



January—February 2022 Vol. 30, No. 1

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## Free Tree Recycling



Need to get rid of your live Christmas tree?

- 1) Remove all ornaments, lights, decorations,
- 2) Place Tree at Curb.
- 3) Call the Town office at 410-479-2050 to schedule our free tree pickup no later than 12p.m. on Tuesdays.

## Denton Town News

## Denton Holiday Parade Returned December 2nd



On December 2nd the Town of Denton held their annual holiday parade at 6p.m. The weather was warmer than traditionally during that night of the parade. This brought out many

spectators.

After a year of Covid and cancelling the 2020 Holiday Parade, the town held a spectacular parade that included fire trucks, floats, dancers, marching

bands, and more. Santa was happy to see everyone after missing last year's parade too.

Thank you to our parade judges (pictured) Caroline Co. Teacher of the Year Michelle Foster, Chamber Director Tracey Snyder, and Arts Council Director Nicholas Tindall.

Save the date for the 2022 Holiday Parade and Lighting of the Green, which takes place December 1, 2022.

Happy New Year!

## Tax Sale Reminder

The 2021 - 2022 Real Property Tax Sale process will begin soon. If you have not paid your real property taxes, water and sewer billings or any other miscellaneous service charges to the Town of Denton, please do so immediately to avoid losing your property during the Tax Sale process.

All real property taxes were due in full by December 31, 2021 and are to be paid at the Caroline County Tax Office, located in the Caroline County Court House. To verify that your real property taxes have been paid, please call the County Tax office at 410-479-0410. If you want to check to see if you have any other outstanding bills due on your property within the Town of Denton, please contact the Finance Dept. at 410-479-2050.

#### **UTILITY BILL ALERT!**

Utility bills will be mailed around January 1, 2022. To avoid having your water turned off **payment must be received by January 25, 2022.** Payments can be made in person Monday - Friday from 8:30AM to 4:00PM, online, by mail, at our drive-thru window, or by placing it in the night drop box located to the left of the front door.

Acceptable payment methods include cash, check, money order or cashier check. You can also pay by credit card at the office or online. The next utility bill will be mailed around April 1, 2022 and will be due in full by April 25, 2022

#### Town Calendar

### **Town Council Meetings**

7p.m.

January 6 February 3

## Town Council Working Session

6:30p.m.

January 24 February 28

#### **Planning Commission**

6p.m.

January 25 February 22

#### Historic Review 6p.m.

January 19 February 16

#### Utility Commission 4p.m.

January 11 February 8

#### **Town Holidays**

The Town Office will be closed on the following days:

January 17—Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day February 21—President's Day

#### Trash Pickup

Collection day will be every Tuesday, unless otherwise noted in the Times Record. Trash must be outside for pickup by 6a.m.

#### Web Page Address:

www.dentonmaryland.com Or find us on Facebook.

## TOWN OF DENTON BAY RESTORATION FUND EXEMPTION PROCEDURE

The Town of Denton has established a program to exempt certain owner-occupied residential properties from the Bay Restoration Fee based on substantial financial hardship. In order to quality for this exemption, the applicant must meet at least (2) two of the following criteria:

#### PROPOSED FINANCIAL HARDSHIP EXEMPTION CRITERIA:

Factors to be considered for possible exemption are the following:

Receiving energy assistance subsidy;

Receiving public assistance – supplemental security income (SSI) or food stamps;

Receiving veterans or social security disability benefits;

Meeting the income criteria below:

## Income Eligibility Limits\* Effective July 1, 2021– June 30, 2022

Household Size	Monthly Incom	
Is Less than	•	
1	\$1,878	
2	\$2,540	
3	\$3,203	
4	\$3,865	
5	\$4,527	
6	\$5,189	
7	\$5,851	
8	\$6,513	
For each additional	\$ 662	
Person add		

\* (Income limits established by the Maryland Department of Human Resources/Office of Home Energy Programs. <a href="www.dhr.state.md.us/meap/index.htm">www.dhr.state.md.us/meap/index.htm</a>) Applications can be found on the Town of Denton website at <a href="www.dentonmaryland.com">www.dentonmaryland.com</a> or call the office at 410-479-2050 and ask for Joanna Reedy in Finance.

