

The Mayor's Corner

By Mayor Beth A. Taylor

In the hustle-bustle of the busy lives we all lead, it's sometimes easy to forget to be thankful. At the heart of what is the best part of Wytheville and Wythe County is its people, our citizens. Volunteerism is one way that many show their spirit of giving. The operation of the Town of Wytheville is directly impacted by volunteers in a variety of ways. Citizens volunteer to serve on Town committees and freely give their knowledge and expertise in the decision-making process. Others give their time and energy to help make events and special activities run smoothly. Some, such as volunteer firefighters, even put their lives on the line on behalf of their fellow citizens. To all those who step up throughout the year and show their volunteer spirit – THANK YOU! The Town of Wytheville is appreciative of the many ways you show your love and concern for your town.



We have received many positive comments regarding the new Wayfinding Signs. Whether visiting our town for business or pleasure, these signs will help visitors find their way and lead them into the beautiful "New Downtown." More sign installations will continue over the next few weeks.

Spring is the time to be planting our gardens. Don't have any space in your backyard? That's not a problem. The Town has a Community Garden on Cove Road near the elevated water tank. Whether you want to plant flowers or vegetables, there are plots available. Plots are 10' x 20' and only cost \$20 to rent for the growing season. The Town will till your plot and have water available at no cost. You plant/weed/water/grow/pick and enjoy your fresh crop. Call 223-3505 to reserve your spot.

I would like to clarify a couple of things regarding mowing and grass clippings. Having grass that is twelve inches or greater in height within a certain distance from a structure can result in an ordinance violation and a fine. With all the rain we have been having grass can grow quickly so be mindful of the situation. Blowing grass onto the sidewalks or streets is also a violation of Town Ordinance and comes with a substantial fine. Thank you for taking the time to keep your properties and our town neat and looking good.



We've recently been informed that our water system has received the 2018 Excellence in Waterworks Operations Gold Award from the Virginia Department of Health's Office of Drinking Water. Our water department is one of only 15 (of 132 eligible) to receive this award in Virginia. To qualify, the water treatment plant had to consistently produce water that is 300% clearer than the standards set forth by the United States Environmental Protection Agency. Wytheville Town Council is very proud of this important honor and appreciates the hard work of our staff to make this possible.

And there's more award-winning news. Several local businesses were recently recognized by *Virginia Living* magazine in their Best of 2019 competition. Below you will see a list of the Wytheville and Wythe County businesses that were honored. Bravo on a job well done. We are proud that these businesses call Wytheville home.

Virginia Living Best of 2019

- Best Special Event Venue, 3rd place – Bolling Wilson Hotel
- Best Asian Restaurant, 1st place – Peking
- Best Outdoor Dining, 2nd place – Graze on Main
- Best Local Ice Cream Shop, 3rd place – Wiffle Pops
- Best Oysters, 1st place – Graze on Main
- Best Restaurant, 3rd place – Graze on Main
- Best Seafood Restaurant, 2nd place – Graze on Main
- Best Steakhouse, 2nd place – Graze on Main
- Best Winery, 3rd place – West Wind Farm Vineyard & Winery
- Best Bed & Breakfast, 2nd place – Trinkle Mansion Bed & Breakfast
- Best Historic Site, 3rd place – Edith Bolling Wilson Birthplace Museum
- Best Horseback Riding Lessons, 2nd place – Copper Crest Farm
- Best Home Builder, 2nd place – Varney Construction
- Best Landscaping Company, 3rd place – Litton Landscapes
- Best Wedding Venue, 3rd place – Bolling Wilson Hotel
- Best Fine Jewelry Store, 3rd place – PR Sturgill Fine Jewelry
- Best Florist, 2nd place – Petals of Wytheville

I welcome the opportunity to talk to you regarding your ideas and concerns. My office, at the Wytheville Municipal Building, is open prior to Council meetings on the second and fourth Monday evenings at 6:30 p.m., and other times by appointment. I can also be reached by phone at 223-3356 or via email at beth.taylor@wytheville.org.

Raffle to Benefit Museums



For \$5.00 a ticket, you could win a colorful 4ft x 4ft barn quilt wood block – a custom design by Linda Otey, a local artist in conjunction with Rose Cottage School of Art in Wytheville. Tickets are on sale through July 31, with a drawing Aug. 1. Proceeds from raffle will fund the Town of Wytheville Department of Museums. Tickets are available for purchase at The Museum Shop (975 Tazewell Street), Thomas J. Boyd Museum (295 Tazewell Street), and the Heritage Preservation Center (115 West Spiller Street). For more information, call (276) 223-3330.

Resolved To Live or Die:

Living History on the Eve
of the American Revolution
Saturday, June 22
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Jackson-Umberger WillowBrook Homestead Museum Site
Parking: 975 Tazewell Street (Visitors Center), Wytheville
Tickets: \$5 (adults); \$2 (Age 12 & Under)

Demonstrations Include:

- Fincastle/Montgomery County Militia
- Drill Demonstrations
- Civilian Life in Loom House/Gardens With Games, Cooking and Home Life
- Spinning/Weaving
- Gunsmithing
- Blacksmithing
- Saltmaking

Traditional Music by Jim Lloyd

Sarah Blanchett
African-American Interpreter
18th Century Life For Slaves

PRESENTATION: Reading Of The Fincastle Resolutions, 11 a.m & 3 p.m. By Jeff Briggs, Fincastle/Montgomery County Militia of Southwest Virginia Living History Group