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Around the Rock

Town of Blowing Rock
Bi-Monthly Newsletter

Volume 3, Issue 1
February, 2009

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

03/10/2009 7:00 p.m.
04/14/2009 7:00 p.m.

Planning Board

03/19/2009 7:00 p.m.
04/16/2009 7:00 p.m.

ABC Board

03/24/2009 3:00 p.m.
04/23/2009 3:00 p.m.

Tourism Development Authority

03/09/2009 3:00 p.m.
04/07/2009 8:30 a.m.

Upcoming Events

Golden Easter Egg Hunt:
03/28/09 
Games: 9:30a.m. Hunt: 10:30a.m.

Town Offices Closed- Good Friday:
04/10/09

Blue Ridge Wine & Food Festival:
www.blueridgewinefestival.com
04/16/09- 04/19/09



Kinder T-ball Registration: 
BR Taxpayers- 04/01/09
Open Registration- 04/02/09
Program Begins- 04/21/09

Summer Day Camp Registration:
BR Taxpayers- 03/02/09
Open Registration- 03/30/09

Reception to Honor Volunteer Boards

The Blowing Rock Town Council will honor their various Town Boards and Commissions on March 10, 2009 with a reception at 6:00 p.m. before their monthly Board Meeting. This reception will take place in Town Hall at 1036 Main Street.

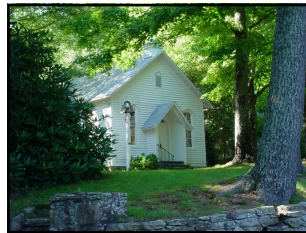


Blowing Rock Celebrates 120 Years

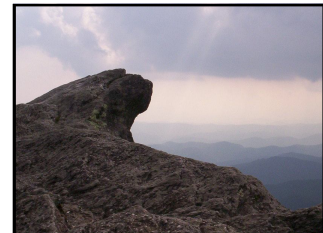


Come celebrate Blowing Rock's 120th birthday Wednesday, March 11, 2009. The celebration begins at 3:30 p.m. at Town Hall. The Blowing Rock Historical Society, The Blowing Rock Art and History Museum, and the Town of Blowing Rock will honor and present plaques to the following Six Historic Landmarks:

- Mt. Bethel Church- 123 Years old
- The Schenck House- 123 Years old
- The Boyden Cottage- 140 Years old
- The Martin House- 138 Years old
- Edgewood Cottage- 119 Years old
- The Blowing Rock- 250 Million years old



Mt. Bethel Church



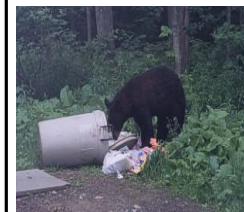
The Blowing Rock

Special Waste Collections

Small items, including lamps, telephones, small hand appliances, clothes, buckets, and plastic containers, may be placed at the curb (yard side) for collection on the same day as your household garbage. Miscellaneous items resulting from cleaning your garage, attic, storage shed, or closet are picked up with your regular garbage. The Town does not pick up construction material debris.

The extent of such Town collection service shall not include major deposits of unwanted or abandoned furniture, appliances or incidentals related to construction projects. The Town picks up bulky items twice a year, usually during May and October. The Town will schedule the date a month in advance. If you need items removed on a date other than the date designated by the Town, you may schedule a date for pick up at a charge of \$15 per 15 minutes of collection time. Do not put this type of trash out until the week of pickup or you may be subject to a fine. For more information, contact Town Hall at 828-295-5200.

A friendly reminder:



Only leave trash out the day of pickup to prevent animals from sifting through or being scattered by wind.



Reminder: Please continue to conserve water.

Planning and Inspections

Downtown Loading Zones and Delivery Times

The Planning Board is conducting a study of the delivery times and available loading zones along Main Street. A questionnaire was sent to all merchants along Main Street to gather information about the delivery processes, adequacy of existing loading zones, and pedestrian safety. The Planning Board and staff will then present this information to Town Council for consideration to incorporate into the downtown streetscape improvement plan.

Parking Structure



The American Legion Parking Structure continues to progress. In the past few weeks, the lower level concrete and access stairway have been poured, storm drainage installed, and upper level railings mounted.

Memorial Park Restrooms



The Public Works and Parks and Recreation staff have made many improvements to the Memorial Park Restroom facility. The project included installation of new automated toilet fixtures, sinks and hand dryers as well as repainting. Also, the ventilation system was upgraded. These improvements will be well appreciated by both residents and visitors!

Wastewater Annual Report

The Town of Blowing Rock has released the 2008 System Performance Annual Report for the Collection System and Wastewater Treatment Plant. Copies may be picked up free of charge at Town Hall, 1036 Main Street. This report is also available online at: www.townofblowingrock.com.

If you have any questions about this report, please contact the Director of Plant Operations, Tom McRary at 828-295-5225.

Parks and Recreation

Summer Day Camp



Camp Registration begins March 2nd for Blowing Rock Taxpayers and Open Enrollment begins March 30th. The camp is open to boys and girls from rising 1st—7th grade for 8 weeks beginning the second or third week in June depending on school schedule. Most camp activities are held in Downtown Blowing Rock, however, some out-of-town field trips are taken. Applications are online at townofblowingrock.com. For more information contact Jennifer Brown at 828-295-5222.

Grover C. Robbins Memorial Pool



Bids received in October 2008 for the Robbins Memorial Pool Complex improvements were rejected due to the fact that they exceeded the original budget for the project.

Currently evaluations are being done to determine areas where the cost of the project can be reduced without significantly affecting the overall project objective. With hopes that the weakened economy for construction in the area will improve the bidding environment and bring more competitive bids, the current plan is to rebid the project in late spring, open the existing pool on a normal schedule in May, and in mid-august (following the beginning of the 2009-2010 school year) close the existing pool and begin construction. This schedule will leave ample time for construction to be complete by the opening of the 2010 pool season.

Fire Siren: Public Comment Welcomed

The Town has discussed the status of the siren located next to the old Fire Station in Memorial Park. There have been some requests for the silencing of the siren and some who would like the siren to continue to be sounded.



The siren is no longer necessary for the operations of the Fire Department and has become obsolete with the use of more advanced and efficient alerting technologies such as radios and others used by the Fire Department.

While not needed, the siren is sounded everyday at noon as well as anytime there is a fire call in which the Fire Department responds.

The Town would like to receive your thoughts on the silencing of the siren. You may send them through the month of March to, Town of Blowing Rock, Attn: Town Clerk, PO Box 47, Blowing Rock, NC 28605 or e-mail them to brtown-clerk@bellsouth.net.