



Town of Stonewood

8052 Southern Avenue, Stonewood, WV 26301

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 14

SEPTEMBER 2022

From the Mayor's Office

Over the past few weeks, the city has been experiencing a large amount of rainwater running off our roadways and flooding residents' basements. The public works department is following up on these concerns. However, social media complaints will not be acknowledged. If you have concerns, please contact city hall directly. Additionally, we know many residents have downspouts draining into the sanitary sewers, which also contributes to the massive overflow during storms. According to City Ordinance 23-5, this type of discharge is prohibited. When an outside service completed testing, they found that 8 residents are still non-compliant with the ordinance. There are also several residents who have basement drains going into the sewer system as well. Please direct immediate attention to this issue to avoid further negative action by contacting city hall to determine if you have an issue. Thank you to those who have already complied with this ordinance. If you have any questions or concerns, please call city hall.

Attention Dog walkers! As a reminder, City Ordinance 6-33 requires dogs to be on a leash in public areas. Please be considerate of residents' properties when walking through the neighborhood. It is the responsibility of dog owners to clean up after their dogs.

The 75th Anniversary Celebration was a huge success. Thank you so much to everyone who participated! Please enjoy photos from the memorable event located on pages 7 and 8 of the newsletter!



Though we are sad to see her go, we want to bid farewell to Principal Tara Shields! Thank you for all you did for the students of our town and good luck with your future endeavors! Additionally, we want to extend a warm welcome to Mrs. Jeovanna Comer, the new principal at Norwood Elementary School.

From the Mayor's Office...continued

Big shout out to Bible Baptist Temple for displaying the 75th anniversary banner and supporting our town in such a big way!



Thank You to the volunteers from Oasis Church for all your hard work on the Route 58 Teddy Shingleton Jr. Memorial Park pavilion.

Thank you to Mack Mallow and Tony Noll, two members of our volunteer fire department who have recently helped in removing aggressive animals. This service has been a big help to the Police and Public Works Departments and the residents of our town.

Mark your calendars for Saturday, October 8th. We have three wonderful events that start at 9 am for the whole family to attend! Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church will be hosting its annual car show to benefit parish youth. The Lions Club will be selling apples and brooms across from Town & Country Drug Store, and The Fire Department will be hosting a craft & vendor show at the Station. Information for each event is located within the newsletter. Please come out and support local happenings.

Our second annual Christmas Parade and Tree Lighting ceremony will take place on Saturday, December 3rd.



Stonewood Volunteer Fire Department

October is National Fire Prevention Month. Please read and adhere to the helpful hints listed in this issue. Also, join me in congratulating Stonewood Company 12 on being awarded an Insurance Services Office (ISO) class rating of 2. Businesses and homeowners should consider notifying their insurance providers of our new rating as it can affect rates.

To further explain the significance of this accomplishment, when Chief Jim Carvelli joined the department in 1962, the rating was 9 (10 being the lowest). Years later, Carvelli wrote in the 25th-anniversary book that the department had reduced to a class 7, but a fully paid department would be required to accomplish a 6. Fortunately, grading made necessary changes to its point system, which qualified volunteer departments to enhance their rating based on water supply, 911 dispatch, equipment and available personnel when alerted for emergencies. Upon the Chief's retirement in 1994, the city reached a rating of 5, which was quite an accomplishment for his 32 years of service and the great firefighters that served with him. Our current Chief, Ron Woods, served Stonewood VFD in the 80s before departing to a paid position with Clarksburg Fire Department, where he completed a full career retiring at the rank of lieutenant. Now, as Stonewood's current chief, he made it a department goal from the day he returned to reduce the number 5 rating that held for several years. In 2017, the city achieved a class 3 rating. The Chief and department refused to be satisfied, working diligently over the next 5 years to improve the grade once again. Success was realized with an ISO rating of 2! To say the least, this town is beyond proud of the Chief and the women and men who have made this improvement a reality. The State of West Virginia has 508 fire departments; only 14 hold this class level distinction, putting Stonewood in the top 2%. Nationally, your department is one of only 1,925 out of 38,492 Nationwide to receive this grade. CONGRATULATIONS.

October 9th-15th 2022 is National Fire Prevention Week. This year's theme is "Fire Won't Wait. Plan Your Escape". The tips listed below emphasize the critical importance of developing a home escape plan with all members of the household and practicing it regularly.

- Make sure your home escape plan meets the needs of all your family members, including those with sensory or physical disabilities.
- Know at least two ways out of every room. If possible. Make sure all windows and doors open easily
- Have an outside meeting place a safe distance from your home where everyone can meet.



