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Around the Rock

Town of Blowing Rock
Bi-Monthly Newsletter

Volume 4, Issue 5
October, 2010

Important Numbers

Town Hall.....295-5200
Planning & Inspection.....295-5240
Water/Sewer/Garbage.....295-5200
Parks & Recreation.....295-5222
Water - After Hours.....295-5210

Non-Emergency

Police Department.....295-5210
Fire Department.....295-5220

Upcoming Meetings

Town Council

11/09/2010 7:00 p.m.
12/14/2010 7:00 p.m.

Planning Board

11/18/2010 7:00 p.m.
12/16/2010 7:00 p.m.

ABC Board

11/11/2010 3:00 p.m.
12/16/2010 3:00 p.m.

Tourism Development Authority

11/22/2010 10:00 a.m.

Upcoming Events

Town offices Closed:
Thanksgiving
11/25/10-11/26/10

Christmas Festival
11/26/10

Christmas Parade
11/27/10

Town Offices Closed:
Christmas
12/24/10-12/27/10
New Years
12/31/10

Fall Leaf Pick-Up



Leaves will be picked up by roadside with vacuum trucks for the next two months, weather permitting. Leaves need to be free of sticks and branches, and placed so they do not block any drainage ways. When leaves become too wet to vacuum they need to be bagged and placed by roadside for pick-up. We are once again using contracted labor through Darren Wallace with State Maintenance to help assist the town staff in this process. For more information please call Town Hall at (828) 295-5200.

Town Hall Welcomes Two New Employees

Finance Director Nicole Norman is pleased to announce the selection of Megan Potter Summers as our new Accounting Tech/Payroll Administrator and Hilari Harding as our new Accounts Clerk/Office Assistant. Both will be filling vacant positions in the Administrative/Finance department. Please help us welcome them to our staff.



Ms. Summers comes to Blowing Rock after working five years at both the Hemlock Inn, where she has worked as an Operation Manager and Carolina Profiles, where she was an Office Assistant. She received an Associates of Arts Degree from Caldwell Community College and her B.S. Degree in Building Science from Appalachian State University.

Ms. Summers completed an internship with the Blowing Rock Planning Department this past spring/summer. She is a native of Watauga County and is a graduate of Watauga High School.

Megan and her husband, Ira, reside in the High Country. Megan began her employment with the Town on August 18.



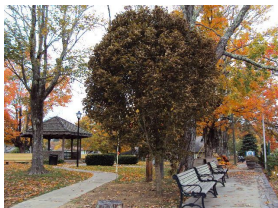
Ms. Harding comes to Blowing Rock from Tweetsie Railroad, where she served as Office Manager/Group Sales Coordinator. She previously worked as Teller Manager at Wachovia Bank in Blowing Rock for five years and as an Office Assistant at the Blowing Rock Food Lion for six years.

Ms. Harding received an Associates of Arts Degree from Caldwell Community College and graduated from the Blowing Rock Leadership Challenge. She is a native of Watauga County and is a graduate of Watauga High School.

Hilari is engaged to Martin Hubner and resides in the Blowing Rock area. Ms. Harding began her employment with the Town on August 16.

Downtown improvements

- * There have been several replacements of park benches in Memorial Park around the gazebo area.
- * Dome lids for downtown trash receptacles have begun to be installed. There will be a total of 25 lids installed and 4 new trash receptacles added when the project is complete.
- * There was additions made to the trees in Memorial Park, with two sugar maples being planted recently.



Parks and Recreation



"Christmas in the Park"



Schedule of Events

Friday November 26, 2010

Visit with Santa (In Gazebo)	2:00 to 5:30 pm
Hayrides through Blowing Rock	4:00 to 9:00 pm
Airwalk	2:00 to 7:00 pm
Free Hot Cider & Hot Chocolate	5:00 to 9:00 pm
Caroling in the Park with "Vagabonds"	5:00 to 6:30 pm
Light of the Town (Major JB Lawrence)	5:30 pm
Bluegrass Christmas (Diana & Sarvis Ridge)	7:00 to 9:00 pm

Saturday November 27, 2010

Christmas Parade	2:00 pm
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Do's and Do Not's for Disposal of Grease

Fats, Oils, and Greases aren't just bad for arteries and waistlines; they're bad for sewers, too. Sewer overflows and backups can cause health hazards, damage home interiors, and threaten the environment. An increasingly common cause of overflows is sewer pipes blocked by grease. Below are some helpful tips to keep in mind when disposing of oil & grease.

DO'S

- * Put oil and grease in collection containers
- * Remove oil and grease from kitchen utensils, equipment and food preparation areas with scrapers/towels
- * Keep grease out of wash water
- * Place food scraps in collection containers



DO NOT'S

- * Pour oil and grease down drains
- * Wash fryers/griddles, pots/pans and plates with water until oil and grease are removed
- * Use hot water to rinse grease off surfaces

Brahm construction progress



Construction is progressing with Boone Construction Company. Several items that are being added at this point in construction are: stone on the lower level of the parking structure and on the back (west side) of the structure, fluid applied membrane air barrier/vapor permeable (green material) to the exterior sheathing, and the exterior walls are being prepared for insulation.

In the next few weeks the roof shingles (GAF 50-year warranty/heavy, architectural shingle), fire-treated cedar wall shingles, Pella windows (these are custom windows that are high efficiency), sequence one "Store Front" (large windows at the front door), and the dry wall for fire ceiling on the bottom of the roof trusses will be installed.



Boone / Blowing Rock Waterline interconnect update

The waterline interconnect project is still progressing and is scheduled to be completed in the next 30 days. The pump station and meter vault are in the process of being installed. When the project is complete in addition to an emergency water line, there will be 28 fire hydrants on Highway 321 between Boone and Blowing Rock.

Don't forget to recycle



As the Town continues its curbside recycling initiative, do not forget to leave your recycling out for pick up on Thursday or Friday (depending on which side of the town you are located) by GDS. For more information on the program, please contact Town Hall at (828) 295-5200.