

Dayton Discovery

THE TOWN OF DAYTON, VIRGINIA

WINTER 2021

Inside ~ Dayton's Holiday Decorating, Welcoming Our New Town Council and Hopes for 2021



Mayor's Message

It has been very much an honor to serve the wonderful Town of Dayton as Mayor. I again would like to congratulate our new council members and graciously pass the baton to our new Mayor, Mr. Jackson. I do so with the confidence of knowing that the Town is in very good hands and moving in a

good direction. I'm so very grateful for the opportunity and I hope I have served the Town with a listening ear, patience, persistence and integrity. I am both proud and lucky to have served on Team Dayton.

My holiday message this year is one of hope. Like almost everyone else, this year has tested our emotions, our patience and our strength. My hope is that everyone can continue to be disciplined enough to do what we need to so

that our friends, family and everyone everywhere can be as healthy as possible.

My hopes include our Town getting back to the events and gatherings that we enjoy and need. My hopes also include understanding the importance of being the example we expect in every aspect of life. Our children and grandchildren are looking up to us and need to understand that kindness and generosity are always better than envy, greed and gossip. Even when it's hard to do, let's choose to start our lists with what's right instead of what's wrong. Give it a try.

And finally, please continue to check in on the people that are checking in on you. They need it, I promise. Share out loud your feelings of gratitude, love and peace because I can't think of a time that we've needed it more. To every single person in the Town of Dayton, thank you and have a very happy New Year.

~ Mayor Lee



Mayor-Elect's Message

I am honored and humbled to represent our great Town as its next mayor. This is not

a position that I take lightly; my focus will be on enhancing the things that make Dayton such a special place. I am looking forward to continuing to work with Council and our Town staff for the betterment of Dayton and its citizens.

I would like to thank my family for their unwavering support of my community involvement over the years;

most importantly my wife, Stacie, who has always been supportive and encouraging. I would like to thank the citizens of Dayton who had confidence in me and trusted me with their vote. For the citizens who didn't vote for me, you will see that I have Dayton's best interests in mind.

January 11th will be a proud day as Bradford Dyjak, Emily Estes, Heidi Hoover, Dale Rodgers, Robert Seward and I will take our oath of office and begin our terms on Town Council. I want to congratulate our new members and thank them for their willingness to serve their community.

I would like to let you know of a few of the items that will become, or con-

tinue to be, a major focus for Council during 2021. By the time you read this the Mill Street project will have begun. We will start construction on the new water treatment facility, we will continue to replace water and sewer lines throughout the Town, sidewalks will continue to be repaired and new sidewalks constructed, we will work with VDOT on paving projects within the Town, we will add signage on Route 42 and the business district and we will continue to work on the beautification of our community.

I hope you and your family have a safe and prosperous 2021 and that we can work together to make Dayton the best place to live, work and do business.

~ Cary Jackson, Mayor-Elect

Mill Street Stormwater Drainage

We are happy to announce that the Mill Street Stormwater Drainage Project is beginning. This project has been planned for many years. It will help with stormwater drainage and reduce flooding on Mill, College, and Main streets. A&J Development & Excavation has received a notice to proceed and will begin construction soon. They have been



working on securing the needed equipment and materials already. You will notice rolling road closures beginning on Main Street between Pit Stop and the bridge, and moving up Mill Street between College & Main and Main & High streets. The contractor and the Town will continue communicating with affected landowners regarding impacts as the project moves forward. The project includes excavating

and putting in a thirty inch pipe and replacing a sewer line. With the age of our infrastructure, we never know for sure what we will find during the project. Your patience and understanding is greatly appreciated. Updates will be posted on the Town's Facebook page and website.

Here's a friendly reminder regarding snow removal from public sidewalks:



Dayton Town Code §2-64, states that all persons occupying, owning or having charge of any property within the Town shall be required to remove the snow from the entire sidewalk in front of such property within six daylight hours after the snow has ceased to fall, or the Town may have the snow cleaned off at the expense of the owner or tenant. We appreciate your support in complying with this code.

Looking Forward to the New Year ~ Dayton's Hopes for a Joyous 2021 *

Easter Egg Hunt: Saturday, April 3
 Redbud Festival: Saturday, June 5
 Dayton Muddler: Saturday, August 7
 Dayton Days Autumn Celebration:
 Saturday, October 2

**SAVE
THE
DATE**

* As events are constantly changing due to the COVID-19 pandemic, dates for scheduled events remain tentative. Please check our website and Facebook page for updates.

