



# Around the Rock

Town of Blowing Rock  
Bi-Monthly Newsletter

Volume 7, Issue 5  
October, 2013

www.townofblowingrock.com

## 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

11/12/2013 5:30 p.m.  
12/10/2013 5:00 p.m.

### Planning Board

11/21/2013 5:30 p.m.  
12/19/2013 5:30 p.m.

### ABC Board

11/21/2013 3:00 p.m.  
12/19/2013 3:00 p.m.

### TDA Planning Retreat

11/13/2013 9:00 a.m.

## Upcoming Events

### Town Offices Closed:

**Thanksgiving**  
November 28th & 29th

### Christmas Festival

November 29th

### Christmas Parade

November 30th

### Town Offices Closed:

**Christmas**  
December 24th - 26th

**New Years**  
January 1st

## **BRAAC**

**Fall Planting Day: 11/02/13**



BRACC will hold its Fall Planting Day on November 2, 2013. If you would like to join the fun, meet in front of Town Hall at 9:00 a.m. For more information

contact the Parks and Recreation Department at (828)295-5222.

## *New Town Manager*



Please join us in welcoming Scott Fogleman, our new Town Manager. Scott relocated to the area from Cary, NC, where he was the Budget Director for the Town of Cary for 11 years.

Scott has completed the University of North Carolina School of Government Municipal Administration and Public Executive Leadership Academy programs and was a member of the International City County Management Association. He is an active member of the North Carolina Local Government Budget Association and earned its designation as a Certified Budget and Evaluation Officer in 2011. In the fall of 2011 and 2012 he served as an adjunct faculty member at North Carolina State University where he taught the Budget Process class within the Master of Public Administration degree program. Prior to his work with Cary, he held a variety of budget and financial planning roles in the private sector and briefly pursued a professional golf career. Fogleman holds a Bachelor of Science degree with a Major in Accounting from Georgia Regents University and a Master of Business Administration degree from the University of South Carolina.

As Blowing Rock's Town Manager, he is tasked with continuing to focus on several key projects already underway including the update of the Town's Comprehensive Plan, an organization-wide Customer Service Excellence initiative, and implementing grants related to extending infrastructure to the proposed Post-Acute Care Facility being developed by the Appalachian Regional Healthcare System. He will also begin a thorough evaluation of the financial status of the organization, especially as it relates to implementation of long term capital improvement plans.

## *Fall Leaf Pick-Up*



Leaves will be picked up by the 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 the roadside for pick-up. We are once again using contracted labor through Estate Maintenance to assist the town staff in this process. For more information please call Town Hall at (828) 295-5200.

## **Parks and Recreation**

### *"Christmas in the Park"*

#### **Friday November 29, 2013**

Visit with Santa (In Gazebo)  
2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Hayrides through Blowing Rock  
4:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Airwalk  
2:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Free Hot Cider & Hot Chocolate  
5:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Caroling in the Park with "Vagabonds"  
5:00 to 6:30 p.m.

Lighting of the Town (Mayor JB Lawrence)  
5:30 p.m.

Bluegrass Christmas (Diana & Sarvis Ridge)  
7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

#### **Saturday November 30, 2013**

Christmas Parade  
2:00 p.m.



## Fire Prevention - Cooking Safety!



Cooking fires are the number one cause of home fires and home injuries. The leading cause of fires in the kitchen is unattended cooking. It's important to be alert to prevent cooking fires.

### SAFETY TIPS:

- Stay in the kitchen when you are frying, grilling, or boiling food. If you leave the kitchen for even a short period of time, turn off the stove.
- If you are simmering, baking, roasting, or boiling food, check it regularly, remain in the home while food is cooking, and use a timer to remind you that you are cooking.
- Keep anything that can catch fire— oven mitts, wooden utensils, food packing, towels or curtains— away from your stovetop.
- Keep the stovetop, burners, and oven clean.
- Wear short, close-fitting or tightly rolled sleeves when cooking. Loose clothing can dangle onto stove burners and can catch fire if it comes in contact with a gas flame or electric burner.
- Have a “kid-free zone” of at least 3 feet around the stove and areas where hot food or drink is prepared or carried.
- Always use cooking equipment that has the label of a recognized testing laboratory.
- Follow manufacturer's instructions and code requirements when installing, cleaning, and operating cooking equipment.
- Plug microwave ovens or other cooking appliances directly into an outlet. Never use an extension cord for a cooking appliance as it can overload the circuit and cause a fire.
- Check electrical cords for cracks, breaks, or damage.

### IF YOU HAVE A COOKING FIRE:

- Just get out! When you leave, close the door behind you to help contain the fire.
- Call 9-1-1 or the local emergency number after you leave.
- If you do try to fight the fire, be sure others are already getting out and you have a clear path to exit.
- Always keep a lid nearby when you're cooking. If a small grease fire starts in a pan, smother the flames by carefully sliding the lid over the pan. Turn off the burner. Do not move the pan. To keep the fire from restarting, leave the lid on until the pan is completely cool.
- In case of an oven fire, turn off the heat and keep the door closed. After a fire, the oven should be checked and/or serviced before being used again.

## Project Updates!

### Comprehensive Plan Update:

Over the next couple of weeks there are two more scheduled public meetings for the public to be involved in the comprehensive plan update process.

On Tuesday, October 29<sup>th</sup> from 12 to 2 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m., the public is invited to attend comprehensive plan workshops dealing with the widening construction on Valley Blvd. (HWY 321 Bypass). The workshop will address what the road will look like once completed and the opportunities for redevelopment on the parcels that remain.

On Tuesday, November 12<sup>th</sup> following the regular Town Council meeting, planning consultant Benchmark, Inc. will present summary findings from all 4 public workshops.

\*Please go to the Town's website at [www.townofblowingrock.com](http://www.townofblowingrock.com) for a link to the comprehensive plan update process and scheduled activities.

### High Country Regional Bike Plan:

High Country Council of Governments (HCCOG) contracted with NCDOT to develop a Regional Bike Plan for the seven-county High Country. The Plan is intended to improve safety, access, and mobility for cyclists by designating logical routes that connect municipalities and other major destinations in the region. The Plan identifies needed improvements to existing roadways, and establishes seven Recreational Cycling Routes. The Draft includes details on how the Plan was developed, and contains maps of recommendations.

The Draft High Country Regional Bike Plan can be accessed at:

<http://www.regiond.org/BIKEPLAN.html>

## Hometown Harvest



**November 17, 2013**

**5:30 to 7:30 p.m.**

**Blowing Rock Fire Station 1**  
(8001 Valley Blvd)

Old-Fashioned Cake Contest!  
Cake Drop-Off from 4:00pm to 5:00pm  
Children Activities!

Please bring a covered dish to share and canned goods for hunger.

\*Sponsored by local organizations\*