



FALL 2014

The Pinnacle

A Publication Of The Town of Unicoi

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Remembering Dwight Bennett



On November 25th, the Town of Unicoi not only lost one of its beloved citizens but also one of its caring members of the Board of Alderman. Dwight Bennett was loved and respected by many in Erwin, Unicoi, and Unicoi County. Dwight served on the Unicoi County School Board, Hospital Board and was an alderman for the Town of Unicoi. He was also a member of the Ruritan, the American Legion, and a board member for the Unicoi County Animal Shelter. Dwight wanted to make a difference and make our town the best it could be. As a member of many organizations, his agenda was always the same. He wanted to make the organizations better and to help correct any issues. The Town of Unicoi joins with so many others in mourning the loss of Dwight Bennett and honoring his memory.

Town of Unicoi Updates

Road work that has been completed in 2014 is as follows:

- Paved remainder of White Cove Road
- Paved all of Pleasant Hill Drive and Sun Tree
- Mowed Town Public Roads three times
- Cleaned storm damage
- Installed drainage tiles at Jess Hopson and White Cove
- Cleaned ditches along Massachusetts, Landingham, and Unicoi Dr
- Salted and plowed roads during bad weather
- Rebuilt headwall along Tinker Road, removed fallen trees from creeks and roads.
- Repaired potholes



**Merry
Christmas**
From The Town of Unicoi

Office Holiday Schedule

December 24th	Closing @ 2pm
December 25th-26th	Closed
January 1st	Closed

Planning Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals

In response to citizen request on what to do to prepare for the Planning Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals, here are some quick tips. The first step is to call Town Hall and describe your issue. Once we have a better understanding of your issue, we will guide you to the next steps in the process and the documents that need to be prepared.

Important Reminder

Be mindful of leaves and brush that may accumulate in area ditches. When leaves and brush accumulate in ditches, it can lead to clogged storm drains. This will eventually lead to flooding of these areas. Take notice if any debris needs to be removed from ditches in your area and help us prevent flooding due to clogged storm drains.

2015 Calendar of Events January - June

Date	Time	Event	
Every Monday Night	6pm-8pm	Bluegrass Bands @ Bogart-Bowman Cabin 5012 Unicoi Dr	Public is invited
Saturday, March 6	1pm-5pm	Arbor Day Celebration @ Bogart-Bowman Cabin 5012 Unicoi Dr. State Tree - Yellow Poplar	Public is invited
April 6 - April 12	TBA	National Volunteer Week Samuel Edmond Leedy "Good Neighbor & Organization" Award	
Saturday, April 18	1pm-3pm	Easter Egg Hunt @ Bogart-Bowman Cabin 5012 Unicoi Dr	Fun for Kids of all ages
Friday, April 24	TBA	Model A Hill Climb	Public is invited
Saturday, April 25	10am - 8pm	20th Annual Fiddlers & Fiddleheads Festival @ Farmhouse Gallery & Gardens-121 Covered Bridge Lane	Public is invited
Saturday, May 16	9am -5pm	Wayne Scott Strawberry Festival & Parade Unicoi Elementary School Field - 404 Massachusetts Ave	Public is invited
Friday, June 18	8am - 2pm	Unicoi Farmer's Market 106 Unicoi Village Place	June 18-October 2
Mon. - Fri June 18-Oct 2	8am - 5pm	Share Crop Town of Unicoi/Town Hall - 3600 Unicoi Dr	Give or Take Fruits and Veggies

New Businesses In Unicoi!

The Unicoi Business Alliance is currently in the process of compiling a listing of properties for sale. Contact us with any listings you would like to have added to the list.

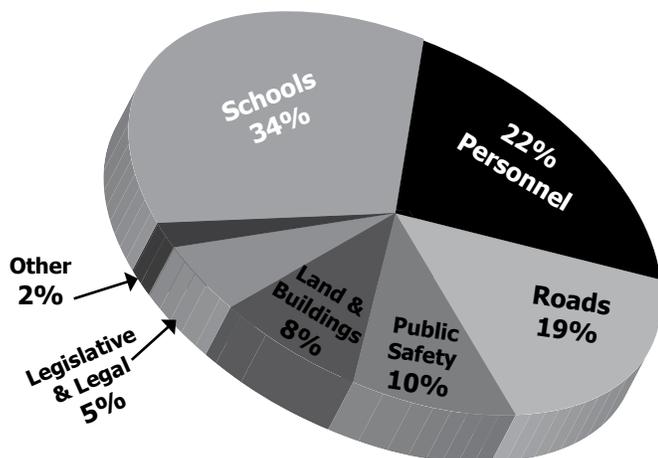
Reflections Weight Loss Clinic opened at 100 Rocky Bottom Dr, Ste7. We are happy to welcome them to the Town of Unicoi. Make sure to stop by and check them out, they are there to help you reach any weight loss goals you may have.

Smokey's BBQ and Dogs decided to bring their flavorful barbecue to the Town of Unicoi. We are happy to have them here and hope everyone goes out to enjoy their tasty menu. You will find them next to Wiseman's on Unicoi Dr.

Dollar General Store will be coming soon. Their location is off of Gouge Rd, off of exit 32, across the street from the Tourist Information Center. Construction will tentatively begin in January and the tentative open date is set for June.

The closing of two of our businesses in the recent months has been sad and unfortunate, but there are some factors that are out of the control of the individuals and the Town. We are in high hopes that we will have new businesses in the area soon. May 2015 bring Unicoi residents and the town a prosperous year!

