to govern *portable storage containers*.

The Ashland Town Code, Section 21-271 regulates the use of temporary, portable storage containers and states the following:

Portable storage containers shall be permitted in any zoning district classification, subject to the following:

(a) No more than one (1) portable storage container is located on a single lot or parcel of land.

(b) The container does not remain on the lot or parcel longer than thirty (30) consecutive days and no more than sixty (60) calendar days per year.

(c) The container shall not obstruct the view of pedestrians or motor vehicles entering the street right-of-way.

(d) The container shall not be located in the street and/or public right-of-way.

Some localities require a permit prior to having a portable storage container delivered. The Town of Ashland does not require a permit. PODS are a great way to make moving or remodeling easier, however, as the name implies, they are designed and intended to be used on a *temporary* basis.

Feel free to contact Dennis Rabon at 798-1073 or drabon@town.ashland.va.us if you have any questions regarding this information or anything else zoning related.

Planning and Community Development news

Congratulations

Just in case you have not heard, **Alexis Thompson**, the town's Economic Development Coordinator, gave birth in September to a beautiful, healthy baby girl, Clara Gray.

Congratulations to Alexis and Willy and welcome Baby Clara!

Congratulations are in order for **Bryant Phillips**, Senior Planner, for earning his master's degree from Virginia Tech in Public Administration.

Planning Commission

Alan Abbott has been elected chairman of the planning commission and **Lou Ann Jewell** was elected vice chair.

Economic Development Authority appointment

At its January 15 meeting, the Town Council appointed **Sandra Sizemore** to serve on the Economic Development Authority.

Interning with the Town of Ashland

The Department of Planning and Community Development had the pleasure of hosting a Randolph-Macon College intern in January. **Ngozi Nsoedo** is a senior from Damascus, MD who is majoring in Computer Science with a minor in Spanish.

While with the town Ngozi updated our website and social media resources.

Please check out the local restaurant menu page she created for our Facebook site.

Words of wisdom from Chief Douglas Goodman
"If it has a lock, lock it."

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Authority to determine where Main Street can expend its efforts most effectively. We plan to identify and initiate new beautification projects in the downtown with the help of R-MC students on "Macon a Difference Day." We'll also focus on street-scaping plans and continue our downtown enhancement programs, "Adopt-a-Spot" and "You've Been Noticed."

We'll stay engaged with the Hanover Tourism Supporters to develop ways to promote Ashland as a regional draw for "heritage tourists," "daycationers," and "staycationers." We plan to develop a comprehensive marketing brochure for the Ashland Arts & Culture District that includes maps, businesses by type, an event calendar, and information about the Ashland/Hanover area.

Saving the best news for last, Main Street is excited about an opportunity in 2013 to fulfill its *raison d'être*, by earning Ashland an official "Designation" by the Virginia Main Street Association. The application process is underway, and we hope to have some great news by late spring.

Once again, the Ashland Main Street Association appreciates your support, and we look forward to seeing you downtown!

*Tom Wulf, Executive Director
Ashland Main Street Association*

Safety tips

According to the Virginia Department of Fire Programs, you should test smoke alarms monthly.

Some suggestions they offer are:

Install smoke alarms inside every bedroom, outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home, including the basement.

For the best protection, INTER-CONNECT all smoke alarms so when one sounds they all sound.

Smoke alarms should be installed away from the kitchen to prevent false alarms; they should be at least 10 feet from a cooking appliance.

REPLACE all smoke alarms when they are 10 years old.

For more info on fire safety tips, visit www.vafire.com

Summary of criminal and traffic reports for 2012

Even though the following numbers are not final, Chief Goodman distributed a preliminary summary of the 2012 annual report to the town council at its January 15 meeting. The comprehensive 2012 annual report will be presented in March.

There was an 8.8 percent decrease in overall reported criminal incidents and a 19 percent decrease in motor vehicle accidents.

Arson incidents, larcenies and robberies were up from 2011; aggravated

assaults, burglaries, auto thefts and vandalisms were down from 2011.

Reportable accidents were down from 2011 and DUI arrests were up from 2011.

Chief Goodman stated that "2012 saw the lowest level of reportable traffic accidents since 2003. In comparison, traffic volume has increased by 11 percent at Route 1 and Route 54 since 2004." The worst year for accidents in the past ten years was 2006 with 177 reportable accidents. Year 2012 saw 85 reportable accidents.

Quartely police department awards

At the November 5, 2012, town council meeting, Chief Goodman presented the following awards to several officers:

Excellent Police Duty award

Hanover Deputy Mark Hottle of the Hanover Sheriff's Department was presented the excellent police duty award for working in conjunction with the Ashland police officers for a crime at the Truckstops of America facility, leading to the apprehension of two suspects.

Capt. Callahan and Lt. Shelhorse earned the Excellent Police Duty award for their work and coordination with the Secret Service involving the Romney/Ryan visit to Ashland.

