



From the Mayor:

Summer is in full swing and the Town of Unicoi staff has planned a variety of great programs and events for you and your family. Be sure to Like! our Facebook Page and check out the Town’s website frequently so you can stay up to date on everything going on. We have a summer full of fun that you do not want to miss.

-Mayor Johnny Lynch

UPCOMING EVENTS		
JUNE	JULY	AUGUST
June 26 – Open Door Session , 7 to 8 p.m., Tourist Information Center (by appointment only)	July 4th – Freedom Festival , 5 p.m. to dark, Unicoi Elementary School	August 3, 10, 17 – Dining with Diabetes , 12 to 1 p.m., Tourist Information Center
June 26-28 – Mountain Harvest Kitchen Open House , 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 5 to 7 p.m., Mountain Harvest Kitchen	July 7 – Movie Night & Ice Cream Social , 8 p.m., Bogart-Bowman Cabin	August 4 & 5 – Community Yard Sale , 8 to 2 p.m., Tourist Information Center
June 27 – Mountain Harvest Farmers’ Market Begins , 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., Tourist Information Center (Every Tuesday)	July 7 & 8 – Community Yard Sale , 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., Tourist Information Center	August 7 – Pressure Cooker Canning Workshop , 6 p.m., Tourist Information Center
	July 24 – Open Door Session , 7 to 8 p.m., Tourist Information Center (by appointment only)	August 11 & 25 – Movies in the Park , begins at dark, Bogart Bowman Cabin
<p><i>Save the Date: August 11</i> <i>Mountain Harvest Kitchen Grand Opening Celebration</i></p>		

Movie Night/Ice Cream Social

The Town is hosting a Movie Night & Ice Cream Social at the Bogart-Bowman Cabin on Friday, July 7th beginning at 8 p.m. This event is FREE and open to everyone. We will be showing the movie SING on the big outdoor screen. Ice Cream and other concessions will be available for purchase.

Visitors this Quarter

The weather is heating up and visitors are pouring in to the Tourist Information Center at Exit 32. Since January, we have had 682 visitors. These visitors, greeted with a warm welcome and smiling faces, are “just passing through” or asking questions about things to do in the area. A typical question we get asked is, “What’s good to eat around here?” We happily recommend our local restaurants: the Whistle Stop, Maple Grove, Clarence’s, La Meza, Primos, and Los Jalapenos.

Please Keep Ditches Clear

Reminder: Please do not pile brush or any other debris in the ditches. With the large amounts of rain that we have been having, the culverts are easily backed up when filled with debris. Thank you.

Town of Unicoi Updates

Wayne Scott Strawberry Festival

The Town of Unicoi would like to extend a thank-you to all of the volunteers, vendors, and patrons who attended the Wayne Scott Strawberry Festival on Saturday, May 20th. “This event has become an important part of our community and we are honored to host it,” says Mayor Johnny Lynch.

Annual Freedom Festival scheduled for July 4th

We invite you and your family to come out and enjoy the annual July 4th Freedom Festival at Unicoi Elementary School beginning at 5 p.m. There will be refreshments for sale provided by the Unicoi Ruritan, live music, an awesome fireworks display, and NEW this year: a Kids Zone! The Kids Zone will open at 5 p.m. and will close at 8 p.m. to ensure the safety of all participants. Wristbands for the Kids Zone are \$5 and include unlimited play inside the area. Children MUST be accompanied by an adult. Fireworks will begin at dark. A list of bands and other activities scheduled during the event can be found at www.facebook.com/townofunicoitn.

Pinnacle Tower Trail 100 Club

Congratulations to Steve Wilson for joining the Pinnacle Tower Trail 100 Club. Members of this club have completed 100 trips on the Pinnacle Tower Trail. In honor of completing the 100 trips, you will find a plaque at the Tourist Information Center with Steve’s name on it. This exclusive club is currently small but growing.

If you or someone you know has completed 100 trips on the trail, please let us know so we can recognize you. E-mail Sarah Jennings, Director of Parks and Recreation at sjennings@unicoitn.net with your information.

Google Calendar now on Town website

The Town of Unicoi now has a Google Calendar found on the Events page of its website. This calendar lists all of the programs, events, and meetings the Town holds each month. You will also be able to copy calendar events to your personal Google Calendar. Check out the site and get involved in YOUR Town. Visit www.unicoitn.net/events-calendar.

