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Around the Rock

Town of Blowing Rock
Bi-Monthly Newsletter
Volume 6, Issue 1
February, 2012

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

03/13/2012 5:00 p.m.
04/10/2012 5:30 p.m.

Planning Board

03/15/2012 5:30 p.m.
04/19/2012 5:30 p.m.

ABC Board

03/22/2012 3:00 p.m.
04/12/2012 3:00 p.m.

TDA Board

04/03/12 3:30 p.m.

Upcoming Events



Town's 123rd Birthday Party & Awards

03/09/12- 3:30 p.m. at Town Hall

Summer Day Camp

Registration:

BR Taxpayers- 03/05/12

Open Registration- 03/26/12



Kinder T-ball Registration:

BR Taxpayers- 04/02/12

Open Registration- 04/03/12

Program Begins- 05/01/12



Golden Easter Egg Hunt:

03/31/12

Games: 10:00 a.m.

Hunt: 11:00 a.m.



Blue Ridge Wine & Food Festival:

www.blueridgewinefestival.com

04/11/12-04/15/12

Town Offices Closed- Good Friday:
04/06/12

Town Council Meeting Time Change

The Town of Blowing Rock Board of Commissioners established a regular meeting time of 5:30 p.m. for meetings held the second Tuesday of each month for the months of April through November, with meetings November through March remaining at 5:00 p.m.

Reception to Honor Volunteer Boards

The Blowing Rock Town Council will honor the various Boards and Commissions on Tuesday, March 13, 2012 with a reception at 4:00 p.m. before their monthly Board meeting at 5:00 p.m. This reception will take place in Town Hall at 1036 Main Street.

2012 Board Appointments

Planning Board: Jim West, Alice Roess, and Brenda Fairbetter (ETJ)

Board of Adjustment: Jerry Starnes, Tim Ford, Larry Faulkner, and Terry Story (ETJ)

ABC Board: David Greene

TDA Board: Dean Bullis, Doug Matheson, and Kent Tarbutton



Historic Markers to be Presented to Historic Properties

Four sites will be honored this spring with new plaques that describe their significance to our community, thanks to the on going efforts of the Blowing Rock Historical Society and the Blowing Rock Art and History Museum. These sites will be recognized during the 123rd Birthday celebration of the Town of Blowing Rock. This year, plaques will be presented to the following:

- Watauga Hotel Cottage (1888)
- Green Park Hotel (1891)
- Ruple Memorial Presbyterian Church (1912)
- The site of Mayview Manor Hotel (1922)



Everyone is invited to the Birthday Party and presentation of markers in Town Hall on March 9, 2012 at 3:30 pm. Birthday cake and good wishes will make this a festive occasion. Please join us!

US 321 Widening Project

The US Hwy 321 widening project is underway. For details note the following contact information:

Doug Eller, Assistant Resident Engineer
NCDOT Transportation Division II
(828) 265-5088

Taylor & Murphy (Contractor)
(828) 667-4526

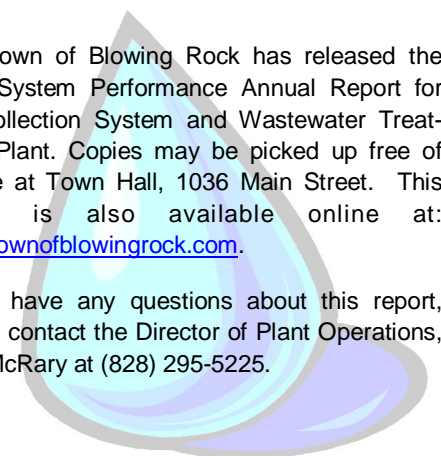
NCDOT project website (www.ncdot.gov/projects/BlowingRock321/)

You may also, call the NCDOT U.S. 321 Project Hotline at (828) 964-3260. The hotline is answered locally and can provide callers with real-time updates.

Wastewater Annual Report

The Town of Blowing Rock has released the 2011 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.



Serving & Protecting the Citizens of Blowing Rock

Blowing Rock Police Department

Calls responded to in calendar year 2011 totaled 9,711.

Calendar Year 2011 Report Highlights:

- Miles Patrolled: 118,751
- Traffic Accidents: 85
- DWI: 61
- Speeding: 471
- All Other Traffic: 572
- Incident Investigations: 139
- Arrests: 88
- Other Departments: 40
- Parking Enforcement/Other: 329

Six "Chat with the Chief" sessions were held during calendar year 2011, resulting in increased community input on police-related issues. These sessions provided an informal setting for citizens to have the opportunity to ask questions, get clarifications and give feedback to the department.

Notable ongoing programs and initiatives include:

Community Welfare Checks (checking on the elderly/homebound)

Crime Prevention Program

Residential Area Targeted Speed Enforcement

D.A.R.E Program (at Blowing Rock School)

Children's Christmas Coat and Shoe Drive

Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) Education

In the coming months, you will see an increase in foot patrol and an increased officer presence out in our neighborhoods. Please feel free to contact Chief Eric Brown with any questions or suggestions for the Blowing Rock Police Department at (828) 295-5210.

Blowing Rock Fire & Rescue

Calls for service in calendar year 2011 totaled 837.

Call Type Division for Calendar Year 2011:

- Fire: 40
- Rescue & EMS: 549
- Hazardous Conditions (No Fire): 25
- Service Calls: 25
- Good Intent Calls: 39
- False Alarm & False Call: 145
- Special Type: 14

Having seen an increase in call volume in calendar year 2011, coupled with more varieties of call response types, Blowing Rock firefighters maintain a goal to continually step up their preparation. With 3,890 emergency response training hours in 2011, the group is proud to report that several members have recently received advanced training and certificates in a number of disciplines. Some of these specialties include Paramedic level EMS, All-Hazard Incident Management Team training, Tower Rescue certification and Fire Officer Level II Certification. Preparation and training has been and will continue to be paramount to the Fire and Rescue group.

Notable ongoing programs and initiatives include:

Injury Prevention: Fire Inspections

Child Restraint Training and Installation

Blood Pressure Checks

Code Enforcement: Property Owner & Contractor Consultation

Plan Reviews

House Numbering Campaign

The members of Blowing Rock Fire & Rescue look forward to serving the Town's citizenry and entire fire district. They are also encouraged by developing new opportunities for community involvement as it is at the heart of their mission. Please feel free to contact Deputy Chief Kent Graham with any questions or suggestions for Blowing Rock Fire & Rescue at (828) 295-5218.

Fire Truck Restoration Effort



Blowing Rock Fire & Rescue is partnering with the Blowing Rock Historical Society in an effort to raise donations to restore a 1926 Brockway LaFrance. This fire truck was Blowing Rock's very first engine! Please contact Deputy Chief Kent Graham at (828) 295-5218 with funding ideas.

Summer Day Camp

Camp registration begins March 5th for Blowing Rock Taxpayers and Open Enrollment begins March 26th. The camp is open to boys and girls from rising Kindergarten (must be five years old and recently attended daycare) -sixth grade for eight weeks beginning June 4th. Most camp activities are held in downtown Blowing Rock. Applications will be available online at www.townofblowingrock.com. For more information call Blowing Rock Parks & Recreation at 828-295-5222.