The Code Notice

As we wind down the summer season and transition into fall, I want to thank all of you for your efforts in getting building permits and keeping your properties mowed and free of garbage. Building permits are required for all work being done to your property outside of painting and landscaping. If you have any questions regarding permits and whether one is required, contact City Hall.

Per ordinance 30-455(d), No person shall, at any time, have a vehicle that is parked, stored, or allowed to stand dormant on any city street, public property, or private property within city limits for a continuous period of more than 30 days with the exception of recreational vehicles on private property provided, however, that they are street legal and are moved within a reasonable time during any calendar year.

-Robert Leonard, Building Inspector



From the Public Works Department

The new cans have been delivered to your home and we have some additional information for you.



RECYCLE



GARBAGE

It is important that your cans be next to the road on your pickup day. These cans are much larger than most previous cans and should hold up to nine regular bags of garbage. For some residents, if the bin is not large enough on a regular basis, it may be necessary to obtain a second bin from the city. The City Ordinance, Section 24-101 states that the current rate for one can is for an average of nine bags. Garbage must be in a can to be collected. If you cannot fit your regular weekly waste in one can, a second can will be provided for an additional charge. If you need a second can delivered, please contact the city.

Always be sure that only garbage is in the green can and only recycle material is in the blue can. Please don't put garbage in the blue can if your green can isn't large enough.

We have had questions about how to dispose of items, please put garbage in bags and the recycle items can be placed in the can without being bagged.

Thank you for your patience through the transition to the new cans. It makes a safer work environment for collectors! If you have questions, please let us know.



Small Town Charm

By Jim Hunt

As I travel around the country, working with cities and towns, one of the most frequently asked questions I get is, “What is the most important thing for a town to do to improve?” While many city officials think that they need mountains of money to be successful, I rarely find that money will do the things that are needed to make a city Amazing. So, if it is not money, what is the secret ingredient that makes cities and towns successful? I like to think that there are four key things that cities and towns need to focus on.

Cleanliness: While it may seem simple, cities and towns need to be diligent in maintaining a clean and orderly town. Litter, graffiti, overgrown lots, and junk in yards is toxic for cities and towns. It is surprising how many cities and towns spend millions of dollars on new convention centers, parks, and other projects, only to greet visitors with trash blowing in the wind. In my experience, when cities don’t focus on clean streets and buildings, the problem only gets worse. Likewise, when cities and towns have a zero-tolerance policy for litter and graffiti, the results are often noticed after only a few months. Is it expensive? Many cities and towns have found that keeping things clean can be done through volunteer efforts and investments by businesses and other organizations.

Teamwork: Building an effective team is essential to turn a city or town around. Whether the leadership comes from city hall or churches or community organizations, the fundamentals of building teamwork require organized efforts and proper planning. When you have a comprehensive community plan, it allows for multiple groups to come together to work on well identified goals to improve the community. Building teamwork allows for people of all ages and all skill levels to be a part of the effort. A youth group can be extremely effective on graffiti removal and litter campaigns, while businesses may want to focus on things that they do well. A construction company may have a bucket truck or backhoe that they would be willing to use to do jobs that exceed the capabilities of more inexperienced volunteers.

Communication: To enact an effective community plan, good communication is essential. Citizens must know exactly what is expected of them and how progress is measured. If several groups are working on a community project, good communication avoids problems and gives everyone a transparent view of the project. Social Media can be used to announce events and show pictures of the activities. It is good to designate one person to manage the communication effort and make sure that there are regular announcements to keep the enthusiasm at a high level. Some cities and towns have found that creating a theme can assist in the communication effort. Years ago, the U.S. Forest Service was having a problem with visitors to parks, unintentionally starting forest fires by not putting out their campfires. They created the “Only You Can Prevent Forest Fires” campaign and introduced the country to Smokey the Bear, a symbol that is one of the most recognizable in the country.

Celebrate and Have Fun: Few people want to come out on their day off to feel like they are in Army boot camp. When you have activities, make sure you keep it enjoyable and have plenty of treats for the volunteers. This is also a good way to involve local businesses in the effort. Ask businesses to donate food or gift cards to reward outstanding efforts. Take lots of pictures and post to social media. If you are cleaning up an area that is filled with trash, take before and after pictures, to note the improvement. Don’t overwork your volunteers. Try to manage the work to give participants time to interact and socialize. The goal is to create an atmosphere of community and instill community pride. People who have fun and make friends are more likely to continue in working with the community groups, since they know what to expect.

Amazing cities and towns are not always the wealthiest or best financed, but they are always the ones that create a sense of community and have ways for everyone to get involved in projects and activities. It works! Do something Amazing this week!

