

# PEARISBURG TODAY

## COMMUNITY CENTER RENOVATIONS

Town Council has approved plans to complete upgrades in the Community Center Cafeteria and Restrooms. In March work will start on the replacement of flooring in the Cafeteria. The existing carpet will be removed and tile flooring will be put down to replace it. This work is being partially funded by the Pearisburg High School alumni, known as the Red Devils. The tiles will be easier to maintain and replace carpet that is over fifteen years old.

In the Men's Restroom, a new tile floor will be put down. This was done several years ago in the Woman's Restroom and has served very well. While this work is being done both Restrooms will also have toilets, sinks, and plumbing replaced. The purpose of these renovations is to make the facility more usable as a Community Center and to replace worn out plumbing used since the building served as a school.

Council plans other improvements to the building as funding allows.



### Council Chamber Floor Replacement

Approval was given in February to replace the carpeting in the Council Chambers at the Town Hall. The existing flooring is nearly twenty years old. Stains and worn areas make the replacement necessary. Council has approved a vinyl composite floor tile for installation in this area. This will be easier to clean and maintain in this high use area of the Town Hall. Work on this project will take place this spring.

#### Dates to Remember:

**Offices will be closed on Friday, March 25, 2016.**

**Pearisburg Community Market Opens Saturday, May 7, 2016.**

**Town Pool Opens on Saturday, May 28, 2016.**

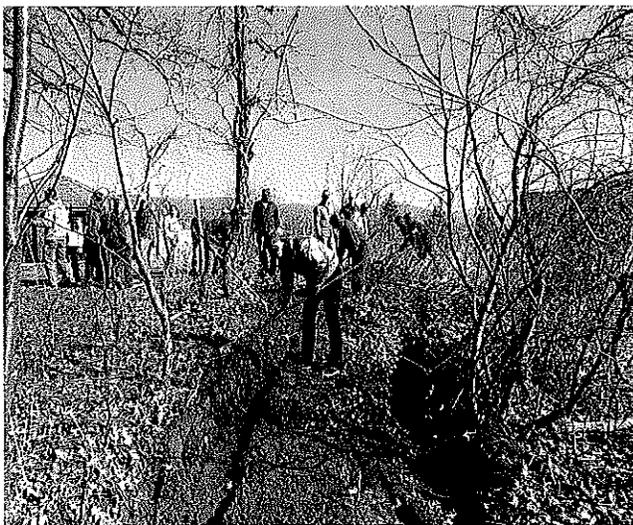
**Offices will be closed on Monday, May 30, 2016.**

## SPECIAL EVENTS

### Holy Cross Students will spend Spring Break in Pearisburg

Students from Holy Cross College were in Pearisburg for the Alternate Spring Break Project from March 5-11. Students painted parts of the Community Center, removed tile and carpet from bathrooms and the cafeteria, and worked on the walking trail at Dogwood Farms. They also worked in the playground area getting it ready for spring.

Special thanks to all those who assisted with meals and entertainment while the students were in town.



The Town has participated in this program for twenty years, hosting different colleges and many students. The Town appreciates all the efforts these students put forth.

### VMI Cadets will be in Pearisburg doing community service projects in April

Cadets from VMI will be in Pearisburg April 2-4 doing various community service projects. This will be the first time they have visited Pearisburg.

Planning is still underway for this. If you are interested in participating in this project please contact us 540-921-0340.

### FARMERS MARKET TO OPEN UP 2016 SEASON ON MAY 7th

The Pearisburg Community Market will open on Saturday, May 7th with new hours for the 2016 season. Saturday hours will be 8:30 am—1 pm. Third Thursday hours will be 5-8:30 pm. The market will offer free kids art activities, local produce, plants, local artisans wares, and live music. The Farm Table will offer light breakfast and lunch options along with baked goods using products from the market vendors. Weekly events, special events, and menus will be posted on our website at [www.pearisburg.org](http://www.pearisburg.org) and on our Facebook page.