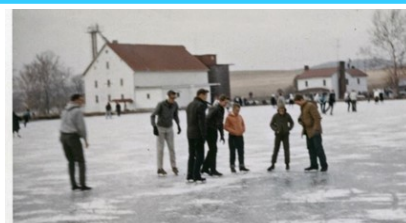
Highlight: Silver Lake Historic District

Notes from Rocktown History (*previously known as The Heritage Museum*):

Two years ago, Silver Lake and 104 acres surrounding it were designated as the Silver Lake Historic District and added to the Virginia Landmarks Register. Silver Lake was created around 1822, when John J. Rife dammed a spring-fed creek in order to power his mill.

The area where Silver Lake is located included a Presbyterian church, which was torn down around 1780 when the lake increased in size. The five homes located within the district were built between 1820 and 1930. The current mill, seen in the photos, was built around 1870.

Silver Lake is a Dayton treasure due to its history, beautiful wildlife habitat, and fun-filled outdoor recreation – especially when the lake freezes!



Ice skaters on Silver Lake in 1963.



Freezing the millwheel in 1960.

Pictures: Rocktown History Archives

SHARE your Silver Lake memories on the Historic Dayton Welcome Center Facebook page! Explore more local history in the Rocktown History museum and library and on the website: rocktownhistory.org / (540) 879-2681
 382 High St, Dayton / Open Wed - Sat, 10 am - 4 pm. Open House, Jan. 16th, FREE Admission. *Virus permitting.*



Manager's Message

Winter Greetings!

As the pandemic continues to affect Town residents and business, we continue to provide services to support you the best we can.

A special thanks to our staff in the public works, water, police and administrative departments. They are dedicated to keeping all of us safe and enhancing the Town's aesthetics and quality of life for all, no matter the day of the week or the weather conditions.

The long awaited Mill Street Stormwater Drainage Project has begun. See more about the project on page 2.

The Town has completed the repair and re-lining of sewer lines along Bowman Road/Cooks Creek. This much-needed improvement to our infrastructure will save us money while reducing the flow through the wastewater treatment plant. We have done the same for sections along Mason Street and will complete the two remaining blocks in the coming months. We will also replace a water line along Mason Street.

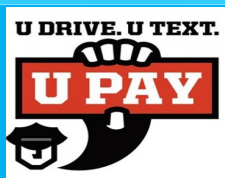
The Town has been notified by the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) that our Water Treatment Plant Improvement Project has been selected for funding. This project will greatly enhance our ability to provide safe water to our residents and businesses. Once we get the final approval from VDH, we will be procuring an engineering firm and equipment. The project will take about a year and half to complete. During that time, we will be completing an asset management plan, capital improvement plan, and water rate study. We will keep you posted!

This year has been especially difficult for small business owners. The Town Council awarded \$50,000 in grants to small retail businesses and restaurants, which were funded by the CARES Act. The County also awarded three rounds of grants. We are happy that many businesses adjusted to the pandemic by offering take out dining, curbside pick-up, online ordering, and other enhanced services. We encourage all to shop small, shop local, shop Dayton now and in the future.

While this has been a difficult year, we are encouraged by the community coming together and getting through this. It is times like these that we are even more grateful for this wonderful community we call home.

As always, if you have questions, comments, or concerns, please call Town Hall or email staff.

~ Angela Lawrence, Town Manager



As of January 1, 2021, it is unlawful for any person, while driving a moving motor vehicle on the highways in the Commonwealth, to hold a handheld personal communications device. You must be lawfully parked or stopped to use any handheld personal communication device. Let us all do our part to reduce distracted driving crashes, injuries and deaths. Utilize Bluetooth devices, or wait until you are stopped to use your cell phone.

Chief's Corner

With 2020 behind us, I reflect on the many struggles of last year. People losing their jobs, businesses shutting down, friends and family getting sick from Covid-19, elections, and civil unrest have all caused a lot of stress for communities around the country, including Dayton. However, Dayton has something that many communities do not have: a friendly and inviting community with people who always greet each other with a wave and a smile and are always willing to help each other. The Dayton community does a wonderful job making someone else's day a little better. During a storm, when trees fell and power was out, community members came to each other's aid to help their neighbors clean up the streets and each other's property.

As the Chief of Police, it is important to me that the officers and I meet with community members to hear concerns, answer questions, and be a part of the community. COVID-19 has limited our interaction with the community, as we could not host Coffee with a Cop, Cones with a Cop, or Chief's Town Hall. However, we were able to hold a modified National Night Out and seeing children smile and excited to see the police, and the community members who came out to wave and show support for the department was refreshing in a time when everyone needs something to make their year a little better. On behalf of the Dayton Police Department, we would like to thank the Dayton community for allowing us to serve you.