## Town of Denton 2022-2023 Utility Billing Schedule 410-479-2050

Months of Service	Billing Date	Due Date	1% Interest Added	Shut Off Date
January - March	04/01/2022	04/27/2022	04/28/2022	05/06/2022
April—June	06/28/2022	07/27/2022	07/28/2022	08/06/2022
July - September	10/01/2022	10/25/2022	10/28/2022	11/07/2022
October - December	12/31/2022	01/27/2023	01/28/2023	02/06/2023

March-April
ISSUE
DEADLINE
Feb. 10, 2022



#### High Water Bills?

Check your faucets and toilets for leaks!

Denton Public Works 410-479-2050

## Calendar of Events

## January 2022

#### 1—Happy New Year!

1—First Day Hikes in Maryland State Parks. Visit Martinak State Park or Tuckahoe State Park. Located in Denton and Ridgley for upcoming walking tours and programs. Www.dnr.maryland.gov

**6—Town Council Meeting** *7p.m. 4N. 2nd Street.* This meeting is open to the public in person and online. Visit www.dentonmaryland.com/ag enda for info.

10—12 UFO (Unfinished Objects) Group. Fiber Arts Center, 7 N. 4th St. Work on unfin-

ished sewing, knitting, or fiber art projects at the Fiber Arts Center. 3 days to catch up and meet up with friends and make new friends. Preregistration is required, \$30 for members. Call 410-829-5136 or email: <a href="mailto:quilts4kay@aol.com">quilts4kay@aol.com</a> for more information.



17—Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day March. 9a.m. Meet at

Lockerman Middle School.

17 - Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Please note the town office will be closed today.

## 20—Third Thursday in Downtown Denton

5-7p.m. Shop and dine downtown as businesses will have extended hours and specials.

**24—Town Council Working Session.** 6:30p.m. 4 N. 2nd
St. Joint the Council for their
Working session. This
meeting is open to the public. Get involved and see
what's happening in your

local government.

24-26 - UFO (Unfinished Objects) Group. Fiber Arts Center, 7 N. 4th St. Work on unfinished sewing, knitting, or fiber art projects at the Fiber Arts Center. 3 days to catch up and meet up with friends and make new friends. Preregistration is required, \$30 for members. Call 410-829-5136 or email: <a href="mailto:quilts4kay@aol.com">quilts4kay@aol.com</a> for more information.



## February 2022

#### 3—Town Council Meeting

7p.m. 4 N. 2nd St. This meeting is open to the public in person and online. Visit www.dentonmaryland.com/ag enda for info.

#### 5—First Saturday Guided Walk

10.m.-11a.m., Adkins Arboretum. Explore the Arboretum's diverse plant communities on a guided walk led by an Arboretum docent naturalist. Explore the bottomland forest and upland paths, meander through majestic beech trees, traverse the native meadows, and follow the narrow Tuckahoe Creekside path. Guided walks are free for members and free with admission for the general public. Tours begin at the Visitor's Center and last approximately one hour. Contact: AdkinsArboretum.org or 410.634.2847 ext. 0

#### 10—Stitch and Sew

10a.m.-2p.m. Members fee is

\$5.00 non members \$10.00.

This 1 day event let you work on your project while enjoying time with new and old friends. Pre registration required as space is limited. We are featuring a beautiful quilt exhibit that is up and it'll be wonderful to see you! Contact and RSVP Kay Butler if interested (410-829-5136) or Victoria McConnell (410-253-9716).

14—Happy Valentine's Day



### 17—Third Thursday in Downtown Denton

5-7p.m. Shop and dine downtown as businesses will have extended hours and specials.

## 20—Daddy Daughter Dance

Fretterd Community Center, Denton. 4:30p.m.-7p.m. Dads and daughters agen 3-12 will enjoy dancing, games, refreshments, and great music. Photo booth. Register by Feb 11. \$40 per couple, \$5 for each additional daughter. Contact Recreation and Parks



410-479-8120 to register.