\*\*In May, the Thursday evening market will be on the second Tuesday as it will be AT Day at the Market\*\*

# Mayor's Corner

Spring is just about here, and with it comes sunshine and warmer days. Those massive snowstorms will soon be just a memory. I am happy to see new businesses coming to Pearisburg. Dollar Tree and Matthew's Jewelry are open and serving the needs of our area. Dahlia's Delights, a new bakery, will soon open on Main St. in the Shelton Place building. I am sure that more announcements will be forthcoming as warmer weather approaches.

Two new boat landings on the New River were completed this past year. Pearisburg, working jointly with the County, secured the funding to build these public access points. One is located at Whitt Riverbend Park, and the other under the bridge at Bluff City. If you are in the vicinity be sure and check them out. In addition, the second year of the Farmer's Market is rapidly approaching. I think the coming year will be bigger and better with more vendors and activities. Be sure to come out on Saturday mornings or the third Thursday evening of each month.

I would like to welcome the Holy Cross students to Pearisburg. They come each year on their spring break to help the town with special projects. It is a blessing to learn from them as they learn about our community. I hope their stay will be a rewarding experience that they will never forget.

If I can ever be of service to you, please feel free to call the Town Office. Thank you and have a happy spring.

**Robert L. Dickerson**

## BOAT RAMPS COMPLETED

Using a grant from Game and Inland Fisheries, Giles County and the Town of Pearisburg have completed over \$200,000 in improvements to public access on the New River on either end of the Town. A new landing was built at Whitt-Riverbend Park. The landing has ample parking, paved boat ramp, a concrete launch area and a new restroom. It will replace existing informal access areas along the state road leading to the Park.

On the west end of town, the landing under the Bluff City bridge has been completely renovated. This area is a major take out for people using the river and has very limited access with questionable right of way. The new landing is also paved with a concrete boat launch and has improved parking and turn around areas. A rest room has also been added to this area. This landing has been dedicated to John Hale, a longtime member of ReNew the New and steward for the river. This spring formal dedication ceremonies will be announced at each of these important public access areas. Future maintenance of the landings will be the responsibility of the town.

## RURAL DEVELOPMENT SEWER GRANT

Pearisburg has been awarded a grant to conduct an engineering study into the cost and benefit of replacing chlorine gas with ultraviolet light as a means of disinfecting treated wastewater. Chlorine gas is a hazardous chemical, but effective in sterilizing wastewater. Several years ago the town experienced a leak at the plant that could have endangered workers. Ultraviolet light is also an effective treatment. Increased electric costs would offset cost of chemicals. However, the town feels that elimination of the chlorine will make the treatment process safer and more environmentally friendly. Anderson and Associates will develop the report, including cost estimates.

## GILES COUNTY PUBLIC SERVICE AUTHORITY

Pearisburg is working with the Public Service Authority on a project to connect the Tannery Well to the Pearisburg Wastewater Treatment Plant's emergency generator. In the event of an extended power outage the generator can be used to power both the well pumps and the wastewater treatment plant. This project is a very cost effective method of insuring that both public facilities can continue to operate in an emergency. The Public Service Authority is also working towards installation of an emergency generator to operate the water treatment plant during extended power outages. Both of these projects are needed and will help insure adequate water to customers.

## NEW BUSINESSES

A warm welcome to all the new businesses that have joined our community in the last few months. Matthews Jewelry is located on S. Main Street offering a selection of fine and custom jewelry items as well as repair services. Dollar Tree has opened a new store in Pearisburg Square shopping center. Be sure to check out the many great buys available from this merchant. If you need legal assistance, Buckland Law firm is now located in the former Bank Restaurant building on Main Street. Coming soon to Shelton Place on Main Street is Dahlia's Delights. This bakery will specialize in custom cakes and pastries. As always, we encourage you to shop Pearisburg First.

## PEARISBURG TOWN POOL TO OPEN MAY 28TH

The Pearisburg Town Pool will be opening Memorial Day weekend. To book a pool party you can call 921-2347 (921-ADIP).

There are many summer events currently being planned. If you are interested in the Pearisburg Community Market call Lynne at 921-0340. If you are interested in Festival Around Town call Hope at 921-1222. For information about Relay for Life call Hope at 921-1222.