



A Publication of News and Events



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Town Meetings and Planning Commission Meetings are open to the public. Citizens are encouraged to attend to be informed and give input. Meeting agendas are posted outside Town Hall every Friday, and items are added as requested (which can be as late as Wednesday morning) and re-posted with each change. An early agenda is posted on the Town website, but may not always include the latest changes. Stop by the Town Hall on Wednesday evenings and learn first-hand about the many happenings in our town. For more information, call the Town Clerk at 410.443-0087.



•Town Meetings are held the first Wednesday of every month at 7 pm

•Planning Commission Meetings are held at least quarterly on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7 pm Public Hearings, Public Workshops, Special Appeals Hearings, etc. are scheduled as needed. Check the website for updates www.trappemd.net or on FACEBOOK.

Candidate Deadline March 21st.

Anyone interested in running for a position on the Town Council must file an application with the Town Manager/Clerk, Erin Braband, by **4 p.m. on March 21st**. There are three seats open for this election. Incumbents Norm Fegel and Don English are eligible for re-election, and the third seat is that of Rose Potter who is not eligible for re-election this term. Interested candidates must have been a resident of the incorporated limits of Trappe for at least one year prior to the election, a registered voter in the Town of Trappe, a U.S. citizen and at least 18 years of age.

For more information and to obtain a candidate application contact the Town Manager/Clerk Erin Braband at clerk@trappemd.net

After hours water/sewer emergency contact 410-476-7462

OFFICE HOURS

Mon, Tue, Wed, Thur
8 a.m.-4 p.m.
Fri 8 a.m.—12:30 p.m.

Credit card payments accepted

Notary, Copy & Fax service available for small fee.

Council Meeting
Wed. March 1st

Planning Commission
Tue. March 21st

Board of Appeals Hearing
Thurs. March 2nd

Public Hearing and Council Meeting March 1st

A hearing will be held at 6:45 p.m. on Wednesday, March 1st on Ordinance 2-2017 – An Ordinance of the Town of Trappe to amend Section 7.10 of the Trappe Zoning Ordinance to permit the raising or keeping of livestock in the Agricultural ("A") district for personal use and consumption only, and not for commercial sale, and to amend Section 8.10 to clarify that the agricultural uses permitted in the Industrial ("M") district relate to raising and processing crops.

A copy of the ordinance is available at the town office or on line at www.trappemd.net. The regular March Council meeting will commence at the conclusion of the public hearing.



News from the Trappe Community Outreach Team

Please join us as we sponsor our second community potluck dinner on Monday, March 20th. Our speaker will be Talbot County Sheriff Joe Gamble, and others from the emergency responder field including Clay Stamp EMS Director, Brian Lecates EMS Division Chief and Dr. Thomas Chiccone. This program is open to everyone who has an interest in learning more about the impact addiction is having on the region. No reservations needed and absolutely free. Fried chicken will be provided. Bring a side dish or dessert to share; and don't forget to remind your friends and neighbors too.

April we will be again sponsoring an *Easter Bonnet/costume parade*. Saturday, April 15th meet at Trappe Veterans Park and parade up Main Street to Trappe United Methodist Church. Get creative and make a spring hat or outfit to strut your stuff! The Community Easter Egg hunt at Trappe United Methodist Church will begin at noon for the small fry. This is free but be sure to bring a basket or container to collect the eggs. Photo op with the Easter Bunny will be provided.

Great music also returns to town. *Mr. Frank Hastings* will be back in Trappe performing on Saturday, April 29th stay tuned for time and location. *Spark in da Pan* will return to the gazebo at Trappe Veterans Park on Saturday, June 3rd 5-7 p.m. with a rain date of Saturday, June 10th. Plans for a family movie night with a baseball theme are in the works for May. Lots to do in our community-won't you come be a part of it? Flo Adams-Chair

Funding provided in part by the fundraising efforts of the Trappe Community Outreach Team, an all volunteer group, community donations and the Talbot County Smoking Cessation Grant program.

Speak Up Trappe!

The Talbot County Economic Development and Tourism Office will be holding a listening session in Trappe **Thursday, March 2nd 8:00 a.m.** at the firehouse. This is an opportunity for business owners, employers, town & county residents, and others to meet the new staff, and let them know what YOU think makes Talbot County a good place to live, work and play. They also want to know what the challenges are to doing business and living here as well. All of this information will be channeled into the revision of the economic development strategic plan for Talbot County. **Everyone is welcome to attend.**

State Highway Repairing Route 50



As you've noticed by now construction is taking place on Route 50 in Trappe below Backtown Road. The project is expected to last 4 weeks and involves replacing a 160' long concrete pipe that spans the entire road. The pipe is buried very deep and needs to be replaced. To avoid the entire road closure there will be temporary lane changes. Be safe and Stay alert!

Kick Butt

March is kick butt month. The use of tobacco products including cigarettes, cigars, chew and e-cigarettes are all deadly to your health. Not only dangerous but expensive too! Options to quit using tobacco are available from the Talbot County Health Dept. and many are free! The Council of Trappe encourages residents to consider a tobacco free life.



Term Limits - Yes or No YOU Decide submitted by Commissioner Rose Potter

As some of you may know, I made a presentation at our last Council meeting concerning term limits. I was very adamant then and I continue to be adamant now about my focus around this issue.