**21—President's Day** –Town office closed today.



- Adkins Arboretum #410-634-2847 www.adkinsarboretum.org

-Caroline Co. Arts Council #410-479-1009 www.carolinearts.org

> -Caroline Co. Public Library # 410-479-1343 www.carolib.org

-Caroline Co. Recreation & Parks #410-479- 8120 www.carolinerecreation.org

-Fiber Arts Center of the Eastern Shore (FACES) #410-479-1009 www.fiberartscenter.com

## Police Department...

## N.U.T.S Hands Out Thanksgiving Dinners in Denton



Pictured above: Members of the Denton Town Staff, family members, and local volunteers during the 2021 Turkey Dinner Handout.

On Thanksgiving morning volunteers in Denton and around Caroline County, handed out 125 Thanksgiving dinners to families in need in Denton. This annual tradition has been organized by Neighbors United to Serve (NUTS) since 1992.

NUTS is a community service organization supported

entirely by donations of time, talent, and treasure.

We wish to thank our Denton Town Staff and local volunteers for donating their time assisting with handing out dinners this year and to all that cook the meals . Thank you for all you do for the community.

## Denton Officers Participate in the 2021 Shop With a Cop



Denton police officers participated in the annual Shop With a Cop event in Caroline County.

Officers from agencies around the area met with local children at Denton Walmart to help them shop for gifts for their families.

J. Secrist, C. Mayo, and C. Komenda from the Denton Police Dept. were on hand to help children shop.

After shopping everyone met at the Wharves of Choptank Visitor and Heritage Center to wrap gifts and enjoy refreshments.

## Bringing Joy to Seniors



Wednesday December 15, 2021 the Caroline County Family YMCA together with several community partners drove around Caroline County to bring joy to more than 100 seniors in the community.

"It is part of our com-

mitment to ensure the good of our community and all its residents, so that is where the idea of bringing joy during the holidays came from. In our community there are many elderly people who unfortunately spend the holidays alone

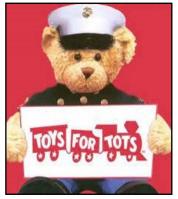
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## Toys for Tots Annual Campaign

Denton Police Department collected toys for the Marine Corps Toys for Tots campaign. Each year the police department holds a number of collection events. This year it included collecting at Walmart, during the holiday parade, and in their lobby.

Denton PD collected the following items this year: 2 bikes 205 toys 53 stuffed animals

70 Books



Thank you to all who donated toys for children in need this year.

## Public Works...

## Helpful Winter Weather Tips

Here are some helpful tips to keep you and your home comfortable during this winter season.

To keep your pipes from freezing, turn off all outside spigots and insulate the pipes to protect them from the freezing temperatures.

To prevent water damage in your home, so you don't experience a burst pipe, locate all the water shut off valves. Don't wait for someone else to turn it off. The delay could cause major water damage.

As far as snow removal in the town, streets will not be plowed unless there is a 2 inch accumulation. The snow removal equipment cannot withstand clearing the street for a trace of snow.

When shoveling out your driveway pile the snow in your yard not in the streets and always pile it to

the left side of your driveway.
This prevents the snow from being pushed back in your driveway from the street.

During snow storms park as many cars as you can in the driveway to make snow removal easier. It may also prevent your vehicle from being damaged by other vehicles on the roads.

EMERGENCY ROUTES are a priority when removing snow, secondary roads and alleys are last. You must be patient the crews will get to your area as soon as possible.

Lastly, your safety and the safety of our snow removal crews are our number one concern. Let's do all we can to keep everyone out of harm's way.

#### **SNOW PLOW POLICY**

Planning for a winter storm event can be difficult. The variations in rate of snowfall, moisture content, air/surface temperatures, time of day, and wind velocity make each storm unique.

The purpose of this policy is to clarify and describe the Town's snow plowing and sanding priorities and the level of service that is intended to be provided by Town forces. The Town does not guarantee that streets will be free of snow and ice after plowing and/or sanding. Bare, dry pavement should not be expected. The Town will attempt to maintain adequate traction for vehicles properly equipped for winter driving conditions

It is the goal of this effort to establish general policies and procedures that help make travel within the Town as safe as possible and to minimize economic hardship.