~ Chief Justin Trout

Calendar of Meetings and Holidays

Town of Dayton
125-B Eastview St.
Dayton, VA 22821

Phone: 540-879-2241

Fax: 540-879-2243

Office/Drive-Thru Hours:

Monday - Friday
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

24-hour drop box
www.daytonva.us

Go Green—Go Paperless!
To receive the Dayton
Discovery electronically,
E-mail events@daytonva.us

Meetings

Town Council

Meetings scheduled for the
second Monday of each
month unless holiday occurs

- Mon, Jan 11, 6:00 pm
- Mon, Feb 8, 6:00 pm
- Mon, Mar 8, 6:00 pm
- Mon, Apr 12, 6:00 pm

* Due to Governor's Orders meetings may move to
Zoom format. Please watch signs, Town website
(www.daytonva.us) and Facebook for updates.

Planning Commission

Meetings scheduled for the
third Thursday of each month
unless holiday occurs

- Thu, Jan 21, 6:00 pm
- Thu, Feb 18, 6:00 pm
- Thu, Mar 18, 6:00 pm
- Thu, Apr 15, 6:00 pm

Holiday Closings

Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Mon, Jan 18, 2021

President's Day

Mon, Feb 15, 2021

Memorial Day

Mon, May 31, 2020

Events Calendar

Easter Egg Hunt: Sat, Apr 3

Redbud Festival: Sat, Jun 5

Dayton Muddler: Sat, Aug 7

**Dayton Days Autumn
Celebration:** Sat, Oct 2

* Due to the pandemic, event
dates are tentative. Please
check our website and Face-
book page for updates.

Refuse Collection Schedule

NOTE: When a holiday falls on a weekday, collection
may be delayed one day for the remainder of the week.

Household trash collected on Fridays

Yard debris collected on Mondays

Bulk/heavy items collected on first Tuesday of month

OR CURRENT RESIDENT

PRESORTED STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT NO. 21
HARRISONBURG VA 22801

TOWN OF DAYTON
125-B EASTVIEW ST
DAYTON VA 22821



Special Recognition and Thanks to the Dayton Town Council

Thank you!

The Town would like to recognize and thank our outgoing Council members for their dedicated service to the Town.

Mr. Sam Lee has served our Town as Mayor for the past two years. During his term, he served on the Economic Development Authority from 2017-2020. Mayor Lee also served on the Economic and Community Development Committee in 2020.

Mr. Jeff Daly has served on the Dayton Town Council since 2013 and has acted as Dayton's Vice-Mayor since 2014. During his tenure Mr. Daly has served on the Community Relations Committee, the Dayton Muddler Committee, the Finance Committee (named Chair in 2014), the Annexation Committee (Chair for 2014-2018), and the Economic Development Committee.

Mr. Robert "RJ" Ohgren served on the Dayton Town Council since 2018. During his term, he has served on the Economic Development Committee, the Police Committee, and the Personnel Committee, acting as Chair for the last two years. Mr. Ohgren has most recently been appointed to serve as the Chair of the Economic Development Authority and we are fortunate that he will continue to serve on that Board.

As we transition into a new year, we would like to welcome current Councilman Mr. Cary Jackson as the Town's new Mayor and Ms. Heidi Hoover, Mr. Robert Seward and Ms. Emily Estes as our newly elected Council members. We welcome back Ms. Tara Worthy, Mr. Bradford Dyjak and Mr. Dale Rodgers as they continue to serve on Council.

WELCOME



Councilperson Heidi Hoover, an attorney, and her spouse, Braydon, have lived in Dayton since 2016. Ms. Hoover owns her own consulting firm, Hoover Investigations & Consulting, LLC, and works in healthcare staffing at a small startup, CT Assist, LLC, in Harrisonburg. She has been a member of the Dayton Planning Commission since 2019.



Councilperson Robert Seward has lived in Dayton since 2010 with his wife, Amanda, and four sons, Caleb, Cole, Chase, and Cayden. He is the National Sales Manager for SONARAY LED lighting and Hyve Indoor Farming Systems in Verona. Mr. Seward served on the Dayton Planning Commission in 2020.



Councilperson Emily Estes has lived in Dayton for 48 years. She was raised by Carl and Judy Estes. Ms. Estes has been a CNA/Med Tech Home Healthcare provider for her mother and works part time at Autozone.

Decorating Dayton for the Holidays

MANY THANKS to our residents and business owners who made the Town even more beautiful during the past holiday season! Please see the Town Facebook page for the list of Dayton's 2020 Holiday Decorating Contest Winners!



Congratulations and thanks to all who participated!