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Youth Group CAR SHOW



Saturday, October 8th, 2022

Take I-79 to Exit 117 ~ Follow Route 58 West
to 3rd Street in Stonewood, WV



Top 20 Best In Class - 2000 and Older

Top 10 Best In Class - 2001 and Newer

Top 5 Best of Show

Specialty Trophies

Club Choice

Priest's Choice

Special Interest

Best-Detailed Car

Jim's Choice

T Shirts - Dash Plaques to First 80 cars

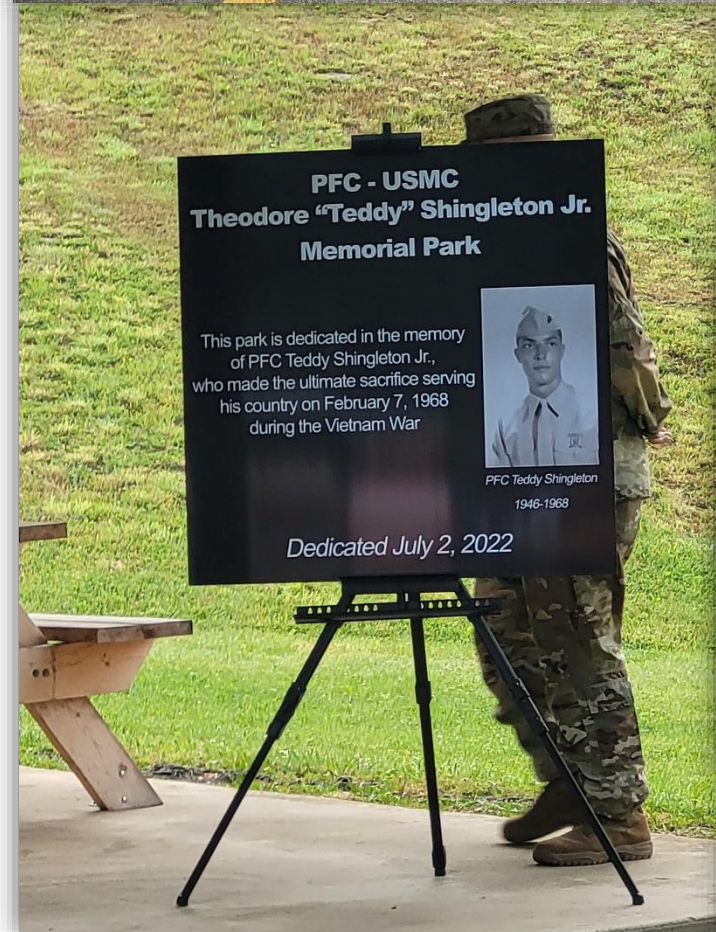
Registration 10:00am to 1:00pm

Trophies at 3:00pm

Entry \$15.00 per car

50/50 Drawing - Silent Auction - Food Available

Contact Jim Carvelli - 304-677-9918



Phone: (304) 623-2919

Email: cityclerk@cityofstonewood.com

Fax: (304) 624-0125





Stonewood 75

July 1-3, 2022

Benefiting Stonewood's First Responders

THANK YOU!!!!

What a CELEBRATION!!! Stonewood 75 was an overwhelming success. Through the generous donations of our sponsors and the citizens of Stonewood, the event raised \$40,000 for our First Responders. For three days this past July, we gathered as a community and shared fellowship with each other and those from surrounding communities. Families reunited, as former citizens journeyed home to celebrate all things Stonewood. From the Friday night fireworks to the Ecumenical Service and Community Picnic, attendees participated in a variety of activities and ate great food.

I would like to thank the following for their dedication and challenging work in making Stonewood 75 a success,

- Our Volunteers!! Without them the event would not have run smoothly.
- Mayor Jim Terango for his vision, constant support, good humor, and persistent phone calls.
- The entire 75th Planning Committee for their dedication to the event and the citizens of Stonewood. They invested both time and coin to ensure that Stonewood 75 would be a success.
- The Stonewood Volunteer Fire Department and its Members. We came, we took over and roped you into helping us. We were honored to work with you and to help raise funds for the organization. You made us feel like we were part of your family and the community.
- The Stonewood Police & Public Works Departments. Thanks for all your assistance with the jobs no one wanted to do.
- Our local churches, their leaders, and congregations. A community is only as strong as its faith groups and Stonewood is STRONG. Your support of this event was a key to its success.
- Finally, to Kim Nicholson and Crystal Johnson, the glue that kept us all together. Thank you sincerely for all that you did for the committee, the event, and the community. You both are tremendous assets to the Stonewood community.