Visit http://www.dentonpublicworks.com/streets/snow\_plowing\_policy.asp for the list of street priority.

### Continued from page 4.

and this is an act to remind them that they are not alone and there are people who do care about them and their well-being. "said Angel Perez, Program Coordinator.

During the past two months, different community partners joined this initiative, among these community partners are: Tenchi Spanish-American Kitchen, CASA of Caroline, Partners in Care, Department of Social Services, Denton Lions Club, Federalsburg Lions Club, Preston Lions Club, Mid-Shore Behavioral Health Inc., Greensboro Pharmacv Caroline County and Health Department.

"While our mission is to serve and protect children in foster care, we believe in all efforts to support healthy families, especially during the holidays. We recognize many seniors and grandparents in our community are just as vulnerable as the children we serve and we are proud to support the Y's efforts to bring joy to seniors in Caroline County." said Amy Horne, CASA of Caroline Director of Outreach and Partnerships.

More than 100 seniors received a visit from members of these organizations receiving stockings full of different items such as: Hand Lotion, Winter

Gloves, Round Jar Openers, Candy Canes, A Christmas Card, Hand Warmers, and Lip Balm among others.

"It felt amazing to be able to share some love and joy with the seniors in our community! The smile on their faces as we gave them their stockings full of goodies was priceless. Thank you Caroline County YMCA for allowing us to be a part of such a great outreach. "Said Nick Wake, Tenchi Spanish-American Kitchen Owner.

The Caroline County Family YMCA looks forward to bringing cheer to more seniors the upcoming Christmas season.



## Planning & Codes...

## Denton Board of Appeals Vacancy

The Denton Board of Appeals is looking for a new board member.

The Board of Appeals consists of three individuals and one alternate who are appointed by the Denton Town Council to hear and decide appeals for special exceptions, variances, and alleged errors or determinations.

Applicant must be a resident of the Town of Denton

and be able to attend meetings the second Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m., as needed.

Persons interested in serving on the Denton Board of Appeals should submit letters of interest to the Town Administrator, Town of Denton, 4 N. Second Street, Denton, MD 21629, by January 14, 2022. Call (410) 479-3625 for additional information.

## Denton Planning Commission Vacancy

The Denton Planning Commission is looking for a volunteer commission member.

The Planning Commission is a permanent working group made up of five individuals and one alternate who are appointed by the Town Council to review and act on matters related to planning and development.

The Planning Commission recommends goals and policies to the Town Council for directing and managing future growth and development. In addition, the Planning Commission reviews site plan

and subdivision applications.

Applicant must be a resident of the Town of Denton and be able to attend regularly scheduled monthly meetings and workshops held on the weekday evenings.

Persons interested in serving on the Denton Planning Commission as an Alternate Member should submit letters of interest to the Town Administrator, 4 North Second Street, Denton, MD 21629, by January 14, 2022. Call (410) 479-3625 for additional information.

### Permit Reminder

A reminder from the Housing Department: Before you make improvements to your home, call the Denton Town Office Planning & Codes Department at 410-479-3625 or stop by 4 N. Second Street for permit information. Thank you.

#### **Permits**

The following is a list of permits issued by the Town of Denton between October 2021 and December 2021:

ADBM Properties, 1207 Double Hills Rd., Renovations & Signs Porter, 306D South Fourth St., Roof & Mechanical Matthews, 1102 Cattail Commons Way, Roof Julius, 333 Morning Glory Dr., Fence Muir, 319 South Second St., Solar Denton Wesleyan Camp, 423 East Wesley Circle, Demolition Johnson, 1706 Blue Heron Dr., Roof Caldwell, 505 Elaine Ave., Mechanical Pena, 708 Market St., Fence Hildwine, 611 Gay St., Roof LaVjonne, 108 Morning Glory Dr., Accessory Build-Trice, 544 North Sixth St., **Accessory Buildings** Wilson, 714 South Fifth Ave., Accessory Building Allen, 543 North Sixth St., Mechanical Carpenter, 118 Edenton Lane, Mechanical Silverleaf, 605 Market St., Roof Perez, 1105 Blue Heron Dr., Roof DiBlasi, 1111 Whistling Pine Rd., Accessory Building

