

PATRICK T. ROCKINBERG
Mayor

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Council President



Council Members
CHRISTOPHER P. EVERICH
Secretary

ROBERT H. KING, JR
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SCOTT D. STRONG

Mayor's Report

December 2014



Holiday Greetings: As we enter the Holiday Season, I want to wish everyone a very *Merry Christmas* and encourage everyone to support our local businesses. These businesses, many unique to Mount Airy, provide conveniences, employment and contribute to our local economy.

Additional Ways to Support Local! From Trees to Gift Wrapping! Local Boy Scout Troop 460 will be selling trees again this year in the lot next to the Exxon station off Route 27 and Penn Shop Road. The money raised by this non-profit will support scouting programs throughout the year. This is their biggest fund raiser so please consider them this holiday season. Also, the Kiwanis Club will be offering free gift wrapping in the Historic Down Town portion of Main Street on select evenings.

When visiting our downtown, please stop by Town Hall and view our beautiful display of wall hangings of all the many exciting projects and happenings in our Town. A special thanks to our long list of civic volunteer organizations that help others during the holidays and throughout the year!

Seasonal Town Traditions: Don't forget about our annual Tree Lighting Ceremony from 5:00 – 6:30 p.m. and Santa Parade taking place this Saturday, December 6, 2014 starting at 7:00 p.m., right here on Main Street next to Town Hall. Santa Claus will be arriving on a fire truck and you can visit with him after the parade at Firehouse Pottery & Arts!

On Sunday, December 7, 2014 from 1:00-4:00 p.m. Santa will be at the Mount Airy Firehouse at 702 North Main Street to discuss those wishes for under the tree Christmas morning. Photo ops will also be available with Santa and light refreshments will be provided.

Calling all Local Businesses: Please mark your calendars for the *Annual Business Card Exchange* at Mount Airy Town Hall, 110 S. Main Street on December 10, 2014 from 4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. Experience the local flavor of Mount Airy while you meet other local business professionals. This year's Exchange features Liganore Winery, new sister company Red Shedman Farm Brewery, and a Silent Auction with tons of amazing items donated from Local Businesses all to benefit the Greater Chamber of Mount Airy Scholarship Fund. Bring lots of business cards and a canned food donation for the Mount Airy NET to drop off at the door.

FY2016 Budget Preparation: Our various departments will begin to put their budgets together this month for FY 2016. We'll start the prep this month, and get input from the commissions. We expect to have this wrapped up by the end of January. Starting mid-February, I will review and start preparing my budget recommendation to the Town Council. The commissions need to submit any budget requests to the department supervisors by 1/31/15, and to put this on their agendas for their meetings this month.

Master Plan – Rezoning Process: The Public Hearing on Ordinance 2014-17 will be held at 7:00 pm on January 5, 2015 at Town Hall. This is an ordinance to amend the Town's Zoning Map consistent with the recently adopted 2013 Comprehensive Master Plan. Placards will soon be posted on parcels of land recommended for a change of zoning consistent with the adopted plan.

Snow Emergency Plan: As the winter season is now upon us, please be reminded when a snow emergency plan is in effect, the Town requires that vehicles are removed from all Town streets to allow for the Department of Public Works to plow effectively.

The Mayor's Community Forums: The Mayors Community forums will be held on Saturdays, December 6 and 20th, from 11 a.m. - 12 p.m. Feel free to contact me at prockinberg@gmail.com or call Town Hall at [301-829-1424](tel:301-829-1424). Residents are encouraged to drop by Town Hall on Main Street and discuss any town related items. Town Council members are also invited to attend. The setting is comfortable and informal. Grab a cup of coffee and stop by!

Volunteer Opportunities: Please visit (<http://www.mountairymd.org/>) for a list of volunteer opportunities on one of our many commissions. We have three openings on our Water Commission. This volunteer Commission is made up of Mt. Airy residents who study and advise the Mayor and Town Council on all issues related to water, cost structure, conservation, capacities, etc. Please let me know if anyone is interested in serving on a commission where there is a vacancy. You can call Town Hall at [301-829-1424](tel:301-829-1424) or email me directly at prockinberg@gmail.com.

