



The Christiansburg Connection



MAYOR'S CORNER

I am happy to announce that the Christiansburg Farmers' Market will hold their grand opening on Thursday, May 7!

Over the fourteen years I've served with the Town, requests for a Christiansburg Farmers' Market have been constant. With the blessing of Town Council, a committee was formed in December to develop a foundation for the market.

The market's mission is to provide a venue for fresh, locally grown produce and encourage community engagement in downtown Christiansburg.

From May through October, the Market will operate weekly on Thursday evenings from 3 p.m. - 7 p.m. on South Hickok Street between Main Street and Commerce Street.

The Christiansburg Farmers' Market cannot be successful without the support of our citizens. Already, many of you have offered your support by submitting the Farmers' Market Survey, which will certainly help guide the market through its first year and beyond.

I encourage you to attend a meeting, volunteer with the market or simply enjoy everything it has to offer throughout the coming season.

I'll see you on May 7!

~ D. Michael Barber, Mayor

Don't Forget!

A Neighborhood Planning Input Meeting for ALL neighborhoods will be held for residents on March 19, 2015 from 3 p.m. - 7 p.m. at the Christiansburg Recreation Center.

These meetings are a great opportunity to share ideas and also find out what's currently planned for your neighborhood and learn about improvements that may be coming your way.

For more information about neighborhood planning, visit www.christiansburg.org/mytown.

To submit suggestions or questions, please contact the Planning Department at (540) 382-6120 ext. 1120 or compplan@christiansburg.org.

Spring is (almost) officially here! Spring Cleanup is also on its way. Be sure to note the adjusted dates: April 11-24.

In addition, April is Child Abuse Prevention Month. Be sure to check out the Pinwheels for Prevention garden in front of Town Hall throughout the month. For more information about child abuse prevention, please visit:

<https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/preventing/preventionmonth/>



The Market You've All Been Waiting For

The Christiansburg Farmers' Market opens May 7!

Spend the evening downtown and visit the Christiansburg Farmers' Market between 3 p.m. - 7 p.m. on Hickok Street! The inaugural season opens May 7 and will run each Thursday through October.

Can't wait for May? The Farmers' Market Committee meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 5 p.m. in Town Hall. The public is welcome to attend.

Visit www.christiansburg.org/farmersmarket for the latest news and updates.

"Water" You Reading?

The Town upgrades water meters in April

The Town of Christiansburg will begin upgrading its water meters in April.

The new system will provide a communications network that fully automates the meter reading process. Transceivers on the water meters gather and pass data to area gateways, which collect and upload water usage data. These upgrades are expected to reap a variety of benefits, including more efficient use of Town staff, monthly billing for our citizens, and online monitoring of water usage.

Currently, Town crews manually read each water meter. This method takes time, as town staff must visit each meter and then enter each reading. The new water meters will have the ability to transmit readings almost immediately, meaning that usage can be closely tracked and leaks and water outages can be identified more quickly.

The new technology will also alleviate reading delays during inclement weather, as well as contribute to the safety and efficiency of Town crews. Because the meters are able to "talk" to one another, reading levels can be transmitted to Town staff even if the meter is buried under snow.



Currently, Town crews manually read each water meter in town. The new meters will automatically transmit readings to staff, making the process more efficient.

See **WATER** (on back)

Frequently Asked...

What is CodeRED?

CodeRED is an emergency notification system used by the Town of Christiansburg to alert residents to emergencies within the town.

What we use it for: The Town of Christiansburg will only use CodeRED to communicate information related to emergencies that threaten the health, life and/or safety of residents.

Residents may also sign up for optional weather alerts issued by the National Weather Service. Please note that these weather alerts are not issued by the Town of Christiansburg.

What we won't use it for: We will never send a CodeRED alert for any other reason than an emergency situation. For example, the Town will never use CodeRED to send meeting or event notices.

How to sign up: It's simple! Just call the Town at (540) 382-6128 ext.1151 or visit www.christiansburg.org. Click on the CodeRED icon. From there, just fill in your information and you're good to go! There is no cost to sign up for CodeRED.

Fun facts: The CodeRED Mobile Alert app sends you weather notifications while you travel! If you are traveling through an area that uses CodeRED, you will be alerted about any emergency events in that area.



Upcoming Meetings & Events:

Town Council Meeting

March 10, 2015 at 7 p.m.

Neighborhood Planning Input Meeting

March 19, 2015 from 3 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Christiansburg Recreation Center

Town Council Meeting

March 24, 2015 at 7 p.m.

Annual Great Easter Egg Hunt

April 4, 2015 at 10 a.m.

Downtown Park

Town Council Meeting

April 14, 2015 at 7 p.m.

Town Council Meeting

April 28, 2015 at 7 p.m.

Town Council will meet in the Council Chambers at Town Hall, 100 East Main Street.

Never miss a meeting! Sign up for meeting notifications at www.christiansburg.org/notifyme.

WATER (continued)

Installation of the new meters is expected to take nine months. During this time, water usage will be reported and billed for as usual.

Following project completion, the upgrades will eventually mean changes to the Town's billing process. Instead of billing customers every other month, we will be able to bill customers monthly. This will eliminate delays in billing for usage. Once implemented, customers will also be able to access their daily and hourly water usage online.

Find updates about this project in this newsletter, your utility bill and online at www.christiansburg.org.

Mark Your Calendars...

Due to the water meter installation project, spring cleanup will be held from April 11 through April 24. For more information about Spring Cleanup, check out the accompanying insert in this utility bill or visit www.christiansburg.org/cleanup.

Find your next home improvement project at the NRVHBA Home Expo from March 13 through March 15 at the Christiansburg Recreation Center! Please note that the Recreation Center will be closed during these dates. For more information about the expo, please visit www.nrvhba.com.

Hop To It!

The Annual Great Christiansburg Easter Egg Hunt is scheduled for Saturday, April 4 in Downtown Park (beside the Armory).

Children 12 and under are invited to hunt for eggs and meet the Easter bunny! The egg hunt begins at 10 a.m., with the first age group.

Please call (540) 382-2349 by 5 p.m. on Friday, April 3 to ensure enough goodies for everyone!

More info: www.christiansburg.org/recreation

Snapshot! *Town photos & events*



April is Adult Learn to Swim Month! The CAC will offer FREE Adult Intro to Swim Clinics on the following dates:

Saturday, April 11, 18 & 25: 9 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Sunday, April 19: 1-2:30 p.m.

Advance registration required. Call (540) 381-7665 to reserve your spot!

Have questions? Let us know!
(540) 382-6128 ext. 1148 / (540) 382-6128 ext. 1151
info@christiansburg.org
www.christiansburg.org