Tanasi Heritage & Arts Center

NEA Awards \$25,000 Grant to Tanasi

Tanasi Arts and Heritage Center, whose gallery is currently housed in the Town of Unicoi Tourist Information Center, was recently awarded a \$25,000 "Our Town" grant from the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA). The funding from this grant will be used to produce a series of monthly events showcasing regional art- and craft-making traditions and talent in support of Tanasi's Project, "Functional Artways of America." Programs will include artists in residence who will stage live demonstrations of their craft, such as pottery, woodcarving, textile arts, and landscape photography, and will provide hands on opportunities for residents to experience many ways of making arts and crafts. The project is will provide opportunities for residents to connect with local cultural assets, strengthen a unique sense of place, boost tourism, and provide an economic outlet for local artisans. More details will be posted on the Town's Facebook Page and on www.tanasiarts.org.

Spotlight on Local Business-

Primo's Italian Cuisine

On May 28th, Primo's Italian Cuisine celebrated four years of preparing fresh, authentic Italian recipes in the Town of Unicoi. Eight employees are designated to the Unicoi location serving menu items such as pizza, salads, sandwiches, pasta, and other Italian dishes.

Owner Driss Yousfi opened the first Primo's restaurant in Elizabethton in 2007 and after several years of success he decided to open a second location. Yousfi chose Unicoi because he saw the potential his restaurant would have being located right off the interstate and next to Wal-Mart, and he also realized the need for an Italian restaurant in this area. With a passion for cooking and a desire to get to know people, Yousfi takes pride in his restaurant and the fact that he knows "90% of his customers by name." He mentioned that, "it is his pleasure to give back to the community."

Primo's is open Sunday-Saturday 11 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Dine in and carry out are both available, call (423) 735-1101. Stop by and enjoy an authentic Italian dish!

Maryanna White Volunteer of the Quarter



We're excited to honor our exceptionally talented team of volunteers each quarter by choosing one volunteer to highlight in our newsletter. In this issue, we are recognizing Maryanna White.

Serving as a volunteer for a little over a year, Maryanna has generously given her time to the Town, specifically volunteering at special events such as: the Wayne Scott Strawberry Festival, Christmas Open House, and the Pinnacle Trail Challenge and Hunger Hike, to name a few. Thank you for everything that you do to support the Town, Maryanna!

Volunteers are an essential resource for the Town. Our programs and events would not be made possible without the dedication of all our volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering in YOUR town, please call (423) 735-0517.

Mountain Harvest Kitchen News

Welcome!

Town of Unicoi
Welcomes Kitchen Director



Meet Lee Manning

Lee has been working in the food industry for the past 9 years, from small start-ups to large corporations. Her passion is bringing good food to a larger table, and when not helping others achieve this goal, she is pursuing it in her own kitchen.

Experience has shown her that there is no singular approach to success in the food business and she looks forward to helping more people navigate this vibrant and ever changing industry. Lee earned her BS in Biology from Florida State University and her MS in Food Science and Technology from the University of Georgia with a focus on food microbiology and safety. She's excited to relocate to the area and join the local food community.

Kitchen Open House events

The Town of Unicoi will be hosting an Open House at the Mountain Harvest Kitchen June 26, 27, & 28 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., 105 Unicoi Village Place. Seminars and demos will be held in the facility on topics relating to Food Safety, Food Preservation, Cooking Techniques, and Nutrition. Take a tour through the kitchen, get a detailed look at the equipment, and learn how we can support you in your next food venture. Light refreshments will be provided. There is no fee to attend.

The Mountain Harvest Kitchen is a newly renovated 4,000 sq. ft. shared-use food processing facility designed to help you start or grow your food business. The kitchen is committed to guiding clients through the many complex steps that are required to bring a food concept to reality. Clients will be provided with technical support, financial and marketing counseling, regulatory guidance, and food safety training tailored to each unique food idea. The certified facility has industrial-sized equipment for baking, dehydrating, vegetable processing, canning and more available to citizens and businesses. Join us in growing our food community! For more information contact Lee Manning at (423) 735-0426.

Educational programs scheduled for kitchen

A message from Rachel York, Family & Consumer Sciences and 4-H Extension Agent with UT Extension Unicoi County:

UT Extension of Unicoi County is proud to partner with the Town of Unicoi and the Mountain Harvest Kitchen to offer exciting nutrition and food preservation programs this summer!

⇒ *Dining with Diabetes*

August 3, 10, & 17 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. Fee: \$10

Dining with Diabetes is a hands-on program designed for people with diabetes or those at risk for diabetes. Gain cooking skills and the tools needed to follow a healthy diet plan. Learn how to prevent food-borne illnesses, manage physical activity, and gain practical skills for daily food choices. Participants will also be able to practice cooking techniques during each session.

For more information, please contact Rachel York, Family & Consumer Science Agent, at the UT Extension office at (423) 735-1637 or ryork@utk.edu.