Town Budget



Buffalo Valley Folk Festival

This was the second year the Folk Festival was held in Unicoi at Farmhouse Gallery & Gardens. Many made their way to view the entertainment at the 6 stages. In addition to the music, this year's festival had storytelling and a cyclocross event. Plans for next year's festival are already underway. Mark your calendars for September 24-27, 2015 and come to the Buffalo Valley Folk Festival. Visit www.johnsoncityfolkfestival.com for up-to-date information.



Letter From The Mayor



We recently celebrated the 20th Anniversary of the Town at the Tourist Information Center. The attendance was great as well as the food, the entertainment, fireworks, and the opportunity to celebrate our town's birthday. A special thank you to the Ruritan club and volunteers who provided their time and efforts to make this event a success.

Although we incorporated the Town of Unicoi as an effort to avoid annexation by Johnson City, our efforts soon expanded to create a better community and quality of life for our citizens. We've come a long way in a short time. It seems like the past 20 years have just flown by. As a town, we have dedicated ourselves to provide as many services to the citizens as we could possibly do while staying within our budget and not creating tax burdens. We have made great strides over the previous years and look to the future with optimism. I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Please join us as we welcome our newest members to the Board of Mayor and Alderman, Kathy Bullen and Phillip Hensley, and also our newest town employee, Jennifer Gryder.



Kathy Bullen

I was born and raised in Atlanta, Ga. I graduated from GA State University with a BSN in Nursing in 1982. I found my way to East TN as a graduate student at UT-Knoxville. After returning to Atlanta for a number of years, we made our way back to East TN and settled in Unicoi in 1997. My three children graduated from Unicoi County High School.

Since living in Unicoi, I have been employed as a RN at Mountain States Health Alliance at the JCMC, Washington County Schools, and Unicoi County Schools. During my 12 year tenure there I was School Health and Safety Supervisor at Central Office for 3 years and then a classroom teacher at the Vocational School. After leaving the school system I became a Practical Nursing Instructor with Tennessee College of Applied Technology, where I am currently employed.

I live with my husband, Chuck, one cat, and two dogs. We currently have one chicken, (she's a tough old bird) and two donkeys in the field. But that could change next week or next month. I love to sew, read, and play word games when I am not cooking or visiting with family and friends who frequent our home. And let's not forget traveling! Just tell me when we're leaving and what to pack. I really don't care where we're going!



Phillip Hensley

I am a lifelong resident of Unicoi County, and married to Margie Hensley. I graduated from UCHS and attended the University of Tennessee Martin and East Tennessee State University. I was employed at Nuclear Fuel Services for 38 years, where I retired as a plant superintendent. My hobbies include farming and gardening as well as spending time with my dog, Brody. I am blessed to live in Unicoi - it a great place to live!



Jennifer Gryder

Hello Town of Unicoi! Some of you may already know me or my family, others I have had the pleasure to meet, and there are still some of you I look forward to meeting in the future. I am honored and blessed to be the Community Development Director for the Town of Unicoi. I plan to work hard for the Town of Unicoi so that not only the residents and businesses here, but also residents in other areas know how great of an area this is to live, work and play. My hope is that we can continue to grow Unicoi and become an even more successful town.

I grew up on the southside of Erwin in Unicoi County and graduated from Unicoi County High School in 1999. I graduated from ETSU with a Bachelors of Business Administration with a concentration in Marketing in 2003. In 2013, I graduated from Milligan College with a Masters in Business Administration. I have had several opportunities to work in the field of marketing which have enabled me to grow as a marketing professional. My education and my past experience has provided me the skills to provide the needed support to the Town of Unicoi. I look forward to being able to serve the citizens of the Town of Unicoi.



TOWN MEETINGS:

We welcome your attendance and participation in all town meetings. Please come, volunteer and give suggestions.

ELECTED OFFICIALS OF THE TOWN OF UNICOI encourage citizen participation in governing the town and welcome citizens to attend all town meetings.

BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMAN MEETINGS are held on the third Monday of each month at 5:30pm.

PLANNING COMMISSION AND BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS meetings are currently held on the second Monday of each month at 5:30pm.

All meetings are held at Town Hall. Citizens can find notices of meetings and agendas several days prior to each meeting at the following locations: Unicoi Post Office, Unicoi Town Hall, Jones Hardware.

Board of Zoning Appeals	
Chairman: Wanda Radford	743-4620
Mayor Johnny Lynch	743-5963
Vice Mayor Hopson	743-3325
Vice Chairman: Todd Higgins	743-2110
Lyle Wilcox	330-4505

Unicoi Board of Mayor and Alderman	
Mayor Johnny Lynch	743-5963
Vice Mayor Doug Hopson	743-3325
Alderman Kathy Bullen	220-6862
Alderman Phillip Hensley	743-3668

Town of Unicoi	
Larry Rea	743-7162
Tina Wilcox	743-7162
Gary Carver	735-0517
Jennifer Gryder	735-0317

Planning Commission	
Chairman: R.L. Edwards	743-4975
Mayor Johnny Lynch	743-5963
Vice Mayor Hopson	743-3325
Secretary Gaye Norman	743-3040
Todd Hopson	743-3155
Jerry Ramsey	743-7025
Bob Sahli	314-8922
Pauline Stierwalt	735-7677
Lyle Wilcox	330-4505



Upcoming Events

December 13th Christmas At the Cabin

Bogart-Bowman Cabin 4pm-8pm

December 19th Town Christmas Party

Tourist Information Center 1pm-4pm