

THE MILTONIAN



www.cityofmiltonwv.com

May / June 2022

From the Mayor

Hello Summer! This is a favorite season for many, with its warm, laid-back and sunny days. I encourage you to grab your sunglasses and walking shoes and head over to the new exercise/walking trail at the Grand Patrician Resort. Named the "Canterbury Trail," the Hoops family announced at its grand opening in April that this beautiful path will be available to the public. With exercise stations dotting the trail and several covered shelters for breaks, the Canterbury Trail is sure to help you get your daily dose of Vitamin D and to get in shape!



Senators Joe Manchin and Shelley Moore Capito both visited Milton in March with the announcement that additional funds had been secured for the Milton Flood Wall. Construction of the flood wall is still a few years away, however. I have expressed my concerns to both Senators about the delay and the possibility of once again having insufficient funds to complete the flood wall. The United States Army Corps of Engineers is considering a few design changes to lessen the impact on areas outside of the floodwall. They continue to work hard on this project, and I am cautiously hopeful that this floodwall project will remain on track and will be completed as quickly as possible. The USACE plans to hold Open Office Hours at City Hall on May 3 and 4, 2023 from 3-7pm.



While Senator Manchin was in Milton, he presented City Council Member Bob Legg with a Flag of the United States of America in honor of Bob's 68 years of service to the Milton Volunteer Fire Department. Thank you, Bob, for your many years of dedicated service!

As you know, West Virginia American Water Company recently made an offer to purchase the Milton Utilities. After WVAW presented their offer, the City held an informational and public input meeting at the Milton Volunteer Fire Department to hear what Milton Utilities' customers had to say about this issue. The City's CPA, Rod Lowe, thoroughly presented information on the Milton Utilities' financials, various loans and grants for past and current projects, and provided a rate comparison. Dakota Miller, who is both a City Council Member and a Utility Board Member, gave an overview of the water and sewer systems and outlined the steps the City is taking to ensure that its customers are receiving quality water. He did an excellent job outlining the array of projects that have been completed, as well as the current and upcoming projects.

We appreciate all the Milton Utilities customers who attended the meeting on April 10th and provided their input on this important matter. Your responses are important to us, and we will use your

Continued on Last Page

Offices within City Hall
will be closed these dates:

May 29—Memorial Day
June 19—Juneteenth
June 20—WV Day
July 4—Independence Day

From the Recorder

Business & Occupational Taxes are due without penalty by May 15th, 2023. We will be making the final changes to the 2023 Budget Year by 6/10/2023. On June 1st we will email License Renewal Forms and on June 30th Business & Occupational Tax returns will be emailed. If you need a form, visit www.cityofmiltonwv.com or www.cityofmiltonwv.com/finance. Don't forget our online payment options for all city business:

<https://client.pointandpay.net/web/cityofmilton> or Payments by phone: #877-739-5991.

Have a safe summer,

Dana Walters, Recorder
Recorder@cityofmiltonwv.com #304-743-3032 X204 Fax:304-743-1872

Cameron Ernst, Finance
financeclerk@cityofmiltonwv.com Direct Line# 304-390-0022 or 304-743-3032 x211



From the Director of Public Works Charles Conard

Spring and Summer are busy times. Many activities that are put on hold during cold, winter months have been revived including mowing and paving, both of which have begun in earnest. Some of the paving projects you should see soon include all or portions of North Main Street, Mason Street, Rays Way, Short Street and Kane Street.

Spring clean-up during the last week of April relieved City residents of many tons of items in need of disposal. We are happy to be able to provide this service for those in City limits. It not only helps our residents, it beautifies our streets and neighborhoods.

PUBLIC COMMENT On April 10th we held a public meeting to provide information to Milton Utilities customers, and to hear their views on West Virginia American Water Company's offer to purchase the Milton Utilities. Thanks to everyone who came out for this meeting and shared their opinions on this important issue.

Both the Sewer Project and the Newman's Branch Project are going strong. Some smaller projects have been completed, including the replacement of waterlines along a few hundred feet of McGhee Street. Other projects are still in the planning stages. I encourage you to attend the Utility Board meetings to get more information on current and upcoming endeavors.

