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Around the Rock

Town of Blowing Rock
Bi-Monthly Newsletter

Volume 7, Issue 4
August, 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

09/10/2013 5:30 p.m.
10/08/2013 5:30 p.m.

Planning Board

09/19/2013 5:30 p.m.
10/17/2013 5:30 p.m.

ABC Board

09/19/2013 3:00 p.m.
10/17/2013 3:00 p.m.

Tourism Development Authority

10/01/2013 3:30 p.m.

Upcoming Events

Kinder Soccer:
August 27th



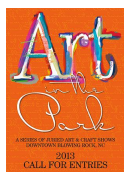
Town Offices Closed for Labor Day
September 2nd



Robbin's Pool at Broynhill
Park Season Ends

September 2nd

Art in the Park
September 7th
October 5th



Halloween Festival
October 26th



Interim Town Manager



Please join us in welcoming Robert "Bob" Shepherd as the Interim Town Manager. Mr. Shepherd was born and reared in Ashe County, NC. He graduated with honors from N.C. State University, with a Master Degree in Economics from Kansas State University. He served as Army Reserve Lieutenant (Washington, DC), Economist with the Economic Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture (Washington, D.C.), Regional Planner with the Economic Development Council of Northeast Pennsylvania and Executive Director of the Land-of-Sky Regional Council (Asheville, N.C.). During his retirement, he has served as Interim Town Manager for Maggie Valley, Columbus, and Tryon.

Current Service:

- Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation, Board of Advisors
- Board of Givens Estates United Methodist Retirement Community (Life Member)
- Pigeon River Fund, Board Treasurer
- NC Friends of Plant Conservation, Director
- Mountain Resources Commission
- Member of the Board of Directors of Home Trust Bank, where he chairs the Compensation Committee and for many years chaired the Audit, Compliance and Risk Committee

Public Service Accolades:

- Order of the Long Leaf Pine by N.C. Governor
- Circle of Excellence by Leadership Ashville Forum
- Outstanding Rural Leader by N.C. Rural Economic Development Center
- Federal Co-Chairman's Award by Appalachian Regional Commission
- Life Member of N.C. City and County Management Association
- Benchmark Award by Land-of-Sky Regional Council
- Friends of the River and Critical Link awards by River Link

Comprehensive Plan



The Town of Blowing Rock recently began a process to update the Town's Comprehensive Plan. In preparation for beginning this process, the Town solicited public input with a survey that was conducted last year, with over 500 residents responding. In order to gather additional public input for the plan, the town will hold a set of kick-off meetings on August 27th. Additional public meetings focusing on specific areas of the Town will be held on the following

dates: October 8th- Downtown, October 15th- Hospital Property, and October 29th- Valley Blvd/ Future Land Use. More information about the Town of Blowing Rock Comprehensive Plan process can be obtained by visiting www.townofblowingrock.com or by contacting the Planning Department at 828-295-5240.

**The draft plan will be completed by early spring, at which time a public comment period and an additional public input meeting will be held to solicit feedback on the plan prior to its consideration for adoption by the Planning Board and Town Council.*

Bi-Annual Clean-Up

The Town has scheduled the "Fall Bi-Annual Clean-Up" during the week of October 14-18. Please do not block any ditches or drains. This pick-up includes white goods, yard debris (leaves, tree branches), mattresses, paint cans, etc. Paint cans need to be opened for paint to solidify or add cat litter to paint to absorb liquid. Residents do not need to call Town Hall to have their names on a list. The Bi-Annual Clean-Up is offered in the fall and spring of each year.

**Watauga County Landfill will be accepting full paint containers from 9am to 2pm on Saturday, October 19th. For more information, contact the Watauga County Sanitation Office at 828-264-5305.*



The Code Red emergency notification system provides the Town of Blowing Rock with a telephone calling system capable of delivering customized emergency messages directly to homes, businesses and mobile telephone users. If you are not already registered for this service, please go to the Town's website at www.townofblowingrock.com. Once you are on the home page, go to the bottom of the page and you will see a link to register for Code Red. **REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED TO RECEIVE CODE RED NOTIFICATIONS.** If you have any questions please call Town Hall at (828)295-5200.

*US Hwy 321 widening project related significant water disruptions are communicated through the Code Red system.

The NCDOT project website is (www.ncdot.gov/projects/BlowingRock321/) and the project hotline is (828) 964-3260. The hotline is answered locally and can provide callers with real-time updates.

Parking Reminders



If you have been downtown lately, you may have noticed a familiar face. Mike Barfoot, a recently retired employee of the Police Department, has returned as our seasonal parking enforcement officer. Mike is out on foot during the week enforcing Blowing Rock's parking ordinances. Mike says the most common parking violations he sees are:

1. Overtime parking. Parking is restricted to 3 hours downtown unless otherwise marked.
2. Parking in handicap spaces without a handicap permit.
3. Parking on the sidewalk.
4. Occupying more than one space.
5. Not parking in the same direction as the flow of traffic.

Rules and regulations for parking can be found online, within the Town Code section at www.townofblowingrock.com.

Planning & Inspections Updates

Recent Business Openings:

- Beyond Category Bike Shop at 8100 Valley Blvd
- Town Tavern at 1182 Main Street
- Waldo's Satellite Service at 8332 Valley Blvd
- Sandwich Shack at Shoppes at Southmarke
- The New Public House at 239 Sunset Drive

New Business Applications Under Review:

- Subway at Tanger Shoppes on the Parkway



Curbside Recycling Update



Curbside Recycling is alive and well. The participation rate in Town recycling reached 50% in June, the highest rate since October 2012. For more information on the program, please contact Town Hall at (828) 295-5200.

Halloween Festival



October 26, 2013
Schedule of Events



Air Walks in Memorial Park:	3:00p.m. - 8:00p.m.	Bonfire in the Park:	6:30p.m. - 9:00p.m.
Games & Fun House in Rec. Center:	3:00p.m. - 5:30p.m.	Costume Contest:	7:00p.m. - until
Hay Rides through Blowing Rock: (Meet in Memorial Park)	4:00p.m. - 8:00p.m.	(Sign up at the Rec. Center (White Building by the Tennis Courts) by 6:45p.m.)	
The Monster March (Line up at the American Legion at 5:30p.m./Parade starts at 5:45p.m.)	5:45 p.m. - until	Scavenger Hunt - Broyhill Lake: Bring your flashlight! (ages 6-13) Participate in teams (max: 3 per group)	Following Costume Contest
Trick or Treat Downtown: (Look for Black and Orange Balloons)	6:00p.m. - until		