Caroline County Commis-

sioners, 109 Market St., Windows Korat, 1240 Painted Fern Dr., Roof Zalavadia, 1703 Cattail Commons Way, Roof B & B Market Street, 200 Market St., Roof The Gardens Land Group, 311 Morning Glory Dr., Single Family Dwelling The Gardens Land Group, 317 Morning Glory Dr., Single Family Dwelling The Gardens Land Group, 321 Morning Glory Dr., Single Family Dwelling The Gardens Land Group, 329 Morning Glory Dr., Single Family Dwelling The Gardens Land Group, 327 Morning Glory Dr., Single Family Dwelling The Gardens Land Group, 315 Morning Glory Dr., Single Family Dwelling Mid-Atlantic/Denton Diner, 42 Denton Plaza, Sign The Gardens Land Group, Community Recreation Area, Pavilion Miron, 210 Briarwood Circle, Solar Kijak, 318 Morning Glory Dr., Fence Bunce, 329 Sydney Lane, Deck Maybury, 400 Fountain Ave., Fence Bowers Group LLC, 114 South First St., Roof Mid-Atlantic/Starbucks, 31 Denton Plaza, Sign Armstrong, 112 Briarwood Circle, Accessory Building

## Main Street & The Artsway...

## The 2nd Annual Christkindlmarkt a Big Hit



Downtown Denton Main Street hosted their annual Holiday Market: Christkindlmarkt on

December 3rd. Tanglao Carriage Rides provided horse drawn carriage rides again this year, a favorite event for all.

Thank you to our carriage ride sponsors for helping us to keep the rides affordable:

Lifetime Well Drilling Co. J.R. Smith Inc.,

Clayton Farms, Choptank Supply.

We want to thank To the Pointe for performing at Christkindlmarkt.

Thank you to Wright Real Estate for providing free Fresh Shucked Oysters.

Thank you to Purple Peake for helping to sponsor DJ KDog which provided the holiday music for our event.

And a special thank you to our vendors and all who attended the event!

## Stop, Shop, Explore Downtown Denton

## **Upcoming Art Classes & Exhibits**

A growing variety of classes and exhibits featuring talented, experienced Caroline County artists and instructors.

Beginners Classes – Weekly every Wednesday from 5-6pm
Featuring a different project every week! No "artistic talent" required, just come to learn, discover a new medium, and have fun! Taught by rotating local artists Melody Prairie,

Lynn Cegelski, Joanne Gelles,

Shalagh Hogan, Jillian Downes and more. All ages. \$15 per class. Buy any 3, get any 4<sup>th</sup> FREE.

Intermediate: Illustration – January & February | every Tuesday 5-6pm

By popular demand! This course will have a different focus each week, covering techniques such as drawing, inking, shading, composition, perspective, etc. and a varie-

## CCCA January Artist of the Month—Santo Mirabile



Join the arts council for an artist reception, January 14, 2022, 5-7p.m. at the Foundry Building, located at 401 Market St., Denton.

A very special exhibition! Join artist Santo Mirabile as he unveils a brand-new body of work inspired by his career in art and music. Featuring his unique out of the box approach and modern/contemporary style, these 3D compositions, which he calls 'relief collages' are sure to invoke emotion and curiosity.

"The relief-collages are the result of several years of thought and experimentation culminating in arrangements and colors with different materials that become unified. They are a construct I started in conjunction with mobilemaking and are a new expressive path for me." - Santo's artist statement

This event is FREE to attend, donations encouraged. Artwork will be for sale and on display at The Foundry thru January 31, 2022.

Santo received his BFA from the Maryland Institute College of Art. He works and resides in Denton, MD.

ty of styles including cartoons, comic books, people/animals, fantasy/mythology, advertisements, still lifes, and other subjects as requested by participants. Taught by instructors Jillian Downes and Nicholas Tindall. \$15 per class.