Mountain Harvest Kitchen News

Pride Porch bricks available for purchase

The Town of Unicoi is announcing an opportunity for businesses and residents to purchase engraved bricks, which will be installed in a designated area at the main entrance of the Mountain Harvest Kitchen. The Mountain Harvest Kitchen Pride Porch Project will enable area businesses, organizations, and individuals to show their support and pride in the facility by purchasing engraved 4" X 8" bricks. The engraved bricks can provide a unique record of memories and milestones such as weddings, birthdays, anniversaries, memorials, and tributes or names of groups, businesses, or individuals. To purchase a brick or learn more about the Mountain Harvest Kitchen, please call Unicoi Town Hall at (423) 743-7162.

Kitchen construction update

As construction comes to a close, the next step for the Mountain Harvest Kitchen is the installation of equipment, purchased through the Partnerships for Opportunity and Workforce and Economic Revitalization (POWER) Initiative Grant. Following a month-long bid process, the town sent a purchase order to the bid winner, FRS of Asheville, during the last week of April. We look forward to the kitchen going into full operation this summer.

Construction progress photos can be found at: www.facebook.com/MHK.UnicoiTN.

Mountain Harvest Farmers' Market returns to Unicoi

The Town of Unicoi would like to invite you to participate in our Annual Mountain Harvest Farmers' Market. This year the market will be open to the public on Tuesday mornings from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Unicoi Tourist Information Center, 106 Unicoi Village Place, Unicoi (Exit 32 off I-26). Market season will be held from June 27-October 10.

The Farmers' Market is open to area produce growers, home crafters, and other agriculture products. For more information contact Trish Bennett at (423) 735-0517.

Save the Date
Mountain Harvest Kitchen Grand Opening
August 11

Volunteer Fire Department



The Unicoi Volunteer Fire Department is grateful for all the

support from the Town of Unicoi and its residents. The Department's objectives will always be to enhance the protection of all residents and to provide the highest quality service to the community every year. The Department would like to express thanks to all its members for the time and hard work that every member contributes, including: Chief, Robert Adams; Deputy Chief/Chaplain Wes Hensley; Assistant Chief Danny Bryant; Assistant Chief Randall Oaks; Captain Robert Taylor; Captain Robbie Adams; Lieutenant Josh Bryant; Lieutenant Nick Hughes; and Firefighters Shane Hummer, Nick Rogers, Rusty Poss, Tony Wyatt, Allen Johnson, Garrett Clark, Ryan Wilson, Justin Honeycutt, Matt Belaot, Jonathan Ponce, Paul Osborne, Gregg Clark, and Treasurer Ed Yarwood.

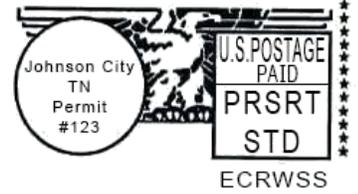
The Department would like to also thank its junior members Zach Hummer, Brent Davidson, Brady Poss, Mason Poss, and Bobby Adams.

Town of Unicoi - The Pinnacle



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

The BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN MEETING is on the third Monday of each month at 5:30pm.

The PLANNING COMMISSION AND BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS MEETING is held on the second Monday of each month at 5:30pm.

Both 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, the Tourist Information Center and on the Town Website.

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

Town of Unicoi Facilities		
Bogart-Bowman Cabin	5012 Unicoi Drive	423-735-0317
Buffalo Creek Park	5012 Unicoi Drive	423-735-0317
Mountain Harvest Kitchen	105 Unicoi Village Place	423-743-7162
Pinnacle Tower Trail/Jack Snider Park	101 Powder Hollow Rd	423-735-0317
Tanasi Gallery	106 Unicoi Village Place	423-735-0217
Tourist Information Center	106 Unicoi Village Place	423-735-0317
Town Hall	3600 Unicoi Drive	423-743-7162
Town of Unicoi Staff Directory		
Johnny Lynch	Mayor	423-743-5963
Doug Hopson	Vice Mayor	423-747-2219
Kathy Bullen	Alderman	423-220-6862
Roger Cooper	Alderman	423-743-7162
Jeff Linville	Alderman	423-220-9821
Mike Housewright	City Recorder	423-743-7162
Sarah Jennings	Director of Parks and Recreation, Public Relations	423-735-0317
Lee Manning	Mountain Harvest Kitchen Director	423-735-0426
Tina Wilcox	Administrative Assistant	423-743-7162
Tony Street	City Maintenance	423-743-7162
Danny Coffie	City Maintenance	423-743-7162
Dwight Harrell	Building Inspector/Code Enforcement	423-743-7162
Trish Bennett	Recreation Aide	423-735-0517
Suzan Harkins	Housekeeping	423-735-0426