

Winter 2023

Dayton Discovery

Official Newsletter of the Town of Dayton, VA

Mayor's Message

Cary Jackson

I wish everyone a happy new year and hope that 2023 is filled with happiness, good health and prosperity. It is a truly an honor to serve another term as your mayor. We welcomed 2023 with the swearing in of Councilwomen Susan Mathias and Melody Pannell and Councilman Bob Wolz. Congratulations to all of these public servants.

I would like to encourage all citizens to participate in the governing process. This will ensure that Council makes informed decisions. Since being on Council, I have learned that it is impossible to please everyone, especially with the varying opinions on how we grow both economically and in population. I believe Dayton is moving in the right direction and would like to thank our staff and current and past Council members who have worked hard for you ensuring that Dayton stays on the right path.

Dayton has a diverse population and what pulls us together is the desire to live in a safe community where we can all respect each other regardless of our differences. We are a small community which desires that the history, look and feel of Dayton remains intact as our town grows.

I am happy to announce that our new water treatment plant is nearing completion and will be fully operational in February. This has been a

daunting project for both staff and Council but a necessity to ensure safe drinking water long into the future.

During 2022, we enjoyed our annual Redbud Festival, Muddler, Dayton Days and Summer Concert Series and we ended the year with the Christmas parade, Christmas tree lighting, hot cocoa and caroling at Dove Park. Events like these are what makes Dayton a special place to call home and we look forward to hosting these events again this year.

I believe that our town's future is bright and I look forward to serving you in 2023.



Save the Date

Dates Announced for Dayton Festivals

Redbud Spring Arts & Crafts Festival

Saturday, April 15, 10 am - 4 pm

Downtown Dayton @ College Street

Dayton Days Autumn Celebration

Saturday, October 7, 8:30 am - 4 pm

Downtown Dayton @ College and Main Streets

Vendor registration is now open for both festivals. Online registration is available on our website at www.daytonva.us on the Discover Dayton page under each event.

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Go Green - Go Paperless!

To receive Dayton Discovery electronically, email events@daytonva.us

Manager's Message:

Bob Holton

Over the next few months I will be serving as your interim town manager. Many of you may remember me from my 40+ years managing Bridgewater. In fact, my first three weeks in office have included the pleasant surprise of reconnecting with many friends who had interacted with me in my previous job. I have also had the pleasure of meeting some incredible community members since starting.

The Council has given me two goals to accomplish, and I've added a third. First, I need to assist the Council in finding a permanent manager for Dayton. Frankly, we're focusing on candidates who have a small-town ability and mentality. From my past experience, I can tell you that small towns are different and require a different thought process than large cities. I always said I would have failed as manager of Richmond, Arlington, etc. because I just didn't think the way they did. I believe success in small town jobs is based as much on "fit" as it is the number of college degrees, experience or other



Mr. Holton is pictured above working in the Town Manager's office.



Mr. Holton has been out and about in Town meeting residents and other community members. He is pictured above with Mrs. Waggy, a longtime Dayton resident.

factors. My second goal is to rebuild the relationship between the Town and its business community. Over the past three weeks staff members Susan Smith and Meggie Roche have joined me in discussing this problem with many of our businesses. I added a third goal that I want to accomplish. I will prepare a report for the Council suggesting ways we can serve our citizens better.

Once these tasks are completed, I will once again fade into retirement and leave the managing of this wonderful town in the hands of our new town manager.

New and Familiar Faces on Town Council

Heidi Hoover resigned her seat on Town Council effective November 26, 2022. Ms. Hoover first joined the Town of Dayton as a Planning Commissioner in September of 2019 and then was elected to Council in November 2020 to serve a 4-year term beginning January 1, 2021 and ending December 31, 2024. During her tenure, she was most active with the personnel and police committees, serving as chair of both. We wish Ms. Hoover the very best in the future and hope that she will remain active in the community.

Accordingly, Ms. Hoover's resignation left us with a vacancy on the Council. A special election will be held in November, 2023 to fill the vacancy for the term of January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024. At the January Council Meeting, Council appointed Bob Wolz to fill the vacancy through December 31, 2023. Mr. Wolz served on the Town Council from November 8, 2021 through December 31, 2022 and we are delighted to have him

back to continue to serve our Town.

Mr. Wolz will be serving on the Infrastructure & Safety Committee as well as serving as the Chair of the Parks, Recreation, and Beautification Committee.



New Councilman Bob Wolz was sworn in at the January 9 council meeting by the Clerk of Rockingham County Circuit Court, Chaz Haywood.



New Councilwoman Melody Pannell was sworn in at the January 9 council meeting by the Clerk of Rockingham County Circuit Court, Chaz Haywood.

Also joining Council is Melody Pannell. Ms. Pannell moved to Dayton in 2015 and intentionally chose our town because of its rich history, sense of community and peaceful environment. She received her Bachelor's Degree in Social Work from Eastern Mennonite University and was recently appointed as the Director of Diversity and Community Engagement at UVA Health. Ms. Pannell is excited to bring her experience in administration, facilitation and mediation to the Dayton team. We are delighted to welcome her aboard. She was elected to serve on the Dayton Town Council for a four year term ending December 31, 2026. Ms. Pannell will be serving on the Personnel Committee.

Easter Egg Hunt

EGGS! Saturday, April 8, 2023 @ 10 am
Sunset Park, 145 Sunset Drive

Three age groups: 4 years & under, 5-7 years old, and 8-10 years old



Chief's Corner

Thank you, Officer Clause!