Advanced: Oil Painting Portraiture – Mondays Jan. 10, 17, 24 & 31 from 5:30 – 7pm

Join Victoria Donovan as she leads a four-week course on

Portraiture. In this class we will create a portrait based on Botticelli's *Birth of Venus*. Students will learn how to transfer a portrait sketch onto the canvas using various methods, then- using oil paint- will learn how to create an underpainting and create subsequent layers to create the skin tones and

Continue to page 9.

## What is an Enterprise Fund

At a recent town meeting, the Council talked about an Enterprise Fund and how it affects water and sewer fees charged and collected. We would like to take a moment to review what an Enterprise Fund is to help clarify how this affects our residents.

Enterprise funds are for services which charge a fee, and the fund should be treated like a business organization. Examples of enterprise funds include municipal utilities such as power, water, and sewer.

Fees collected from enterprises should cover the cost of the enterprise. If fees greatly exceed the amount that it costs to operate the enterprise, municipal officials should leverage the fees to cover the costs of the enterprise.

At their core, enterprise funds provide services based upon the use of user fees. User fees are instituted to charge users based upon their specific utilization of services.

An enterprise fund is considered the best practice to promote and maintain longterm financial sustainability for water sewer, and stormwater activities. An enterprise fund is a separate accounting and financial reporting mechanism for which revenues and expenditures are segregated in a fund with financial statement separate from all other governmental activities. An enterprise fund identifies the total direct and indirect costs to provide the service and the sources and

amounts of revenues that support the service for which a fee is charged in exchange for service. Direct costs generally consist of personnel services, expenses and capital outlay, which are budgeted and accounted for in the enterprise fund. Indirect costs are expenditures budgeted and accounted for in the general fund on behalf of the enterprise fund, which area allocated to the enterprise fund for funding. Examples of indirect costs are central serdepartment costs (accounting, treasury, collections, law, and the like), insurances and fringe benefits that are not budgeted and accounted for in the enterprise fund.

### The benefit of an Enterprise Fund:

- Identifies a total cost of service and related revenues for a service.
- Provides management information to analyze the extent to which revenues are covering expenditures.
- Retains and maintains investment income and surplus.
- Provides useful information to make decisions on used charges and other financing items.
- Provides the value of the enterprise fixed assets and infrastructure and recognizes the cost of the annual

- depreciation of these assets.
- Provides long-term liabilities in the financial statements thus provides both sort and long-term financial perspectives.

One of the steps in establishing an enterprise fund is to develop an accounting system. Once adopted, the process of establishing the enterprise fund should begin using accounting records and identifying the assets (capital items and infrastructure), liabilities and equity. Related funds in other derestricted funds should be identified and transferred to the enterprise fund if voted by the legislative body.

You should work with the finance department to:

 Ensure that revenues include user charges, utility liens added to taxes, connection fees, betterment assessments, miscellaneous fees, interest earnings,

- and other financing sources.
- Ensure that expenditures are known.

Another step in establishing an enterprise fund is to analyze the data provided to (a) monitor that actual revenue is on target to estimated revenue and (b) that your expenditures are on track to appropriations. This is an important step to ensure that the budget, both revenues and expenditures, are realized based on the annual budget.

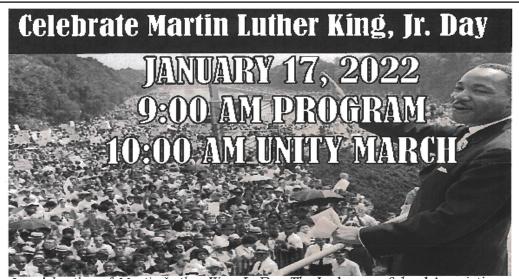
The bulk of the revenue for enterprises comes primarily from user fees.

Enterprises have bonding authority, meaning they can take out debt based upon the projected revenue from their user fees.

Enterprises cannot levy taxes and must provide goods or services in exchange for fees.

