

Town of PEARISBURG Virginia



Newsletter, Fall/Winter 2020-21



Upcoming Holiday Closures for the Town of Pearisburg

Wednesday, November 25 – Close at Noon

Thursday, November 26 – CLOSED

Friday, November 27 – CLOSED

Thursday, December 24 – CLOSED

Friday, December 25 – CLOSED

Friday, January 1, 2021 – CLOSED



Payment Information

Place payments in the drop box located outside
the Town Office or pay by phone at 1-844-410-6795 or online at
www.pearisburg.org



Christmas is NOT Cancelled in Pearisburg!

The Town of Pearisburg and the Pearisburg Merchants Association wish everyone a Happy Holidays! In lieu of the annual parade, we have partnered to host the following events:

1. The Pearisburg Junior Woman's Club hosts their 35th annual **Breakfast with Santa** on December 5 from 8 a.m. -10 a.m. at the Pearisburg Methodist Church. This is a drive-thru event featuring breakfast and a visit with Santa.
2. **Storytime with Santa**, hosted by the Giles County Rotary Club and Giles Historical Society, will take place at the History Museum on Saturday, December 5. Treats will be provided.
3. **Christmas with Santa** will be held at the Community Center on Sunday, December 6 from 4 - 6 p.m. Letters to Santa will be accepted on site.
4. Don't miss a **Virtual Tree Lighting** at the Pearisburg Community Center on Sunday, December 6 immediately following Christmas with Santa. This will be a Facebook Live event.
5. Don't be a scrooge, decorate! The Town will be hosting an **Outdoor Neighborhood Christmas Decoration Competition**. Pictures are due no later December 18.
6. Are trees more your thing? Enter the **Best Outdoor Christmas Tree Competition!** Pictures are due no later than December 18.
7. Local businesses can show their decorating talent in the **Business Window Christmas Decorating Contest!** Pictures are due no later than December 18.
8. Finally, be on the lookout for the **Downtown Scavenger Hunt**. More information coming soon!

Merry  *Christmas*

*Additional information and updates will be provided on the Town of Pearisburg and Pearisburg Merchants Association Facebook and webpages.

Pearisburg Public Library Operating on a Modified Schedule

Pearisburg Public Library

@pearisburgpubliclibrary

Modified Library Hours:

Monday: 12-5 p.m.

Tuesday: 12-5 p.m.

Wednesday: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Thursday: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Friday: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Looking to join a book club? The Giles County Bookworms is a county-wide book club that meets every month! Follow the group on Facebook @gilescountybookworms to join, get the latest info on what we're reading and how we're meeting, and most of all, make new friends! The Bookworms will discuss Last Christmas in Paris by Hazel Gaynor on December 15. The chosen book for January's meeting is Anxious People by Fredrik Backman. We hope you can join us!

Now, more than ever, be sure to follow us on Facebook or Instagram @pearisburgpubliclibrary for the latest information about library operations, upcoming library events, programs, and more! You can also search the online catalog and find lists of new titles at www.pearisburglibrary.org.

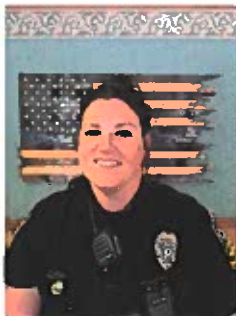
New faces in the Pearisburg Police Department!

The Pearisburg Police Department has hired three new police officers since August. Two open vacancies were filled and a third officer was hired from a Federal Cops Hiring Grant that the Police Department received in July of this year. This grant added a much needed eighth officer for the Town.

The new officers have extensive training and experience and have blended in well with our agency.

Krystal Collins joined us from the Montgomery County Sheriff's Department. Gordon Oakes came to us from the Radford City Police Department.

Finally, Melissa Cohen came onboard from the Bland County Sheriff's Department. Officer Cohen will focus on our Community Policing efforts within our community and will be involved in several different focus and community-oriented programs.



**Officer
Krystal Collins**



**Officer
Gordon Oakes**



**Officer
Melissa Cohen**



New Businesses in Town!

