

The Mayor's Corner

BY MAYOR BETH A. TAYLOR

August 2023

I welcome the opportunity to talk to you regarding your ideas and concerns. I can be reached by phone, mail or email.



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Bus Services

Tired of driving in crazy, congested traffic. There are a couple of options to travel by bus from our area.

The Virginia Breeze Bus runs a service called the "Highlands Rhythm" bus route which runs northbound (12:10 PM departure) and southbound (7:20 PM departure) through Wytheville one time per day each. The bus drops off in the parking lot of Rural King next to Food Lion. Stops along the route are Bristol, Wytheville, Radford, Christiansburg, Salem, Harrisonburg, Dulles Airport, West Falls Church and ending in D.C. at Union Station. This can be a convenient jumping off point for folks in town to get to larger transportation hubs up north.

The Greyhound Bus System still operates, but doesn't end as conveniently in Wytheville, although you get access to a wider network of cities. They currently go north to exit 86 and drop off at the gas station there. With Greyhound, it's easy to go north to Columbus, OH or south to Charlotte, NC and get on a bus to a different city.

Save the Date

- **SEPTEMBER 21-23, 2023:**

Apple Atcha Fest at the Millwald is a celebration of the creative people and ideas that shape the fabric of life in our region. This festival focuses on the arts - written, visual and performance - as a medium to bring people from diverse backgrounds together to celebrate the past, present and future of what makes Appalachia unique.

- **SEPTEMBER 23, 2023 - 10:00am to 4:00pm:**

Art at the Crossroads on Main Street will have 25 local artists selling artwork and 3 sets of music throughout the day played by Jack Beck & Wendy Welch, Nate Montgomery, John Johnson and Misty Sunrise. This event is free and is family friendly. Come support the arts in Wytheville!

News from Our First Responders

The Children's Public Safety Camp held in May by our First Responders was a great success and a lot of fun for the camp participants. Kids from the community spent a week with Wytheville Police and Wytheville Fire and Rescue Departments. Participants got to step into the uniform of first responders and see what it's like working a shift in emergency services. The firefighters had a great time in helping the Police Department with the children's public safety camp. There are a few more events that will include fun activities for children this summer.

From our Fire Chief: Please be aware that this is the month we do our annual fire hose testing so if you see a hose stretched out across a parking lot don't be alarmed.

Safety Tip: Please remember to grill safely. Don't use gasoline or diesel fuel to ignite grills or fires. Always keep a fire extinguisher close by!

From the WPD: The Wytheville Police Department joined in on the national #9PMRoutine to remind citizens to lock their vehicles and not leave valuables in the vehicle. Follow the Wytheville Police Department Facebook page for more information.



News from the Wytheville Department of Museums



We would like to share news about the restored **Haller-Gibboney Rock House Museum**. The house has gone through a major, year long, stabilization project and we are now ready to unveil the results just in time to celebrate it's 200th birthday!

To celebrate this historic occasion, there will be a ribbon cutting ceremony held on **Wednesday, September 13th, at 10:00am**. The museum will be open for touring and birthday cake will be served.

Council Actions

July 10, 2023:

- Adopted a resolution authorizing an application to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) for funding to be used for the purchase of a Desert Aire unit at the Community Center and a new trash truck.
- Reappointed Mr. Dennis Manuel to the Building Code Appeals Board for a five-year term (expires July 26, 2028).
- Approved amendments to the Freedom of Information Act Policy.
- Consensus of Council to sponsor a 9/11 Commemoration Event
- Authorized the Town Manager to execute a contract for temporary legal services.

July 24, 2023:

- Presented a resolution to the George Wythe High School Girls Tennis Team recognizing the team for a victorious season.
- Approved an additional District III bus route in town and approved the additional funding for the bus service in the amount of \$12,480 due in July 2024.
- Requested Staff to set up a Meet and Greet session for Mr. James Spraker and Ms. Betsy Trevilian to be considered for appointment to the Willow Brook Jackson/Umberger Homestead Museum Advisory Board for a five year term (expires July 31, 2028).
- Approved increasing the number of members on the Wytheville Tree Advisory Committee from five to seven members.
- Held a Closed Meeting pursuant to §2.2-3711(A).(3.) Discussion regarding the acquisition/disposition of real property use for a public purpose; §2.2-3711(A).(1.) interview with candidate for the Town Attorney position, and discussion regarding the salaries for appointed employees and the performance of an appointed employee. Council certified the Closed Meeting.



Wytheville has a bright & vibrant future, full of growth. A new year gives us the opportunity to reach into the future for new & exciting projects. Please consider donating to your favorite department!

DONATE LAND • MAKE A MEMORIAL GIFT • MAKE A DEFERRED GIFT
DIRECT GIFT OF CASH OR SECURITIES (STOCKS & BONDS)
PLEDGE & BUILD YOUR LEGACY (MONTHLY CONTRIBUTION)

DONATE ONCE • DONATE MONTHLY • LEAVE IN YOUR WILL

You can choose the department you wish to support!
All donations are tax deductible!
Remember to ask your employer if they match employee donations!

*For more information call the Town of Wytheville
Treasurers Office at 276-223-3333*

