

July 2024

MIDDLEBURG MEMO

10 W MARSHALL ST. PO BOX 187 MIDDLEBURG, VA 20118-0187 | MIDDLEBURGVA.GOV | (540) 687-5152 | INFO@MIDDLEBURGVA.GOV



ASBURY CHURCH COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROJECT

The Town Council has initiated a public engagement project to receive community input on the future desired uses of the historic Asbury Church. The Asbury Church was constructed in 1829 as the home of the Methodist Congregation in Middleburg. It served as a hospital and morgue in the Civil War and was subsequently donated to the African American Methodist Church in 1864. It became a central component of the African American community in Middleburg, also serving as the location of the school for African American children. Based on the significance of the property and prior input from the community, the Town has determined that the best pathway forward is to move forward with a plan for restoration and reuse.

Before the Town develops design plans, it wants to understand the community's preferred uses for the building and property. Initial stakeholder interviews have taken place, and the next step is a community survey.

We ask you to get more details and provide input at www.middleburgva.gov/asbury (the survey will go live on July 26th) or by filling out the survey you receive in the mail this month. **We strongly encourage you to view the photo walkthrough of the interior of the building prior to completing the survey.**

A subsequent community engagement meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 11, 2024, at the Town Hall. This meeting will allow members of the community to provide additional input on possible future uses of the Asbury Church. We look forward to your ideas, suggestions, and input.

Following this process, the Town will engage with an architect to design construction plans, and then will proceed with procuring a construction team to rehabilitate and restore the property.



WATER CONSERVATION MEASURES ENACTED

The Town Council voted on July 11th to implement mandatory water conservation measures within the Town of Middleburg, **effective July 18th**. Specifically, these measures prohibit the use of Town water outside the structure of a business or residence.

Starting on July 18th, customers are not permitted to: use irrigation systems; water grass, gardens, or landscaping; fill swimming pools; wash cars; or any other use of water outside of a structure. Customers *may* water outdoor plants using a handheld container.

These conservation measures were adopted due to Loudoun County being in a "severe drought" and "drought warning" as determined by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, in partnership with USGS. Further, the Town's wells have shown signs of decreased water levels over the past month with very little precipitation falling in the area.

SIGN UP FOR ALERTS!

The Town of Middleburg sends regular information to residents and visitors using our website. We encourage you to sign up for:

- **Weekly Newsletter** – Latest happenings and events in Town
- **Alert Center** – Get immediate notice of important alerts, such as road closures, water/sewer issues, safety matters, or operational changes
- **News Flash** – The latest important news from the Town

Visit www.middleburgva.gov/alerts to sign up!

UPCOMING TOWN EVENTS

More details on all events at:
middleburgva.gov/events

- National Night Out:

Aug 6, 2024: 6-8pm
@ Middleburg Community Center

- Middleburg Oktoberfest:

Sept. 21, 11-7pm
@ South Madison/West Federal St.

- Middleburg Farmers Market:

Saturdays, 9am-12pm; May-October
@ Town Hall



TOWN OF MIDDLEBURG

10 W. Marshall St., PO Box 187
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MAYOR & TOWN COUNCIL

Trowbridge M. Littleton, Mayor

Chris W. Bernard, Vice Mayor

Pamela Curran
Darlene Kirk

J. Kevin Daly
Peter Leonard-Morgan

Morris "Bud" Jacobs
Cindy C. Pearson

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT!

Our summer is not complete without coming together as a community to build relationships with our Police Department and other public safety partners. Join us at the **Middleburg Community Center** on **Tuesday, August 6, 2024, from 6-8pm**, for a night of free food, giveaways, games, and fun. Meet our officers and build positive relationships as we continue to keep our community safe. See you there!



THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING OUR COMMUNITY EVENTS!

Middleburg Day

The Town of Middleburg was proud to host the Inaugural Middleburg Day on May 31st. It was a great time of community fun, music, food, and games. We were so glad to see our neighbors enjoying time together on the Town Green. We plan to make this an annual tradition on the first Friday after Memorial Day. We hope to see you next year!



Photo courtesy of Gracie Savage for Middleburg Life

Independence Day

We avoided the rain and had an amazing evening of fun on July 4th! It was a wonderful day celebrating the independence of our country and the freedoms we have. Kudos to the American Legion for cooking food, the band for great music, and our vendors and sponsors for making it such a great day. And the fireworks were better than ever! With the completion of the Town Hall, the Town Green is now a secondary viewing site for the fireworks. We hope you had an enjoyable time and look forward to another great event in 2025!



SPEED LIMITS IN MIDDLEBURG

The Town of Middleburg was recently given the authority to reduce the speed limit in the Town. For many years, the Town Council has requested that VDOT lower the speed limit, especially given the number of pedestrians and crosswalks in the core business district.

The Town Council adopted a proposal to lower speed limits on Washington Street (and multiple side streets) to 20MPH. The Town of Leesburg recently reduced speed limits, and many other Towns are considering a change.

Public notice will be given to residents and drivers prior to the new signs being erected. We encourage you to always drive with caution, watch for pedestrians, and help keep our community a safe, walkable Town!

(Photo courtesy of Norm Styer, Loudoun Now, showing a new speed limit sign in Leesburg)



R-2 ZONING DISTRICT & MICKIE GORDON PARK

The Town Council and Planning Commission continue to review potential zoning ordinance amendments in response to concerns about the size of newly-built homes in the Ridgeview part of Town. The zoning amendments are intended to ensure that new homes match the size and character of the established neighborhood. Stay informed by visiting our website at: www.middleburgva.gov/r2zoning

Loudoun County Dept. of Parks, Recreation & Community Services (PRCS) is preparing a follow-up community meeting on future uses at and improvements at Mickie Gordon Memorial Park. A community meeting is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, September 5th. More info to be posted on the Town website.

WATER RATE INCREASES - JULY 1, 2024



In the Town's ongoing effort to provide quality, consistent water and wastewater service, the Town's utility rates increased 3% effective July 1, 2024. The Town uses these funds to pay for regular operations, ongoing maintenance costs, and long-term infrastructure replacement and construction. With the rate of inflation, it is important that our revenues keep up with expenditures from all of our vendors. In 2024-2025, the Town will be working with its rate consultant to review revenues and ensure that we are positioned for long-term fiscal viability.

TOWN NOTES:

CELL SERVICE WORK AT STONEWALL CT WATER TOWER:

AT&T will be installing a generator at the Stonewall Ct. Water Tower to support its operations. This will allow AT&T service to remain operational even during power outages. Work is expected to begin July 22 - please use caution in the Stonewall Ct. area.

WELL 4 OPERATIONS:

The Town is pleased to note that the Well 4 Treatment Plant is back online. This water plant will help improve the visual aesthetic of the Town's water and will reduce instances of discolored water. The Well 4 Treatment Plant uses advanced filtration to remove iron and manganese (naturally occurring minerals that can lead to discoloration in the water). In addition, Well 4 produces over 100 gallons per minute of drinking water for the Town.

VACATION SAFETY TIPS:

The Middleburg Police Department wants to ensure that your property remains secure when you are on vacation. Visit the MPD website at middleburgva.gov/vacation to find important tips to remember.

Plus, the MPD will do regular property checks for those who request it. A form is available on the website for you to fill out if you are planning to be on vacation and wish the MPD to check on your property while you are away.