



# TOWN OF RICH CREEK



"The Gateway to Giles County"

## NEWSLETTER

FALL 2018

### HOUSE BILL 489

On Friday, June 22, 2018, Roger Jones, Rich Creek Town Manager; and Steve Buckland, Rich Creek Chief of Police; traveled to Richmond Virginia to participate in the signing of House Bill 489, by the Honorable Governor Ralph Northam.



HB 489 was introduced by Delegate Christ Hurst, on behalf of the Town of Rich Creek, in January of 2018. The bill passed unanimously by the House (98-0) and Senate (40-0) before being approved by Governor Northam. The town administrative staff works diligently in tax and utility bill collection efforts, by utilizing available tools, i.e. Virginia Debt Set Off, Wage

Liens, Distress/Seizure Warrants, and DMV Stops. The DMV Stops have been very beneficial to the Town, in the collection of delinquent property tax and vehicle license fees. However, the staff found that a few customers, with a DMV Stop currently in place, had purchased tags for a vehicle and avoided the DMV Stop. The Clerk proceeded to reach out to DMV State representatives, the Virginia Municipal League and Delegate Chris Hurst, for assistance and HB 489 was introduced, changing the way licensing is issued when an applicant owes delinquent taxes.

*(Pictures above: Left: Steve Buckland, Roger Jones, Delegate Christ Hurst and Governor Ralph Northam. Right: Back Row: Steve Buckland and Roger Jones, Front Row: Governor Ralph Northam and Delegate Christ Hurst.)*

### THE GARY EATON MEMORIAL TRAIL SYSTEM

On Monday, June 11, 2018, representatives from Giles County, the Town of Rich Creek, Carilion Giles Memorial Hospital, friends and family of the late Gary L.

Eaton, met at Woodland Park in Rich Creek, VA for the dedication and sign unveiling of the Gary Eaton Memorial Trail System.

The Rich Creek walking trail was originally constructed by the Rich Creek Lion's Club, whom Mr. Eaton was a member. Mr. Eaton served for many years as Mayor of the Town of Rich Creek and on the Giles County Board of Supervisors, before his passing in 2017. Mr. Eaton was passionate about the development of wellness trails in the County, to encourage residents to exercise, for better cardiovascular and pulmonary health. Before Mr. Eaton's passing, he had designated \$4,000, of his discretionary funds towards the Rich Creek walking trail. These funds will be beneficial in the Town's current plans to extend the walking trail 600 ft. and to add exercise stations along the trail. After the dedication, those in attendance walked the Rich Creek Walking Trail, in memory and in honor of Mr. Eaton.



## OPEN FIRE & OPEN BURNING

If you live in the corporate limits of Rich Creek, Per Rich Creek Town Code §94.01-It shall be unlawful for any person to set an open fire, within the corporate limits of Rich Creek, between the hours of 12:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M., Sunday through Friday.

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Continue to check with the Virginia Department of Forestry for any burn laws that may be currently in effect.

Do you need to trim your shrubs, small trees and bushes back and don't know where to dispose of the clippings? We have just the place!

Call or stop by the Rich Creek Town Office for more information  
(540) 726-3260.



## RICH CREEK VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

726-2430

If you would like to become a fire fighter and live in the Rich Creek, Glen Lyn, Narrows, or Peterstown area, meetings are held every Monday evening at 7:00 PM.



## RICH CREEK POLICE REPORT

January-August 2018

Criminal/Narcotics Investigations: 59 Accidents worked: 10 Animal complaints: 3 Assist to citizens: 14 Court activities: 73 Disturbance calls: 8 Fire/Rescue calls: 9 Traffic Activities: 85 Mental Health Calls: 7 Arrests Made: 33 (many of the arrested were arrested on multiple charges)

The Rich Creek Police Department has been receiving numerous complaints regarding traffic violations within the corporate limits. Most of the complaints are about the intersection of Rt. 219 (Federal Street) and Old Virginia Avenue (Main Street). Extra enforcement has been scheduled for numerous locations within the Town and the Virginia State Police have agreed to assist with this problem. Please make sure you obey all traffic laws and posted traffic signs.

## Rich Creek Public Library

The Rich Creek Public Library is planning their annual Halloween & Christmas Reading Programs.

Please check our website for more information on these programs.



## BABY GRAND PIANO

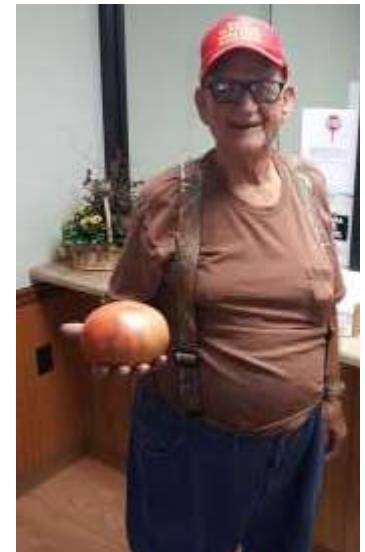
The children and families of the late Mr. and Mrs. Buck (Nellie) Massie, of Rich Creek, has donated their mother's Baby Grand piano to the Town of Rich Creek. The Town is very happy to receive and to display this wonderful piece in the Rich Creek Community Center. Many thanks to the Massie family!

## BAGS FOR BENCHES



We are participating in the Bags For Benches recycling program and are collecting plastic grocery or department store bags, newspaper sleeves, dry cleaning bags, bread bags, produce bags, stretch film, paper towel, toilet paper and bottle wrap. The plastic will be recycled into a TREX® bench, free to the town.

If you would like to help, please drop off your plastic at the Town Office.