Certificates of Commendation

Senior Support Services Officer Jane Donovan and Community Support Officer Joe Perkins were awarded a certificate of commendation for their work to ensure that all of the department's procedures and records are in compliance with those rigorous standards as outlined by the Virginia State Police VCIN (Virginia Crime Information Network).

Sgt. Marie Kemp and Community Support Officer Joe Perkins received certificates of commendation for their compilation of traffic safety info on behalf of all members of the police department and submitting it to the Law Enforcement Challenge Award program through the Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police (VACP).

Tips to reduce distracted driving

CHANGE YOUR WAYS and recognize the activities that distract you such as eating, cell phone use and changing the radio.

MANAGE YOUR TIME so that you do not have to multi-task or drive aggressively on the road.

CONCENTRATE on your driving. Make sure you are not tired or upset when driving.

PULL OVER to a safe place if you need to do something that will take your eyes and/or mind off the road.

BUCKLE UP every trip, every time. Making sure everyone is properly buckled is the best defense against distracted drivers.



Business bits & pieces

National corporation, **The Vitamin Shoppe**, will locate a strategic distribution center on the north side of Ashland, bringing with it approximately 174 jobs over the next two years. To build the \$39.4 million dollar facility, The Vitamin Shoppe took advantage of the Governor's Opportunity Fund, which provides financial support to companies wanting to relocate to Virginia from other states.

Chick-fil-A continues construction on the corner of England Street (Rt. 54) and Hill Carter Parkway. The restaurant plans to open mid-April and will post grand opening information on the town's calendar under Business Events.

Ashland Main Street Association 501 (c)3 has hired Tom Wulf to serve as their first Executive Director.

For 2013, Mr. Wulf plans to address fundraising plans for the organization, re-apply to the Virginia Main Street program for official "designation", continue the efforts of downtown beautification and provide support to downtown businesses. The organization will also assist in the management of numerous events held in Ashland's downtown district.

To contribute a tax-deductible donation to this organization, visit www.MainStreetAshland.com for details.

The 2013 Farmers Market season

I have news to share about an exciting opportunity for the Market. A group of students in VCU's Master of Public Administration program will be studying the Market as the focus of their capstone seminar project over the course of this semester. The group will address the challenge of increasing vendor sales at market, and will do so by examining the vendor and customer experience with the market, and investigating ways in which we can build and maintain our customer base and improve market operations. They plan to present recommendations



to the Market Committee and Town Council at the end of the semester.

Our vendor Bruce Haynes (Red Dog Farm) discovered this opportunity through a notice to VCU alumni posted by Professor Nancy Stutts, who is teaching the capstone seminar. Bruce drafted a proposal to students making a case for a study of the Market, which he submitted to the class last semester. We were chosen as one of three entities from among several organizations and agencies!

Bruce, Market Chairman Christi Macomber (Macshack Acres), and I have met with the students and are looking forward to working with them this winter and spring. If you have any input for the Market and this study, please email me at farmersmarket@town.ashland.va.us or call 804.704.7398. We'd love to have your perspective as a market customer/supporter and community member! The Market officially opens for the 2013 Season on May 4. Until then, you can find some of our vendors holding the "Renegade Market" on the parking lot behind Town Hall, every other Saturday, 9 to 11 a.m. Remember to check us out on Facebook (facebook.com/ashlandfarmersmarket), where you can get the latest updates and subscribe to our e-newsletter.

For prospective vendors, our 2013 Rules and Regulations and Vendor Application will be available on February 15th, at the Treasurer's Office in Town Hall and on the Market page of the Town website.

by Trevor Buckley, Market Manager

Market Ashland Partnership (MAP)

Some of the projects and charitable contributions that MAP has initiated or participates in to increase business visibility in Ashland and surrounding areas are: Ashland Street Party, Co-op Advertising, Connect Four Luncheons, Henry Clay Elementary School Supplies, Ashland Rewards Card Program, Ashland Holiday & July 4th Parade, Train Day, Strawberry Faire and the Ashland Variety Show.



Town of Ashland

On Track is published quarterly for residents and businesses by the Town of Ashland. If you have editorial comments or wish to be added to the e-mail distribution list, please contact the newsletter editor at (804) 798-9219 or e-mail ismith@town.ashland.va.us

www.town.ashland.va.us

Bits of helpful info ...

- Town Council agendas are posted on the Town's Web site
 - Approved Council minutes are available for viewing on the Web site
 - Information regarding changes in meeting schedules, traffic detours, etc., is displayed on the Town's TV Cable Channel 17, Facebook & Twitter
 - Town Council meets the first and third Tuesday of each month at 7pm in the Council Chambers of Town Hall
 - Planning Commission meets the second Wednesday of each month at 7pm in the Council Chambers of Town Hall
 - Town Council and Planning Commission meetings are broadcast live on Channel 17
- For additional info, contact Town Hall at 804-798-9219; Monday-Friday, 8:30am - 5:00p.m.

Contact Information

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Wanda Cornwell

Assistant to the Town Manager/

Purchasing Agent/Human Resources

Alexis Thompson

Economic Development Coordinator

Lois A. Smith

Clerk of Council