



Around the Rock

Town of Blowing Rock
Bi-Monthly Newsletter

Volume 7, Issue 1
February, 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 only.....295-5212
Fire Admin only.....295-5220
Emergency Police & Fire.....911

Upcoming Meetings

Town Council

03/12/13 5:00 p.m.
04/09/13 5:30 p.m.

Planning Board

03/21/13 5:30 p.m.
04/18/13 5:30 p.m.

ABC Board

03/21/13 3:00 p.m.
04/18/13 3:00 p.m.

TDA Board

04/02/13 3:30 p.m.

Upcoming Events

Town's 124th Birthday Party &
Awards
03/11/13 3:30 p.m. at Town Hall

Summer Day Camp

Registration:

BR Taxpayers- 03/4/13

Open Registration- 03/18/13

Program Dates- 06/10/13 - 08/02/13

Kinder T-ball Registration:

BR Taxpayers- 03/25/13

Open Registration- 03/26/13

Program Begins- 04/30/13

Golden Easter Egg Hunt:

03/23/13

Games: 10:00 a.m.

Hunt: 11:00 a.m.

Blue Ridge Wine & Food Festival:

www.blueridgewinefestival.com

04/10/13-04/14/13

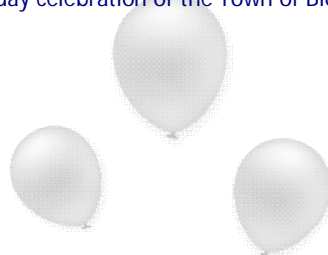
Town Offices Closed- Good Friday:

03/29/13

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 124th Birthday celebration of the Town of Blowing Rock. This year, plaques will be presented to the following:

- Blowing Rock Art & History Museum (2011)
- Inn at Ragged Garden (1896)
- Blowing Rock Methodist Church (1901)
- The 1st Town Hall & Chamber of Commerce (1900)



Everyone is invited to the Birthday Party and presentation of markers in Town Hall on Monday, March 11, 2013 at 3:30 pm. Birthday cake and good wishes will make this a festive occasion. Please join us!

Reception to Honor Volunteer Boards

The Blowing Rock Town Council will honor the various Boards and Commissions on Tuesday, March 12, 2013 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.

2013 Board Appointments

Planning Board: Debbie di Santi, David Laughter, Ray Pickett, Natalie Bovino

Board of Adjustment: Mark Klein, Annie Whatley, Suzanne Wilson, Joe Papa

ABC Board: Robert "Bob" Miller

TDA Board: Rob Dyer, Kent Tarbutton (Chair)



House Numbering



We need your help to help you! If or when emergency personnel are called to your home those individuals need to be able to find you quickly. If your house is not properly numbered; that can be difficult. Below are a few tips on how to properly number your house:

- Number should be within 3 feet of entrance, visible (100 feet from street or road) and readable from street or road from both directions.
- If above criteria cannot be met, post at driveway entrance on mailbox or post visible from both directions.
- Numbers should be in contrast to background, reflective, maintained in a clearly visible manner, 3 1/2 inches or taller. Numbers for multi-family buildings must be 6 inches or taller, placed on approximate center or on the street end of the building and clearly visible from the street.

*House Numbers are available at the Fire Station (8001 Valley Blvd). If you have any questions concerning house numbering, please feel free to contact the Fire Department at (828)295-5220.

2013 Council Retreat

The Town of Blowing Rock Board of Commissioners held their annual retreat in January. Please visit www.townofblowingrock.com for a complete list of their priorities and action plan for the 2013-2014 fiscal year.

Blowing Rock Police Department Fills Two Vacancies Welcome Byland & Canter!

Police Chief Eric Brown is pleased to announce the hiring of two Police Officers, Jordan Byland and Bobby Canter. Please help us welcome them!



Mr. Byland is a Granite Falls native and graduated from South Caldwell High School, where he was basketball team captain. He completed his basic law enforcement training at Western Piedmont Community College in December 2011 and previously worked part-time for Valdese Police Department since July 2012.



Mr. Canter is a Boone native and a 2004 graduate of Johnson County (TN) High School. While in high school, Bobby worked at Tweetsie and since graduation, worked at Hospitality Mints in Boone for approximately 7 years. He completed his basic law enforcement training at Wilkes Community College in December 2011. Bobby, and his wife, live in Ashe County, and are parents to two daughters and are expecting a third child. Canter also holds a black belt in Kung Fu and a Fire Fighter I Certification.

Summer Day Camp



Camp registration begins March 4, 2013 for Blowing Rock Taxpayers and Open Enrollment begins March 18, 2013. 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 tentatively scheduled for June 10, 2013 to August 2, 2013. Applications will be available online at www.townofblowingrock.com. For more information call Blowing Rock Parks & Recreation at (828)295-5222.

Wastewater Annual Report

The Town of Blowing Rock has released the 2012 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.

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: 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, and place food scraps in collection containers.

DO NOT: Pour oil and grease down drains, wash fryers/griddles, pots/pans and plates with water until oil and grease are removed, and use hot water to rinse grease off surfaces.

**Reminder: Please remember when piling debris at the curbside, not to block any ditches, culverts, drains, or roadways.*

Serving & Protecting the Citizens of Blowing Rock 2012

Blowing Rock Police Department

Calls responded to in calendar year 2012 totaled 7,206.

Calendar Year 2012 Report Highlights:

Miles Patrolled (124,740), Traffic Accidents (113), DWI (60), Speeding (174), All Other Traffic (454), Incident Investigations (131), Arrests (121), Parking Enforcement/Other (91)

Notable ongoing programs and initiatives include:

Community Welfare Checks (checking on the elderly/homebound), Crime Prevention Program, D.A.R.E Program (at Blowing Rock School), Children's Christmas Coat and Shoe Drive, Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) Education, Special Olympics and Torch Run

Please feel free to contact Chief Eric Brown with any questions or suggestions for the Blowing Rock Police Department at (828) 295-5212.

Blowing Rock Fire & Rescue

Calls for service in calendar year 2012 totaled 887.

Call Type Division for Calendar Year 2012:

Fire (58), Rescue & EMS (369), Hazardous Conditions (No Fire) (22), Service Calls (37), False Alarm & False Calls (140), Special Type (5)

Notable ongoing programs and initiatives include:

Education in fire inspections, adult public programs, school & parks & rec. programs, and firefighter recruitment and retention.

The Fire Department will be using education and entertainment to achieve compliance, impact, and effectiveness.

Please feel free to contact Chief Kent Graham with any questions or suggestions for Blowing Rock Fire & Rescue at (828) 295-5220.

Project Updates

Salt Bin:

Greene Construction, Inc. recently completed the new Salt Bin at the Town's Public Works warehouse site.



Wastewater Treatment Plant:

Greene Construction, Inc. continues work on the Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements Project. The project is approximately 98% complete, with remaining work including: driveway resurfacing, as well as work added to the project including: clarifier repairs, sludge pump station repairs, electrical upgrades, lighting, drainage, sludge return replacement, air valves and a new portable hoist. The project deadline has been extended for additional work to be completed no later than April 4, 2013.

Highway 321 Widening Project:

-NCDOT project website (www.ncdot.gov/projects/BlowingRock321/)
-NCDOT U.S. 321 Project Hotline at (828) 964-3260. The hotline is answered locally and can provide callers with real-time updates.