Required hydrant flow testing has been completed for the year. We realize this is an inconvenience as it stirs up sediment in the water lines, but it is important to make sure that fire hydrants are in proper working order. We appreciate your patience.

If you have any questions, please call me at 304-743-3422.



Do You Qualify?

SCAC Weatherization Program, office located at 1595 US Rt. 60 East, Milton, WV helps individuals with some weatherization issues if you qualify (NOT REPAIRS). For more info visit their website www.acacwv.org.

USDA (304-284-4861) also offers assistance through the 504 Program, a low interest loan for those 62 or older who own their home and the 502 Program, a 100% financed, no interest loan for low income homeowners.

Milton VFD Community Room Events:

May 6 **Pure Country Band, 6pm**

June 2 & 3 **FOP Lodge 122 Gunshow,**
Fri., 12-7; Sat., 9-5

Need to rent event space? The Milton VFD Community Room is available to rent for birthday parties, wedding or baby showers, etc. There is space to accommodate large or small groups. For more information, contact Marsha Chastain at 304-972-5333.

Senior Luncheon

Bring a covered dish and join us for food and fellowship on May 17th at noon at the Milton Senior Center.

For more info on this or any other event, call the Center at 304-390-4164.

Join us in front of Milton City Hall at 12:10 pm on May 4th as several denominations stand strong together to observe the National Day of Prayer.



PRAY FERVENTLY
IN RIGHTEOUSNESS
AND AVAIL MUCH

JAMES 5:16B

Thursday, May 4, 2023





From the Utilities Department

Spring has sprung and warm Summer temperatures are quickly approaching! For those of you with swimming pools or those who plan to purchase a pool this summer, here is an explanation of our Pool Adjustment Policy. Of course, when you decide to fill your pool is completely up to you, but keep in mind that a pool adjustment will only be given for **one billing cycle** and will only be given **once per calendar year**. Meters are typically read on the 17th of each month, which is something you may consider when planning your pool fill so that you get the most benefit from your adjustment. The pool adjustment form can be found on our website under the utilities tab or may be picked up at our office. Please be aware that submission of this form does not relieve responsibility of payment, and that those forms will be reviewed in September at our Water Board meeting. Adjustments granted will be reflected on the bill you receive in October.



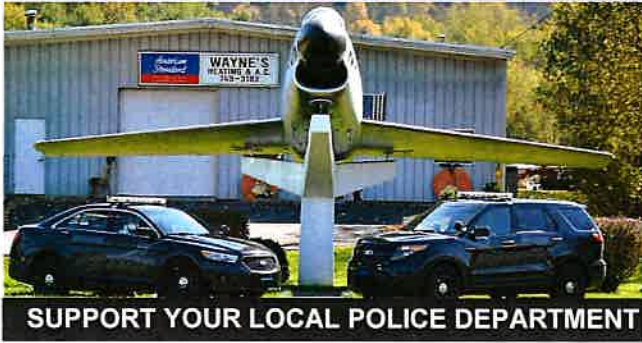
Milton Utilities offers a wide variety of convenient payment options. Payments can be made online 24 hours a day, 7 days a week by visiting www.cityofmiltonwv.com or by calling 1-877-739-6281. You may choose to pay by mail using a check or money order, pay in person at our office using cash, check, money order or credit/debit card, or you can contact the office about signing up for ACH. Upon completion of an ACH form, your payment will automatically draft from your checking account on the 15th of each month. Payments may also be made after hours using our drop box which is located under our drive-thru window. We ask that you only deposit check or money order payments in the drop box. **Please do not drop cash.** We recommend that you include your bill payment stub to ensure proper credit and using an envelope to keep your items together.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please contact our office at 304-743-3422 during regular business hours. In the event of an after-hours water emergency, please call 304-590-7649.

Get Ready! Milton's City-Wide Yard Sale Is June 3, 2022.

Start Cleaning Out Those Closets, Garages and Sheds!





From Chief Joe Parsons

Summer is upon us which means summer vacation for kids and vacation time for families. Please make sure to drive carefully in areas kids frequent such as parks, pools and splash parks. Also remember motorcycles will be everywhere and need to be watched for, so drive carefully.



