

The Mayor's Corner

BY MAYOR BETH A. TAYLOR
September 2022



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

(276) 223-3356

150 East Monroe Street
beth.taylor@wytheville.org

Fall Into Fun

September is here and that means fall will soon be upon us. This is my favorite time of year—the cool weather, the beautiful foliage as the tree's leaves turn color. Take advantage of the cooler weather and let's get back outside walking, hiking, and biking. Wytheville has all these opportunities at Crystal Springs Recreational Area, right here in our back yard. This area offers trails of various lengths and difficulty with beautiful scenery of farmland and forest.



Along the way, a crystal-clear mountain stream flows out of the Town's old reservoir, for which the area was named. Also, there is availability to TRACK Trail enhancements,

such as self-guided brochures, interpretive signage, and discovery stations. Visitors of all ages and skill levels are sure to enjoy a visit to Crystal Springs. If you are into mountain biking, hiking, birding, picnicking, camping, or leaf watching, it's just four miles outside of the Town limits. Jump in the car and head to Crystal Springs by taking US 21 South



for three miles, then turn left on Pump Hollow Road (684). Follow Pump Hollow Road one mile to the parking area. (GPS 36.900-81.092) If you prefer your sightseeing by motor vehicle, then get on your motorcycle or in your car and explore the beautiful mountains and winding roads of Southwest Virginia on the "Claw of the Dragon." It

would be a challenge for motor vehicle riders to find a more beautiful driving trail than the scenic back roads of Southwest Virginia. Looping through the Blue Ridge Mountain range, with our charming town of Wytheville as the center or hub, the trail features loops totaling over 350 miles. Along the way, riders can find a variety of authentic attractions and breathtaking scenery. For a Claw of the Dragon brochure with detailed maps call 877-347-8307, 276-223-3355 or use the QR code to download yours today!



Important Notice

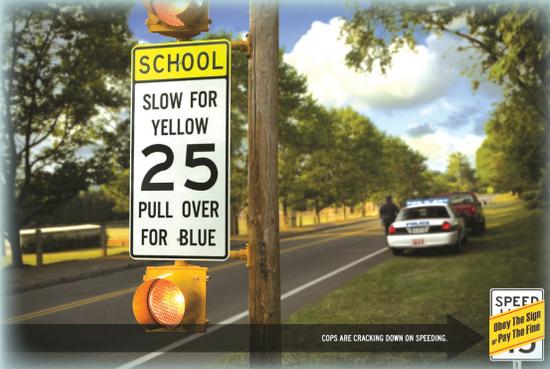
November 8, 2022 is the next location Election Day. You will find information in your water bill from Registrar Lennon Counts regarding early voting and absentee voting. PLEASE take time to read it, Mr. Counts will also be sending out a notice in October explaining the change in voting places. It is extremely important that you find out where your new voting venue will be located. There will be NO voting at the old 4th Street Rec Center. You can call the Registrar's office at 276-223-6038 for more information.

Important Information from Your Fire & Rescue Department

"Candle with Care" safety. The burning of candles has caused house fires. Three out of five candle fires start when easily flammable material such as paper magazines and clothing are too close to a candle. A lit candle is an open flame, which means it can easily ignite anything that can burn. Blow out all candles when leaving a room or going to bed. Avoid using candles for several hours!! Keep candles at least one foot from anything that can burn. Use candle holders that are sturdy, and not easily turned over. NEVER use a candle when there is medical oxygen in the room.



Important Information from Your Police Department



The Wytheville Police Department has installed four digital radar signs in various locations in the town. The purpose of these digital signs is to remind drivers of the posted speed limit and to show them their current speed. The signs also provide valuable traffic information to the police department. The data is analyzed and will be used to determine problem areas, times, and days. Their new traffic safety campaign is called "SLOW DOWN and Enjoy Our Town." School is in session, officers will be diligently working school zones and issuing traffic tickets to those who are speeding in school zones. Also, please watch out for school buses that are stopped and loading or unloading children. Failure to stop for a school bus displaying flashing red lights will also result in a traffic ticket.

Upcoming Events

- Remember, the first annual **Oktoberfest** to be held at the **Willowbrook Homestead Museum** on **Saturday, October 1, 2022**, from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The Sauerkraut Band will be performing from 12:00 noon to 3:00 p.m. Food and beer will be available for purchase.