For more information please visit www.dentonmaryland.com /enterprise-fund-information/





In celebration of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, The Lockerman School Association will be hosting the 10th Annual Martin Luther King Jr. (MLK) Day Unity March. The program will begin at 9:00 am at Lockerman Middle School. March to begin at 10:00 a.m. and conclude at the Caroline County Courthouse on Market Street. After the March/"I Have a Dream Speech", bag lunches will be distributed to everyone. Maryland/Caroline County CDC Covid -19 recommendations will be followed: to include social distancing, masks are encouraged to be worn throughout the event. Service Learning Opportunity/Community Service Project: Support His Hope Ministries (Donate paper products, cleaning supplies, i.e. paper towels, toilet paper, detergent, etc. Drop off supplies at Lockerman Middle School or at the County Courthouse on Monday, Jan 17th.

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT Wanda Molock (410-829-7338); wanderfull 2001@yahoo.com, Janet Fountain (410-829-2844); janetfountain@aol.com

#### THIS DAY IS MADE POSSIBLE BY THE FOLLOWING:

Lockerman School Association, WalMart, Union Bethel AMF Church, Town of Depton, Caroline County NAACE, Metro-Zion United Methodist Church Ministries, Denton Church of Free SDA, Abrams Memorial Church, Allens AME Church, Bell's AME Church, YMCA, CC BOE, Buffalo Soldiers, MD Eastern Shore

## Special Collection Reminder

**Household Items:** All special collection items to be picked up on Wednesdays must be called in by 12 noon on Tuesday. Effective January 1, 2003, there is a \$5.00 collection fee for each item to be collected. This fee must be paid prior to pick up date. Reminder that all mattresses and box springs must be wrapped in plastic and sealed with tape.

Yard Waste: All bagged leaf and brush pickup requests must be called in by 12 noon on Tuesday for Wednesday pickup. Call all requests in to the Town Office at 410-479-2050. Leave a message after normal business hours.

## Art Classes, continued from page 7.

flowing hair of the reference. This is an advanced course. Students who are familiar with color mixing and basic painting technique are welcome to attend. Price \$100 for 4-week course. Limit 10 participants.

Advanced: Creative Writing Course – Thursdays Jan. 13, 20, 27 and Feb. 10, 17, 24 from 5-6:30pm

This interactive course allows students to work on, create, and improve on their own short story or piece of long-form writing. Topics will include: characterization, world-building, plot development, and more. Work on creating

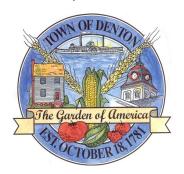
outlines, realistic characters, and natural plot advancement while learning the basics of creative writing.

This is a 6-week course, taught by writer and editor, Judy Reveal. \$10 per session or \$50 for 6-week course.

Write On! – Every second & fourth Tuesday of the month from 6:30-8pm via Zoom
Join writer, teacher and local legend Keith Shaffer for a fun, upbeat writing class where participants choose their own writing methods and share their stories with a different topic each session.



# Town of Denton 4 N. Second St. Denton, MD 21629



### ATTENTION OWNER OCCUPIED PROPERTY OWNERS:

# YOU MAY QUALIFY FOR A FINANCIAL HARDSHIP EXEMPTION FROM PAYING THE STATE OF MARYLAND'S BAY RESTORATION FEE (BRF)

#### **Bay Restoration Fund Facts**

In 2004, the State of Maryland took a major step to protect our waterways through the enactment of the Bay Restoration Fund (Senate Bill-320). The purpose of the bill was to create a dedicated fund to improve the environment and water quality of the Chesapeake Bay. Through an environmental surcharge fee, this fund is used to upgrade wastewater treatment plants, upgrade septic systems in the critical area, and implement cover crops on agricultural land. Approximate annual fee to the user \$30.00. SB320 also required all Municipalities to bill all properties through their Utility Billing and transmit the funds to the State.

During the 2012 State of Maryland Legislative Session came the adoption of Senate Bill 240, doubling the BRF. Effective July 1, 2012, the BRF was doubled for all property owners. For most the fee is now \$60.00 a year. The Town of Denton began billing the new fees on the Utility Bills issued on Oct. 1, 2012, (for the <u>July 1, 2012 – Sept. 30, 2012</u> billing cycle).

<u>Single Family Residential Home Owners</u> - saw a quarterly increase from \$7.50 per quarter to \$15.00 per quarter; annual increase from \$30.00 to \$60.00.