If you are planning a vacation, stop by the office and give us the dates you will be gone, who will have access to your property while you are out of town and what they will be driving. We will add you to our vacation watch and provide extra patrol while you are away.

With the recent hire of Ian Galloway we are fully staffed again and ready for the summer.

As some of you may know, during the heavy rain of several weeks ago one of our officers hydroplaned, lost control and rolled a cruiser while responding to a separate crash on I-64. Officer Poore suffered a mild concussion but was otherwise unhurt. The cruiser was a total loss however. Enter Sheriff Chuck Zerkle who, along with the Cabell County Commission, stepped up and donated a 2016 Ford Explorer to Milton to replace the cruiser we lost. We are so happy to get the well-maintained Explorer that is road ready after installation of a radio and are very appreciative of the Sheriff and Commissioners for their generous gift.

I'd also like to thank the Sons of the American Legion for their generous donation to the Milton Police Department K9 Unit. We appreciate their support!

Please remember that if you need an officer you need to call 911 to have one dispatched to you. We are ready and able to serve you whenever you need us.

Everyone please have a fun and safe summer and enjoy time off with family and friends.

Our flag does not fly because the wind moves it... It flies with the last breath of each soldier who died protecting it.



HOUSING FOR THE ELDERLY



The **MILTON HOUSING AUTHORITY** is accepting applications for tenancy for the elderly & disabled, 62 years of age or older, or handicap/disabled regardless of age, with or without children.

1 BEDROOM ONLY

Applications may be obtained online at cityofmiltonwv.com or at City Hall, 1139 Smith St., Milton, WV 25541

304-743-9530

TTY/TDD 1-800-982-8771

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER

Armed Forces Day May 20, 2023

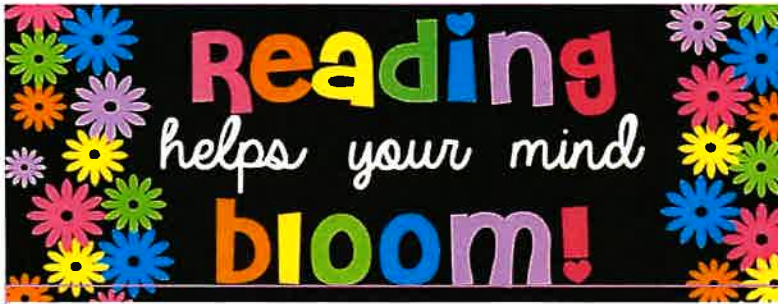
A Salute to all our Men and Women in Uniform
Thank You for Your Service!



D-DAY

JUNE 6, 1944





Milton Library News

Hours: Monday-Friday 9am-5:30pm;
Saturday 9am-1pm; Closed Sunday

- ◆ Story Time, Wednesdays, 10am. Stories, songs, crafts, and more! Fun for infants to pre-school.
- ◆ Knotty Knitsters, Tuesdays, 1-3pm. Weekly knitting session for beginners & pros alike. No knowledge, needles or yarn needed; as we can provide all three.
- ◆ Code Club, Wednesdays, 4pm. If you've wondered how computers work or how to build your own PC, look no further! Hands-on learning for both the hardware and software of computer building and programming!
- ◆ D&D Club, Thursdays, 3:30pm. Join us for a dice-rolling, dungeon-delving, dangerously good time. Recommended ages 10-16.
- ◆ Build-It Challenges, Fridays, 3:30pm. We have Lego, K'Nex and Duplo. Visit us every Friday to for our weekly building challenges.
- ◆ Art Gallery, Tuesday, May 2 and June 6, 3:30pm. The first Tuesday of each month we have a new art project to create and display.
- ◆ Origami Workshop, May 30 and June 27, 3:00-5:00pm. Learn how to make beautiful and colorful creations using nothing but folded paper. Open to all ages and levels of experience, from absolute beginner to expert!
- ◆ Funny Faces, May 1-6, All Day. Make a funny face with Easter grass hair!
- ◆ Mother's Day, Wednesday, May 10, All Day. We will supply a special craft for the mother figure in your life!
- ◆ Summer Reading Kick-Off, Monday, June 12, All Day. We are kicking off our Summer Reading—all together now!
- ◆ Father's Day, Wednesday, June 14, All Day. We will supply a special craft for the father figures in your life!
- ◆ Magic Tree House Book Club, Wednesdays, June 14, 21 and 28, 11:00-11:45am. Join us for a new adventure this summer. Each week brings a new book, fun activities, and more! Ages 6-8, 2nd/3rd grade reading level, sign-up required as there is limited space.