Many of you have asked if the 75th will be an annual event, held each summer to celebrate all things Stonewood. We have seen a surge of support on our Facebook page (which is staying active), and we are looking at creating a unique annual event for the city. So, be on the lookout for more information.

Again, thanks for making Stonewood 75 a remarkable success.

-Patrick

LIFE ON THE BEAT
STONEWOOD POLICE DEPARTMENTS'

SEASONAL REPORT

Chief M. A. Secreto

The Fall season is the most beautiful season of all; however, the criminal element doesn't stop based on seasons. Make sure all vehicles, storage buildings and your residences are always secured. Bicycles, toys, and other items need to be put away before you retire for the night. Be aware of scams from unlicensed contractors offering to do work for you. Check with city hall for license status. If you plan on being away for periods of time, have someone pick up your mail and maintain the residence. If you observe someone suspicious or suspicious activity, please call "911".

Covid-19 Tips

Covid-19 remains, so take precautions. Please sanitize your hands and wear masks in crowded areas.

Make sure it covers your nose, mouth, and chin. After removing your mask, store it in a plastic container and wash it every day. Do not use masks with valves. Wash your hands with disinfectant when touching items in public. Try not to touch your face until you are sure your hands are sanitized.

Crime Prevention Tips

Make your home look occupied by leaving some lights and possibly a radio on when you are out. When you go out, lock your doors, and never leave your house open even for a moment. Use deadbolt locks as deadbolts are a good deterrent to burglars. Don't hide keys outside because thieves know all the secret hiding places. Drill and pin your windows as all locks can be jimmied. Install good exterior lighting because illumination is a precious commodity in the fight against crime. Keep bushes, shrubs and trees trimmed so there are no hiding placings for the criminal element. Make sure neighbors, friends and/or relatives can procure your deliveries when your residence is unattended. Please install an alarm system if your finances will allow. Installation of surveillance cameras and/or ring doorbell cameras aid police with their investigations.

Remember if you observe someone or something suspicious, please telephone 911. God Bless!

Chief M.A. Secreto



Stonewood Lions Club Annual Fall Apple and Broom sale is back on Saturday October 8th, 2022, from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM (While supplies last) It will be located on Water Street across from Town and Country Drug Store by the bridge. You can purchase ½ bushel for \$20.00. Some types of apples available include Golden Delicious and Gala to name a few. Pre-orders can be made by Wednesday October 5th, 2022, by calling Angie Sipko at (304) 622-7694. If there is not an answer, please leave your name and number and I will return your call. All profits go to the Stonewood Lions Club, scholarship, community outreach programs.



STONEWOOD VFD

CRAFT/VENDOR SHOW

SATURDAY OCT. 8TH

Stop by to shop from local
crafters and vendors.
silent auction, 50/50,
food and refreshment sale.

9:00 am- 4:00 pm

8081 Plainwood Avenue
Stonewood, WV 26301

For more information about booth registration, donations or sponsoships
please contact Alea Bartlet 304-669-7692, Kim Nicholson 304-203-5599
or email stonewoodco12fundraiser@gmail.com

ART BY CRIM

Calendar of Events

October 4th, 2022

Council Meeting 7:00 PM

October 18th, 2022

Sewer Board Meeting 4:30 PM

Council Meeting 7:00 PM

October 20th, 2022

Park Board Meeting 6:00 PM

November 1st, 2022

Council Meeting 7:00 PM

November 15th, 2022

Sewer Board Meeting 4:30 PM

Council Meeting 7:00 PM

November 17th, 2022

Park Board Meeting 6:00 PM

If you or anyone you know are 90 and over and would like your birthday to be featured in the newsletter, please contact City Hall.



Rita Fragmin 10/10

Loretta Hyman 11/28

Churches and Locations

Bible Baptist Temple

1450 Cost Avenue

(304) 623-2630

Service 11:00 AM and 6:00 PM every Sunday

Visit website for other services offered

Church of the Nazarene

9254 Cost Avenue

(304) 624-0430

Sundays at 10:45 AM and 6:00 PM

Congregational Missionary

8095 Hazelwood Avenue

(304) 622-7256

Sundays at 10:50 AM

Oasis Worship Center

8556 Cost Avenue

(304) 918-9110

Sundays at 10:30 AM

Our Lady of Perpetual Help

8092 Third Street

(304) 623-2334

Saturdays at 5:00 PM

Sundays at 8:00 AM and 10:00 AM

Stonewood Alliance

8301 Hazelwood Avenue

(304) 884-8154