Cook Nutrition, LLC
Emily Cook
523 Wenonah Ave.
Opened: 01/06/2020

G's Good Ole Dayz
Glenie O. Mathues
766 N. Main St.
Opened: 02/18/20

Webb's Joinery & Construction LLC
Alex Webb
129 S. Main St.
Opened: 04/21/20

Bahama Sno Shack
Melissa Blankenship
808 Wenonah Ave.
New Ownership 06/30/20

The Studio @ 512 LLC
Karen Fraley
512 Fort Branch Rd.
Opened: 08/19/20

HB Outdoor Adventures
Michael Dunford
204 Douglas Lane
Opened: 01/06/20

The Pit Stop
Sabrina D. Holmes
510 Wenonah Ave.
Opened: 04/28/20

Canebrake Inc.
Jeffrey H. Wilcox
129 S. Main St.
Opened: 06/10/20

Hilda's Forgotten Wardrobe
Hilda Sutphin
109 N. Main St.
Opened: 07/02/20

Gina & Friends Gift Shop
Gina Griggs
117 B. South Main St.
Opened: 09/30/20

***Stay tuned for more exciting
businesses coming to our
community in 2021!***

Paving News

The Town completed paving projects on Mountain Lake Avenue and Curve Road in Fiscal Year 2020. The Town has applied for \$120,000 in Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) Revenue Sharing funds to complete proposed paving projects on the following streets: Sunset Drive; Orchard Grove Lane; Chestnut Street; Maple Avenue thru Orchard Drive; Church Street; Tazewell Street; and Crile Lane. If awarded by VDOT, these funds may become available in Fiscal Year 2021 or 2022. Paving will begin once the Town receives a notice of award.

RD UV/Sewer Project

Construction of the UV Disinfection system is nearly complete and approximately 6,000 linear feet of sewer line has been replaced. The Town is working with Hurr & Proffitt to assess the need to place a liner in a sewer main that crosses Main Street. The Town closed on the permanent financing for the project at a lowered interest in October. Approximately \$90,000 in savings on interest payments is expected over the course of the loan.

Capital Improvement Plan for the Waterworks System

The Town is working with the Giles County Public Service Authority (PSA) and Thompson and Litton to complete a Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) on the Town's waterworks system. This study aims to locate the areas most susceptible to water loss. The PER will provide valuable information that may be used with the Town's capital improvement plan for replacing assets in the waterworks system. The process will be 90% complete in January.

Small Baseball Field Improvements

The Town partnered with Giles County staff to complete renovations to the small baseball field adjacent to the library. The entire field was grated so that water will flow out and away from the field. Underdrains were added under the newly installed warning track to further ensure that water drains from the field properly. Finally, the infield was updated with new infield mix. Town Council and staff look forward to opening the new field for use in the spring.



Covid-19 (Coronavirus) Impact and Response

Along with local businesses, government agencies have adapted operations to continue serving our residents during the Covid-19 pandemic. The Town has implemented changes to protect the safety of staff, residents, and stakeholders. These changes include implementing an *Infectious Disease Policy* to guide decisions about staffing, service provision, and access to Town facilities. CARES Act funds have been used to retrofit facilities to encourage social distancing and make them more touch-free. Funds have also been used to purchase Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and technology that allows staff to work remotely. We continue to monitor the spread of the virus in our community, the Governor's Executive Orders, and recommendations from the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and Virginia Department of Health (VDH) to make strategic decisions about service provision during the pandemic.



Hello all,

I hope this newsletter finds everyone well. This year has been challenging for our Community. We have been faced with a new and unknown virus, our local businesses have been faced with shutdowns, and our community members have been asked to practice social distancing and wear masks. All that we have faced has been unprecedented in recent history, but our Community is strong. I am impressed with how well our residents have faced this challenge head-on. Our local businesses have been resourceful in adapting to continue operations that provide local jobs. Hopefully, our residents will continue to do their part to protect each other from the community spread. It fills me with a great sense of pride to see all of us pulling together to tackle this complex and challenging threat to public health. Together we will beat this virus.

Town Council and Staff are continuously monitoring the conditions on the ground to determine if it is feasible and safe to host recreation sports for our youths. The decisions we make moving forward will be based on the level of spread of Covid-19 in our community and the ability of Town staff to adhere to CDC and VDH guidelines and recommendations.

Town staff has been working many projects. The Town has renovated the small baseball field adjacent to the Town's library. Underdrains were installed and the outfield was grated to improve water runoff. This will prevent water from pooling on the field and reduce the amount of time it takes to return to the field of play after a rain event. The Town has paved Mt. Lake Avenue and a significant portion of Curve Road. Water service lines were replaced before paving to reduce the chances of developing a water leak after paving. The RD UV/Sewer Project is nearing completion. The Town is still working with the project engineers and contractors to complete the remaining work on Main Street and at the Sewer Plant. The Town was able to save our taxpayers approximately \$90,000 in interest on the project by closing on the loan in October. We are currently working with the Giles County PSA and Thompson and Litton to assess the Town's water system and to develop a plan to increase its efficiency. We continue to focus on advancing projects that increase effectiveness and efficiency of our infrastructure so that our residents can enjoy high quality service at the most economical cost.

The following businesses have opened recently: Cook Nutrition, LLC; G's Good Ole Dayz; Webb's Joinery & Construction, LLC; The Studio @ 512 LLC; HB Outdoor Adventures; The Pit Stop; Canebrake Inc.; Hilda's Forgotten Wardrobe; and Gina & Friends Gift Shop. Please join me in supporting all our local business by shopping and buying local.

As Thanksgiving, Christmas, and the upcoming New Year approaches, I pray that you all will stay safe and enjoy the holidays with your loved ones.

As always, please let me know if I can be of service.

Best Regards,

Robert L. Dickerson

Mayor