Contact the Milton Public Library for more information about these events, and watch their Facebook page for pop-up events.



US Army Corps of Engineers®

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has scheduled Open Office Hours regarding the Lower Mud River Flood Risk Management Project that will be open to the public. USACE representatives will be available during these meetings to discuss the project, answer questions, and listen to any concerns.

Next informational meetings:

**May 3 & 4, 2023 from 3—7 PM
at Milton City Hall**



The Milton Lions Club meets at 6:00 p.m. on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month at 809 Mason Street.

If you would like to become a member, pick up an application at the Library.

The Lions Club still has delicious apple butter available for purchase! Shonet's has a supply, or call Bill Sanders if you'd like to stock up!

Are you looking for event space? The Lions Club building at 809 Mason Street is available.

For more information on any of these matters, call Bill Sanders at 304-743-3969.



**American Legion
Milton Post 139**

BINGO—Every Sunday at 6pm; doors open at 5pm

GOLF SCRAMBLE—May 6th at Creekside Golf Course

CAR SHOW—May 21st, 1pm-4pm; Corn Hole Tournament, Food, Fun, Games & Prizes

NATIONAL AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS ANNUAL RIDE—August 22 @ 3:30pm
More details to come.

Code Enforcer/Building Inspector Mike Ramsey

Long Grass Code Reminder

Spring is here! Be sure to remember our ordinance for weeds – International Property Maintenance Code §302.4 – when maintaining your lawns!

Premises and exterior property shall be maintained free from weeds or plant growth in excess of 12 Inches. Noxious weeds shall be prohibited. Weeds shall be defined as all grasses, annual plants, and vegetation, other than trees or shrubs provided, however, this term shall not include cultivated flowers and gardens. Any person who violates a provision of this code, or fails to comply therewith, or with any of the requirements thereof, shall be prosecuted within the limits provided by state or local laws. Each day that a violation continues after due notice has been served shall be deemed a separate offense, and subject to a fine of not less than \$100.00 nor more than \$500.00 per violation.

Be aware that City Council will be considering a change to this Ordinance, lowering the permissible height of grasses/weeds/plant growth to 9 Inches.

Remember, any contractor doing work in the City of Milton has to be Licensed and any structural work must be permitted. If you have any questions, please contact me at City Hall at (304) 743-3032 ext. 202



United Daughters of the Confederacy Cooney Ricketts #2726 Milton

Cooney Ricketts #2726 of the United Daughters of the Confederacy held its regular monthly meeting on Saturday, April 9 at Shonet's in Milton. We discussed Confederate History Month and the importance of remembering and teaching all our nation's history. Consequently, our program, which was delivered by Chapter President, Billie Johnson, concerned the legend of Abner Vance, which is rooted in the folklore of the Hatfield's and McCoy's feud. How factual it is, is anyone's guess, but this story has persisted for over 200 years.



Standing, back row L-R Mary Johnson, Dee McComas, Elizabeth Swaine, Sue Thornton, Ethel Elkins, Bertie Casey, Easter Miller. Middle row L-R Ada Martin, Donna Stephens, Bobbi Young. Sitting L-R Marilyn Coleman, Billie Johnson, Jean Hatfield.

In the early nineteenth century, Abner Vance lived in the Clinch River Valley near Abingdon, Virginia. He was a Baptist Preacher in what was referred to as "Regular" or "Hardshell" Baptists of the time. Abner was a man of quiet disposition and strong devotion to his family, and he had a daughter by the name of Betty, who was the "apple of his eye." Living in those same parts was a good-looking young doctor by the name of Daniel Horton. Daniel was quite a "ladies' man" and he set "his cap" for young Betty, convincing her that he would marry her if she would run away with him to Baltimore. Well, she did just that. But, instead of marrying her as he had promised, he had "his way" with her and, when he tired of her in about two weeks, returned her to her father's home.