At this juncture, it is my opinion term limits do not help our town at all. Consider the option I am presenting in this brief statement to the citizens of Trappe.

Plain and simple and to the point, I would like to see the Town of Trappe eliminate term limits from our Charter. My deduction for formulating this decision is levied by the fact that the ultimate decision (term limits or not) is contingent upon the constituency as the final decision makers. By allowing term limits to continue is disregarding the experience and expertise of that candidate. My reasons for taking such an unwavering stance are listed below:

By continuing to have term limits, you are not giving a *voted-in by the people* candidate an opportunity to fully learn, to fully understand, and to fully contribute to the full responsibility of being a town commissioner and,

A candidate needs at least 2 terms in office to fully commit and make decisions that are clear and precise and,

By the time a commissioner fully understands what they are responsible for, they are *not* eligible to continue in office because of the term limit variance.

I believe this is a factual disservice to the town. I concluded this idea founded on the following. If the Commissioner is not doing a good job, and if the people do not want this person to continue in office, the voters have the option to not vote for that Commissioner. If the Commissioner on the other hand is doing a good job, that Commissioner should be allowed to run in the next election with the decision still being decided by the voters.

Consider this alternative: Businesses are always on the prowl for people who have experience and expertise. They want people who prove themselves to be beneficial to the company and by so doing, the companies hold onto these people until they prove themselves otherwise. It is my conviction that the town and Council of Trappe should imitate this same version. Being a Commissioner on the Trappe Town Council is like running a business. Your votes are indicators that you expect your Commissioners to gain experience and expertise to run the town properly. Term limits can at any time disrupt this whole process.

I'd like to make it perfectly clear my interest in dissolving term limits is not because my term on the Council will be ending in May, 2017. Quite the contrary, I firmly believe term limits are not in the best "good" for the town and in some instances, can hold back advancing the town.

There is going to be an election in May and the probability of this question being on the ballot will most likely come to fruition. The question will be asked - do you or do you not want term limits to remain as part of the governance of our town. You have a decision to make.

By the way, Trappe is the only municipality (being the size that it is) that operates with term limits as part of its charter control.

When you vote in the next election, **you will have the option to say yes or no to term limits, YOU Decide.**

See you at the poll,
Commissioner Rose Potter



Trappe Volunteer Fire Company
 410-476-3535 Non-emergency
 President Ben Diefenderfer
 Chief Nick Newman

SOUP DAY

Monday, March 6th @ 4 pm

\$6.00 Donation

Homemade Soup, ham biscuit, dessert

Eat in or take out.

To pre-order call Lou Diefenderfer

410-924-1764

1st Annual

Sporting Clay Shoot

Saturday, March 25th 8:30 a.m.

The Point at Pintail~ Queenstown

\$70 per person includes lunch, gun raffle, door prizes and 50 clays. Questions contact Will Ozman 410-829-8619 trappeshoot@gmail.com

POLICE CHIEF'S CORNER



I want to encourage everyone to attend the Addiction Awareness program on March 20th that our community is sponsoring. This is an excellent program with local responders who see first hand the impact drugs and addiction has on individuals, families and our community. This problem needs everyone to be aware and involved. Addiction can start with anyone. Please try to attend and encourage other to come as well.

For Police services, except an emergency, call the 24 hour dispatch number, 410-476-5005. In an EMERGENCY, ALL 9-1-1. For confidentiality call me 410-829-0613. As always if you see something say something-don't wait till the next day, or the weekend is over. See it now-report it now!
 Thanks,
George Ball, Chief

Join Sheriff Joe Gamble & others from the emergency response field for a community potluck dinner followed by a presentation on addiction.

Monday, March 20th 6:00 p.m.

Trappe Volunteer Firehouse-Powell Avenue

This is a public presentation and all are welcome. No one every intends to become an addict. Bring a covered dish to share.

Fried Chicken will be provided.

Sponsored by the Trappe Community Outreach group & the Talbot County Smoking Cessation grant program.

BOARD VACANCY

Volunteers wanted to fill two alternate positions on the Town of Trappe Board of Appeals, and on the Election Board. The Board of Appeals meets on an as needed basis in the evening to hear requests for variances and special exceptions to the Zoning Ordinance. The Election Board maintains the voter log, administers the town elections, and occasionally holds forums. A vacancy also exists on the Planning Commission which meets monthly on the 3rd Tuesday at 7 p.m. This board reviews zoning, site plans and subdivisions.

Interested persons should submit a letter of interest/qualifications to the Town Clerk, Erin Braband, via email clerk@trappemd.net or to the town office PO Box 162, Trappe. Positions will remain open until filled by appointment of the Town Council.

CALENDAR

- March 1st Public hearing 6:45 pm followed by Council meeting
- March 1st St Paul's Episcopal Church Ash Wednesday evening service
- March 2nd Talbot County Economic Development listening session 8 a.m. TVFD
- March 2nd Board of Appeals public hearing 7:00 p.m.
- March 17th St Patrick's Day Dinner Trappe United Methodist Church 4-7 p.m. Cost \$10
- March 21st Planning Commission scheduled meeting 7 p.m.
- March 25th Trappe Volunteer Fire Department Sporting Clay Shoot