Non-Residential/Commercial Owners – the BRF is based on the number of EDU's and the total average daily water consumption. Minimum BRF will be \$15.00 per quarter/\$60.00 for a year.

<u>BRF Exemption Plan</u> — With the implementation of House Bill #446, another bill was adopted during the 2012 legislative session in which Municipalities are now required to establish a BRF Exemption Plan.

As a result, on February 7, 2013, The Denton Town Council took action an adopted Resolution #778, establishing a BRF Exemption Plan and Application.

If you own property within the Denton Town limits and it is your primary place of residence, visit <a href="https://www.dentonmaryland.com">www.dentonmaryland.com</a> to read more about the BRF Exemption Plan to see if you <a href="qualify">qualify</a> for an exemption from paying the State of Maryland's Bay Restoration Fee.

Applications can be found on the Town of Denton Website at <a href="www.dentonmaryland.com">www.dentonmaryland.com</a> or stop by the Denton Town Office at 4 N. Second Street to pick up a copy or call 410-479-2050 to request to have a copy mailed to you.

For additional information about the State of Maryland Bay Restoration Fund visit the Maryland Department of the Environment website at: <a href="https://www.mde.state.md.us">www.mde.state.md.us</a>.

## Updates on Ordinances & Resolutions

Ordinance #723 – An Ordinance by the Denton Town Council revising the Water Meter Fee Rates for Users of the Municipal Water System. Introduced 11/04/21, passed 12/06/21, effective 12/13/21.

Ordinance #724 – An Ordinance to amend the Town of Denton Building Code, Residential Code and Mechanical Code provisions contained in Chapter 38 of the Denton Town Code with respect to Building Construction. Introduced 11/04/21, never passed, Ordinance died.

Ordinance #725 – An Ordinance to amend the Town of Denton Property Maintenance Code contained in

Chapter 94 of the Denton Town Code with respect to Property Maintenance. Introduced 11/04/21, never passed, Ordinance died.

Complete copies of all Resolutions and Ordinances may be viewed at the office of the Town of Denton, 4 North Second Street, Denton, Maryland. during normal working hours 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. To inquire or obtain additional information regarding these amendments please contact the Clerk-Treasurer at (410) 479-2050.

## Service Fees for Utility Calls

All calls for utility service for properties located in the Town of Denton are assessed the following service fee. This fee applies for all water shut off/turned on, and other miscellaneous calls for service. Paying utility bills on time can help the property owner avoid these fees.

Special Attention: Any water that is turned off will be assessed this fee to have the water turned back on. Tenants will need to pay this fee before water service is turned back on. (This may not apply for emergency situations pending the nature of the call.)

\$50.00 fee during normal business hours. \$100.00 fee after normal business hours.

IT IS UNLAWFUL TO TAMPER WITH THE TOWN OF DENTON UTILITIES. DOING SO CARRIES UP TO A \$1,000 FINE AND POSSIBLE ARREST. PLEASE CONTACT THE DENTON PUBLIC WORKS DEPT. AT 410-479-2050 IF YOU NEED ASSISTANCE WITH YOUR SERVICE.

## **Denton Town News**

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A community newsletter, published bi-monthly by the Town of Denton

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## **Attention Settlement Attorneys**

Reminder to all settlement attorney's and agencies to please contact the Denton Town Office for fees due to the Town when handling settlements for properties being sold or transferred with in the Town limits. There may be water/sewer fees or miscellaneous charges that need to be collected at the time of settlement. This will keep the Town's records up to date and better serve the resident's of the Town of Denton. This will also eliminate problems after settlement of any outstanding balances for the new property owner.

Please note: Any property that transfers ownership and the utility fees are not collected at settlement and forwarded to the town that result in the water being turned off for non-payment, the water turn on fee will still be charged. This charged maybe passed on to the settlement attorney. Currently the fee to turn water service back on during regular business hours is \$50.00 and after 3:30 PM the fee is \$100.00. Forms are available to use when requesting information. Any questions, please call the Town of Denton at 410-479-2050.