The Vance family was sitting at the dinner table when Daniel Horton and Betty showed up at Abner's house. Horton called the father's attention to his daughter's return using some of the crudest, vulgar language ever used by a seducer to a father about his daughter. After dumping Betty unceremoniously in the front yard, he remounted his horse and rode away with the parting phrase akin to something like, "Here's your heifer back."

Abner Vance was so enraged by this man's actions that he grabbed his shotgun and set off in pursuit, catching up with him at the banks of the Clinch River. While Daniel Horton was stopped giving his horse a chance to rest and drink, Abner Vance shot him in the back of the head, and he fell off his horse near the bank on the other side. Later, Daniel's brother found and retrieved his body. Today, that ford across the Clinch River is still known as Horton Ford.

When Abner Vance realized what he had done, he panicked and fled from his home, becoming a fugitive from the law. In his 2 years of isolation from his family, and wandering the regions north of his home, Abner acquired several tracks of land consisting of thousands of acres along the Tug River on the Kentucky-Virginia border, and along the Guyandotte River and Twelve Pole Creek in what is now Logan and Mingo Counties. These areas are the ancestral homelands of the Vance, Hatfield, and many McCoy clans. After years on the run, the loneliness and isolation from his family caused Abner Vance to return to his home. He felt no guilt over what he had done and even felt justified in the eyes of the Lord, so he reasoned that even if he returned and was tried, he would surely be exonerated. That did not happen. He was tried, found guilty of murder, and duly executed. While awaiting execution, he composed a song known as "Abner Vance's Farewell Song" which he is reported to have sung on the day of his execution. In addition to singing his song, he preached for over two hours, captivating the crowd who had gathered to see him hanged.

Ironically, shortly after his public hanging, a delayed message arrived from the Governor granting Abner Vance a pardon. So, what connection does this story have with the legendary Hatfield's and McCoy's? Abner Vance was the father of Betty Vance. Betty Vance became the mother of Nancy Vance. And Nancy Vance was the mother of William Anderson "Devil Anse" Hatfield, related President Billie Johnson, who is a descendent of the Vance clan.

Golf Scramble

May 6th, 2023

Creek Side Golf Course

**400 Royal Birkdale Drive
Lavalette, West Virginia**

\$80 individual/\$300 team incl's lunch

**Longest Drive
Closest to the Pin
Raffles & Great Times**

**Registration begins
March 1st, 2023**

**All proceeds go to support
American Legion Post 139
Milton, West Virginia**

**For Hole Sponsorship contact
Jeff Davis at 915-307-1787**



AMERICAN LEGION POST 139 MILTON, WV

CAR SHOW



\$10.00
REGISTRATION

CORN HOLE
TOURNAMENT

MAY 21ST, 2023 1:00 TO 4:00 PM

FOOD ★ FUN ★ GAMES ★ PRIZES

SAVE THE DATE for the
upcoming golf fundraiser to
benefit the Rotary Clubs of Milton
and Barboursville! All proceeds go
to support local community
projects! For more information,
call Phyllis Smith, 304-840-4922,
or Pam Smith, 304-397-5542.