## MEGA FRUIT!!!

Mr. O. S. "Junior" Beasley is shown with one of his "Mortgage Lifter" tomatoes, grown in his garden this year. The tomato weighed 2 lbs 15 oz.! That's a lot of BLT sandwiches.....



**TOWN ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS**

- ◇ Two Public Hearings were held to hear public comment regarding the application for a Community Development Block Grant. If the grant is awarded the Town, the funds will address blight conditions within the localities infrastructure. Council adopted a Resolution for preparation and filing of the application for the grant.
- ◇ A Yard Sale Ordinance was adopted. The ordinance limits the number of Yard Sales a resident may have to four per year.
- ◇ Spring Clean-Up Week was held April 23-27.
- ◇ The 2018/2019 Local Choice renewal quote was approved by Council, for employee health insurance benefits.
- ◇ Council proclaimed the month of March as American Red Cross Month.
- ◇ Additional security measures have been implemented at the Town Office.
- ◇ The 2018/2019 VRS Employer Contribution rate was approved by Council, for town employee retirement benefits.
- ◇ Mr. David Clark, VDOT Residency Administrator, met with Town Council to discuss current issues in Town with flooding, mowing, and obstructed drainage ditches.
- ◇ A new refrigerator was purchased for the Rich Creek Town Park and the Community Center (\$978)
- ◇ Mr. Paul Morrison was reappointed to serve on the Rich Creek Planning Commission.
- ◇ Mr. Catlin Suttle was appointed to serve on the Rich Creek Board of Zoning Appeals Committee.
- ◇ Council approved the purchase and installation of new carpet (\$2135), front entrance doors (\$2000) and exterior painting, at the Town Hall and Community Center (\$4000).
- ◇ Council approved the renovation of the volleyball court at the Woodland Town Park and to add additional playground equipment near the new shelter.
- ◇ Council agreed to pay off the BB & T loan on the 2017 CASE Backhoe (\$92,759.84)
- ◇ Council adopted the 2018/2019 Operating Budget, which included a rate increase to the water rates for all water customers on the Town's system. The rate adjustment was due to a rate increase approved by the Giles County Public Service Authority (PSA), to the towns in the county
- ◇ Council approved the 2018/2019 Panel of Physicians listing, for any employee worker's compensation claims.

**Zoning Applications Approved:**

- 1-placement of storage buildings
- 2-installation of swimming pool and/or deck
- 4-Addition to home/business (porch, garage, room)
- 2-installation of fence

**WATER/SEWER SYSTEM REPORT**

- ◇ Average leak loss: 10.9% Leak detection ongoing.
- ◇ A new trash pump (\$1050) was purchased. The pump is used to pump water and small debris from the worksite, when making repairs to the water/sewer lines.

- ◇ 3 employees completed 20 hours of water and wastewater training to maintain their licenses.
- ◇ Inflow & Infiltration work on private sewer laterals, connecting to the Town's sewer system, is ongoing. The work is funded by a \$70,000 grant received by SRCAP.
- ◇ The 2018 Annual Consumer Confidence Report was mailed to each Rich Creek water customer.
- ◇ The 2019-2024 Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (VPDES) renewal permit, for the Glen Creek STP, has been submitted.
- ◇ A new handheld water meter reader was purchased (\$930)
- ◇ An air relief valve on the GCSTP sludge press was replaced (\$170)
- ◇ One of the pumps at the Midway Sewer Pump Station was repaired (\$2250)



**HOLIDAY SCHEDULE**

**\*SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE-ANY CHANGES WILL BE POSTED ON OUR WEBSITE.**

The Town Offices will be closed the following days:

October 8	Columbus Day
November 12	Veteran's Day
November 22 & 23	Thanksgiving
December 24 & 25	Christmas
January 1	New Year's Day

The Rich Creek Town Council meets every 2nd Monday at 6:00 PM at the Rich Creek Town Hall.

\*The October & November meetings will be held on the following Tuesday, due to Columbus Day & Veteran's Day .



Daylight Savings Time ends!  
Don't forget to set your clocks back on Sunday, November 4th.

Job Opportunities with the Town of Rich Creek

**PART-TIME LABORER** The Town of Rich Creek is accepting applications, with Resumes, for a part-time position in the Public Works Department. The position involves physical labor in all types of weather conditions and may include work in water, wastewater, streets, and other public works areas.

**WASTEWATER OPERATOR** The Town of Rich Creek is accepting applications for a full-time position in the Public Works Department. The position involves operating the town's wastewater treatment plant. The position demands physical labor in all types of weather conditions and includes work in water, streets, and other departments, when not at the plant.

**WELCOME TO RICH CREEK!**

We hope you have had the opportunity to meet Mrs. Debbie Morris, Deputy Clerk/Librarian, and Mr. Brandon Booth, Public Works Dept. employee.

We are very happy to have Debbie and Brandon!



**\*\*NOTICE\*\***

If you have a problem with your water/sewer service after hours, on a holiday, or over the weekend, please contact the Giles County Sheriff's Department at



**540-921-3842**



An employee of the Rich Creek Public Works Department will then be dispatched promptly to address the problem.

During working hours, contact the Town Office at

**540-726-3260**

**GILES COUNTY PSA HOLIDAY SCHEDULE FOR GARBAGE PICK-UP**

(August 2018-December 2018)

**COLUMBUS DAY  
THANKSGIVING DAY  
CHRISTMAS DAY**



**If the holiday falls during the week, the trash pick-up will be delayed a day.**

*The Town of Rich Creek is an equal opportunity provider and employer. If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at [http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint\\_filing\\_cust.html](http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html) or at any USDA office, or call (866)632-9992 to request the form.*

**Visit our website at [www.richcreek.org](http://www.richcreek.org)**



Town of Rich Creek

Rich Creek, Virginia 24147

P.O. Box 65