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Around the Rock

Town of Blowing Rock
Bi-Monthly Newsletter

Volume 7, Issue 6
December, 2013

Important Numbers

Town Hall.....295-5200
Planning & Inspection.....295-5240
Water/Sewer/Garbage.....295-5200
Parks & Recreation.....295-5222

Non-Emergency

Police Admin.....295-5212
Fire Admin.....295-5220

Emergency Police & Fire.....911

Upcoming Meetings

Town Council

01/14/2014 5:00 p.m.
02/11/2014 5:00 p.m.

Planning Board

01/16/2014 5:30 p.m.
02/20/2014 5:30 p.m.

ABC Board

01/23/2014 3:00 p.m.
02/27/2014 3:00 p.m.

Upcoming Events



Winterfest:

January 23rd - 26th



Kinder Basketball:

Kinder Basketball registration for 3-5 year olds will begin on January 20th for taxpayers and open registration will begin in January 21st. To receive the taxpayer rate, a copy of your Town of Blowing Rock tax bill (not Watauga/Caldwell County) must be attached to your registration. Kinder Basketball is held every Tuesday and Thursday from 5:30 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. for four weeks, beginning February 25th. If you have questions regarding Kinder Basketball please contact Parks and Recreation at (828) 295-5222.

In Memoriam



Tom McRary

Our thoughts and prayers are with the family of Thomas McRary as we all say goodbye to this wonderful man and dear friend. Tom served as the Town's Director of Plant Operations at the Blowing Rock Water and Wastewater Treatment Plants from October 1979 until his death on December 11, 2013. He will be greatly missed. Please remember his family during this time of loss.

Town Council Election

Mayor Lawrence and Commissioner Matheson Re-elected to Town Council, Yount Reappointed Mayor Pro-tem:



Mayor JB Lawrence swearing in Commissioners Ray Pickett, Doug Matheson & Sue Sweeting

The Town of Blowing Rock re-elected Mayor JB Lawrence and Commissioner Doug Matheson to serve another term in office, taking their oath of office on December 10, 2013 during the Town Council meeting. Commissioner Albert Yount was also named Mayor Pro-tem at the December meeting.



Albert Yount

Sweeting and Pickett Elected to Town Council:

The Town of Blowing Rock's newly elected Commissioners, Sue Sweeting and Ray Pickett, took their oath of office on December 10, 2013 during the Town Council meeting.



Tommy Klutz

A Special Thank You to Retiring Commissioners Klutz and Steele:

The Town thanks former Commissioners Tommy Klutz and Jim Steele for their hard work and dedication during their terms as



Jim Steele

Town Commissioners. Tommy Klutz served as Blowing Rock Commissioner for eight years and Jim Steele served as Blowing Rock Commissioner for four years.

Town Calendars for 2014 are here!



The 2014 Town Calendars are available at the Visitor Center located at 159 Chestnut Street (at the BRAHM building) and Town Hall located at 1036 Main Street.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Have you paid your 2013 property taxes?

To those who have not paid their 2013 Town of Blowing Rock property taxes, the last date before interest accrues is January 6, 2014. If you pay by mail, your payment must be postmarked on or before January 6, 2014 to avoid interest and penalty. If you have questions about the assessed value of your property please contact the Watauga County Tax Assessors' Office at (828) 265-8041 or the Caldwell County Tax Assessors' Office at (828) 757-1340. For your convenience you can pay property taxes in person at Town Hall Monday-Friday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm or online any time at: www.townofblowingrock.com. For assistance or questions, please call Town Hall at (828) 295-5200 and we will be happy to assist you.



Comprehensive Plan Update



The Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee met on December 10, 2013 to discuss the Comprehensive Draft Topical Outline and Vision Statement. Based on comments from that meeting, the consultant, Benchmark, Inc, will complete additional work on the vision statement and plan outline over the next few weeks. The Steering Committee will meet again in February to review the first draft of the plan. The remaining schedule is as follows:

Comprehensive Plan Meeting Schedule for 2014 (All meetings at Town Hall and open to the public)

February 11, 2014 – 3:00

- Review First Draft of Plan – Steering Committee

March 11, 2014 – 3:00

- Review Second Draft of Plan – Steering Committee

April 2014

- Public Meeting on Draft
- Meeting Date and Format to be determined

May – June 2014

- Adoption Process
- Meeting Dates and Formats to be determined

WINTERFEST 2014

Celebrate the fun side of winter at the 15th Annual Blowing Rock Winterfest, January 23rd-26th. There's something for all ages!

- Chili Challenge
- Pancake Breakfast
- Icy Polar Plunge
- Winterfest Concert
- WinterFeast
- Wine Auction & Tasting
- Downtown Hayrides
- Ice Carving Competition
- Kids Activities
- Silent Auction
- Winterfashion Show
- Winter Paws Pet Show

Events include:

For more information about Winterfest Events or Sponsorships, call: (877) 295-7801 or (828) 295-7851. Tickets can be purchased at the Blowing Rock Chamber of Commerce (132 Park Ave.) and online at: www.blowingrockwinterfest.com.



Town Receives Official FEMA and NC Project Qualification Notice for Wonderland Trail and Quail Hollow Road Repairs

The Federal Emergency Management Association (FEMA) and NC Department of Public Safety have informed the Town that these road repairs will qualify for reimbursement.

The current schedule for the projects is anticipated to be as follows:

Bids to be awarded at the February 11, 2014 Council meeting

Construction to begin March, 2014

Construction to be complete July, 2014

In anticipation of formal approval, the Town of Blowing Rock Board of Commissioners approved project appropriations of \$270,000 for Wonderland Trail and \$70,000 for Quail Hollow at the November 12, 2013 council meeting.

Downtown Cam Up and Running!

You can now visit the Town of Blowing Rock's website and view a live downtown camera displaying areas of Main Street. You can find the camera link at www.townofblowingrock.com through the "Blowing Rock Cams" link on the bottom left section of our home page.

Public Information Email List Invitation

Interested in receiving public information on our Town? Send us an e-mail to townofbr@bellsouth.net to be added to the Town's Public Information E-Mail list to receive periodic public release information as well as public notice information as available. Please note your e-mail address will not be shared with outside agencies or used for sales solicitations in any way. Sign up today to stay connected!