Wytheville-Wythe-Bland Chamber of Commerce Leadership Development Institute 26th Annual



- 2022 Wytheville-Wythe-Bland Chamber Leadership Development Institute** begins on **Thursday, September 8, 2022**. Six weeks of leadership topics, such as Teamwork, Critical Thinking, and much more. Week 7 is the graduation ceremony at the Annual Awards Banquet (must pre-register at chamber office 276-223-3365 or wwbchamber.com.)

Chamber Community Connections
Thursday, September 8, 2022
 Breakfast 7:30-9:00 AM
Location: Shoney's - Wytheville
 120 Malin Drive, Wytheville
 Members and Non-members are welcome
No cost to attend however, attendee is responsible for paying for their own meal and tip.

Sponsored by:
 Wytheville-Wythe-Bland
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

- The **Wytheville-Wythe-Bland Chamber** holds networking events for businesses (members and non-members) called **Chamber Community Connections**. The next event is **Thursday, September 8, 2022**, 7:30-9:00 a.m. at **Shoney's**. No cost
- Mark your calendar! The annual **Wytheville Farmers Market Cider Day** will be **Saturday, October 8, 2022**, starting at 8:00 a.m. Lots of cider for sale, face painting and other activities for children. There will be caramel apples, food vendors, local farm fresh produce and artisan items as well as an apple pie baking contest.



- Millwald Theatre update:** the painting of the new decorative ceiling panels, all 400ish of them, are complete. They are now prepping the floor in the auditorium for paint and carpet.

Check out the Events tab at VisitWytheville.com for the latest information about these and other events happening in our area!



**General Election
House of Representatives
Town Election
Tuesday, November 8, 2022**

**Voter Registration
and Elections**

**General Election
U. S. House of Representatives
Town of Wytheville & Town of Rural Retreat Council
SAMPLE BALLOT IS AVAILABLE ONLINE**

**ACCEPTABLE FORM OF IDENTIFICATION OR
AN ID CONFIRMATION STATEMENT IS REQUIRED!
POLLS OPEN 6 a.m. – 7 p.m.**

Tuesday, October 17, 2022: Last day to register to vote or change your voter registration information for this election.

Mailed voter registration applications must be sent to the Registrar's office postmarked on or before the deadline.

MAIL ABSENTEE VOTING AVAILABLE

Request an Absentee ballot online:

<https://vote.elections.virginia.gov>

Absentee ballots ARE counted.

Friday, October 28, 2022: Last day to request an absentee ballot be mailed. Applications must be received in the Registrar's office by 4:30 p.m.

Tuesday, November 8, 2022: Election Day ALL Absentee voted ballots must be returned to the Registrar's Office by 7:00 p.m. (Virginia time) to be counted.

In-Person Absentee Voting

225 S. 4th Street, Wytheville VA 24382

Monday–Friday, September 23–November 4, 2022:

8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Saturday, October 29, 2022: 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Saturday, November 5, 2022: Last day to vote an In-Person absentee ballot at the Registrar's Office

Lennon Counts, Registrar

245 S. 4th Street, Wytheville, VA 4382

Telephone: 276-223-6038 Fax: 276-223-6039

Email: govote@wytheco.org

Website:

<http://www.wytheco.org/index.php/departments/voter-registration>

Council Actions

August 8, 2022:

- Reappointed Ms. McKenzie Tate as a youth member to the Wytheville Recreation Commission (term will expire August 1, 2022.)
- Authorized Town staff to begin the process of repealing and replacing the current Town of Wytheville Zoning Ordinance.

August 22, 2022:

- Conducted a public hearing to accept and open bids to obtain a non-exclusive telecable franchise, privilege, lease or right.
- Adopted a resolution and approved a contract granting a non-exclusive telecable franchise privilege, lease or right to Shentel Cable Company.
- Rescheduled the October 10, 2022, Town Council Meeting to Tuesday, October 11, 2022, at 6:00 p.m., due to the Columbus Day holiday.

**Introducing the
Wytheville Virtual Visitor Center**



Find all of the Wytheville Resources needed to explore our great community, all in one place!

- Find Places to Explore
- Learn About Exciting Events
- Sample Suggested Itineraries
- Create Personalized Itineraries

**Get started planning at:
VC.VisitWytheville.com**

**Wytheville...
there's only one!**