Officer Clause visited several Dayton businesses over the holidays to make sure they stayed safe over the holidays! He has returned to the North Pole, but looks forward to returning next year!



Welcome Officer Earman!

Officer Chris Earman (pictured bottom left with Officer Clause) started with the Town in October 2022, and has been busy learning about the Town and getting to know community members. Officer Earman brings over 20 years of law enforcement experience throughout the Valley. He most recently assisted Officer Clause with his mission to keep Dayton safe for the holidays, before returning to the North Pole!

Pictured above: Office Clause and Officer Brian Cacciapaglia stopped by the Thomas House restaurant.

Pictured left: Officer Clause and Officer Earman at the Dayton Market.



Chief Justin Trout presented Officer Jeff Smith (left) with the Traffic Safety Officer of the Year Award, and Officer Dean Roadcap (right) with the Investigator of the Year Award at the January 9 Town Council Meeting.



Silver Lake Mill Bicentennial Celebrations End With a Grand Illumination

The Silver Lake Bicentennial Committee would like to thank the Dayton community for their help, ideas and general support throughout the Bicentennial year. It was an absolutely grand 200th birthday celebration!

The Mill is working hard to redefine its role in serving the Dayton community in 2023 and future years. We will be sharing activities and plans on the Silver Lake Mill Facebook page. Thanks again to ALL!



From the desk of Fort Harrison: December Wrap-up

December 2022 was a very busy month at Fort Harrison. Our major event was "An Old Fashioned Christmas at the Daniel Harrison House". This theme covered two events, "Twas the Night Before Christmas" and "Joy to the World". The Board of Directors extends our appreciation to all the volunteers who offered their time and talents to assist us. Our young visitors and their families enjoyed storytellers, displays of antique toys and dolls, a fascinating Victorian style dollhouse, a live nativity scene and Christmas music to celebrate the season.

We were also pleased to display five Christmas trees around the house, which were sponsored by Frontier Meats, Cargill, The Old-Fashioned Kettle Korn Company, Pit Stop Auto and the Mane Street Salon. Each tree was uniquely decorated and added to the festive events.

On December 17th, members of the Dayton community joined us to commemorate veterans buried in the Dayton Cemetery during our fifth annual Wreaths Across America program. Thank you to the Town of Dayton and also to the Fort Harrison Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution for their assistance during this event.

2023 promises to be a busy year as we look forward to our regular spring events, including the Colonial Trades Fair but also to continuing our fundraising campaign to finance a major ground penetrating radar study. The results of this study will enhance our knowledge of the house and its surrounding grounds during the earliest years when the Daniel Harrison family first settled here in the 1740's.



Discover Dayton by shopping local! For a complete list of Dayton businesses, visit our website at www.daytonva.us to browse our Business Directory.

Support LOCAL BUSINESSES

2022 Holiday Decorating Contest Winners Announced

Congratulations to our Holiday Decorating Contest winners with the most holiday spirit! This year's competition was one of the closest ever!

Clark Griswold Award
Winner: 145 Eastview St
Honorable Mention: 220 Eastview St

Winter Wonderland Award
Winner: 510 Mason St
Honorable Mention: 101 Willow Dr

Classic Holiday Elegance Award
Winner: 200 Keswick Cir
Honorable Mention: 119 Rhodes Hill Dr

Santa's Workshop (Business)
Winner: 201 Main St, Mane Street Salon
Honorable Mention: 305 Mason St, Park View Federal Credit Union

Best Neighborhood
Winner: Eastview St

People's Choice Award
Winner: 107 Bartley St

REGISTRATION OPEN



Registration ends February 12 for baseball and softball and March 10 for tee ball. Register online at www.registerbcll.com. Must provide three proofs of residency. More information available at: www.bridgewaterlittleleague.net. Dayton residents are eligible!

Snow Shoveling Reminder

Please remember to shovel the sidewalks located around your residence and/or business. Doing so is for your safety and the safety of others. Dayton Town Code 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."

Town Meetings

Planning Commission Meeting
January 19 @ 6:00 pm

Regular Town Council Meeting
February 13 @ 6:00 pm

Planning Commission Meeting
February 16 @ 6:00 pm

Regular Town Council Meeting
March 13 @ 6:00 pm

Planning Commission Meeting
March 16 @ 6:00 pm

Regular Town Council Meeting
April 10 @ 6:00 pm

Planning Commission Meeting
April 20 @ 6:00 pm

Live streaming now available for council meetings at www.daytonva.us.

Holiday Closings

Martin Luther King Jr. Day:
January 16

George Washington Day:
February 20

Refuse Collection Schedule

Household trash is collected on Fridays. Containers should be placed at the curb no earlier than 5:00 p.m. on the afternoon preceding the collection day and be removed to a point at the side or rear of the structure not later than 8:00 a.m. of the day following collection. **All waste must be placed in the provided tote.**

Yard Waste is collected on Mondays. The Town will collect Christmas trees left at the curb.

Bulk/heavy items are collected on the first Tuesday of the month.

Online Bill Pay Reminder

Friendly reminder that only utility (water, sewer and trash) bills can be paid online at this time. Utility bills can be paid online by clicking "Pay My Bill" on the homepage of the Town website. Taxes cannot be paid online, and must be paid via cash or check and mailed or brought to Town Hall.

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Office/Drive Thru Hours:
Monday - Friday
8:00 am - 4:30 pm
24-hour drop box

www.daytonva.us

For after hours non-emergencies pertaining to Town matters, please call 540-434-4436.

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