GOLF FUNDRAISER

BARBOURSVILLE & MILTON ROTARY CLUBS

JUNE 16TH, 2023

**save the
date!**

Rotary



@Esquire Golf Course

Barboursvillerotary.org

2023

MAY





SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4 NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER	5	6
		12:30pm, BINGO @ Senior Ctr. 5:30pm, Utility Board 7pm, City Council	3-7pm, USACE Flood Wall Mtg	12pm, Rotary @ Giovanni's 12:10pm, N'l Day of Prayer Service @ City Hall 3-7pm, USACE Flood Wall Mtg. 6:00pm, Lions Club		Recycling American Legion Post 139 Golf Scramble, Creek Side Golf Course 6pm, Pure Country Band Performs @ Milton VFD
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
6pm, BINGO @ Amer. Legion						
14 Mother's Day	7pm, Cabell Co Fair Board 7pm, VFW	12:30pm, BINGO @ Senior Ctr. 5pm, Court 7pm, American Legion		12pm, Rotary @ Giovanni's	19	20 ARMED FORCES DAY
6pm, BINGO @ Amer. Legion	15	16	17	18		
6pm, BINGO @ Amer. Legion						
21 COLUMBIAN DAY		12:30pm Birthday BINGO @ Senior Ctr.	Noon, Covered Dish Luncheon @ Senior Ctr.	12pm, Rotary @ Giovanni's	26	Recycling 27
1-4pm, American Legion Post 139 Car Show 6pm, BINGO @ Amer. Legion	22	23	24	25		
28	29 MEMORIAL DAY	30	31	12pm, Rotary @ Giovanni's		
6pm, BINGO @ Amer. Legion	City Offices Closed	12:30pm, BINGO @ Senior Ctr.				

2023

UNF



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
6pm, BINGO @ Amer.Legion		6 ID-DAY <small>June 6, 1944</small> Remember & Honor 12:30pm, BINGO @ Senior Ctr. 5:30pm, Utility Board 7pm, City Council		12pm, Rotary @ Giovanni's		City-Wide Yard Sale Recycling
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
6pm, BINGO @ Amer.Legion		12:30pm, BINGO @ Senior Ctr. 5pm, Court 7pm, American Legion		12pm, Rotary @ Giovanni's		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
6pm, BINGO @ Amer.Legion	7pm, Cabell Co Fair Board 7pm, VFW	 12:30pm, Birthday BINGO @ Senior Ctr. City Offices Closed		12pm, Rotary @ Giovanni's 6:00pm, Lions Club	9am, Milton/Barboursville Rotary Clubs' Golf Fundraiser @ Esquire Golf Course	Recycling
25	26	27	28	29	30	
6pm, BINGO @ Amer.Legion	City Offices Closed	12:30pm, BINGO @ Senior Ctr. 7pm, American Legion		12pm, Rotary @ Giovanni's		July 1st City of Milton's Independence Day Celebration @

From the Mayor (Continued From Page 1)

feedback to determine how to proceed. The issue has been placed on the May 2, 2023 City Council Agenda; at that time Council will decide whether to accept, reject or negotiate West Virginia American Water Company's offer to purchase the Milton Utilities.

I want to take a moment to recognize someone who has volunteered countless hours to help with City events. Debbie Conard has been a huge part of nearly all City events over the years. Debbie has done it all: planning, purchasing, crafting, decorating, cleanup, even dressing as an elf! She has given selflessly of her time and talents, and I greatly appreciate all she has done for the residents and visitors of the City of Milton. If you've ever been to a City event, Debbie probably had a hand in it. Thank you Debbie!

Memorial Day is not too far in the future, and I hope you all keep in mind that there is more to this holiday than a long weekend. Don't lose sight of the fact that this day is dedicated to the brave Americans who made the ultimate sacrifice in defense of our great nation, who fought for the freedoms we now enjoy.



As always, it is an honor to be your Mayor! May God bless you all!

WELCOME TO THE CITY OF MILTON WHERE LIVING IS A PLEASURE!

City of Milton
1139 Smith Street
Milton, WV 25541

City of Milton

1139 Smith Street
Milton, WV 25541-1327

(304) 743-3032

recorder@cityofmiltonwv.com
cityclerk@cityofmiltonwv.com
financeclerk@cityofmiltonwv.com
miltoninspector@cityofmiltonwv.com
miltoncemetery@cityofmiltonwv.com

Milton Municipal Utilities

(304) 743-3422

After-hours emergency, call

(304) 590-7649

miltonwater@cityofmiltonwv.com
miltonutilities@cityofmiltonwv.com
mmuc@cityofmiltonwv.com
publicworks@cityofmiltonwv.com

Milton Police Department

(304) 743-9211

mpdclerk@cityofmiltonwv.com
mpdchief@cityofmiltonwv.com

Visit www.cityofmiltonwv.com

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