



TOWN OF RICH CREEK

"The Gateway to Giles County"

NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2019



SPRING CLEAN-UP WEEK SCHEDULE

MONDAY, MAY 20:

Woodland Road (between log cabin & Highland Court), Pine Place, Greenbriar Drive, Highland Court, Taylor Court & Mercer Road

TUESDAY, MAY 21:

Riverside Drive, Hilltop Street, Pleasant Street, Walnut Street, Locust Street & Cherry Avenue

WEDNESDAY, MAY 22:

Old Virginia Avenue (between Shell station & the bridge), Woodland Road (between Old Virginia Avenue & the log cabin), Giles Avenue, Federal Street (South of Old Virginia Avenue), Shumate Avenue, Monroe Avenue, Knob Street, Coburn Lane and Church Street.

THURSDAY, MAY 23:

Old Virginia Avenue (between the bridge & barricade), Island Street, North Street, Kirk Lane, Spruce Street, Powell Mountain Road (inside corporate limits), Powell Lane, Summit Drive

FRIDAY, MAY 24:

Federal Street (US 219-inside corporate limits), Guynn Road, Market Road (inside corporate limits)



GONE BUT WILL NEVER BE FORGOTTEN...

As many of you may already know, the Town of Rich Creek and the community, recently lost a dedicated employee and a very good friend. Mr. Wes Skeens, Supt. Of Public Works, passed away suddenly on March 27, 2019. He leaves behind his wife of 17 years, Christa Hope Skeens.

In Memory of

Arnold "Wes" Skeens

August 25, 1970

March 27, 2019



Wes was very dedicated to his job and helped Rich Creek achieve, almost always, the lowest water loss percentage among the County and other towns. He was instrumental in saving the Town money by working diligently towards reducing the Department of Environmental Quality's testing requirements, at the Glen Creek Sewer Treatment Plant.

On the day of his passing, during an inspection by DEQ officials, the Town was informed of achieving the reduced testing requirements. Wes would have been so happy to receive this news! Job well done Wes! Rest in Peace our dear colleague and friend!



NEW ADDITION TO THE RICH CREEK POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Town of Rich Creek was recently awarded a \$25,000 Community Facility Grant from the United States Department of Agriculture-Rural Development .

The grant funds were used towards the purchase of a fully equipped, 2018 Ford Interceptor 4-Door sedan (\$47,331.72)

RICH CREEK BUSINESS DISTRICT REVITALIZATION GRANT

Governor Ralph Northam announced on February 19, 2019 , the Town of Rich Creek has been offered a Community Development Block Grant in the amount of \$699,275, from the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD). An additional \$20,000 was also awarded towards planning expenses.

If the grant funds are accepted, the funds will support the construction of improvements to the buildings and public spaces in the downtown area of Rich Creek. This would include improvements to the building façades, increased parking areas and public amenities.

A meeting was held on Monday, March 25, 2019 with many interested business/property owners in attendance, to meet with Town officials and representatives from DHCD and the New River Valley Regional Commission, to discuss the guidelines and requirements of receiving the grant funds.

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.

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 POLICE REPORT

SEPTEMBER 2018 TO FEBRUARY 2019

Criminal/Narcotics Investigations: 26 Accidents worked: 6 Animal complaints: 2 Court activities: 59 Fire/Rescue calls: 3 Traffic Activities: 34 Mental Health Transports: 3 Arrests Made: 16 (some subjects were arrested on more than 1 charge)

The Town is experiencing an increased amount of drug related offenses and arrests over the past couple of months. Most of the drug offenses are related to Meth. If you know of anyone who needs help with drug addiction, please contact the Narcotic Addiction Helpline at 1-800-HELP NOW



RICH CREEK VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT 726-2430

- \$1,000 donation received from the Rich Creek Lion's Club
- \$2500 Department of Forestry Grant received.
- New pagers were purchased recently by the department
- If you are interested in becoming a fire fighter and live in the Rich Creek, Glen Lyn, Narrows, or Peterstown area, you are invited to meet the department members on any Monday evening at the Rich Creek Fire Department at 7:00 PM.
- Any monetary donations supporting this great group of men for all the hours and time dedicated to the community, with a passion for public safety, is always welcome and may be mailed to the Rich Creek Volunteer Fire Department, P.O. Box 311, Rich Creek, VA 24147



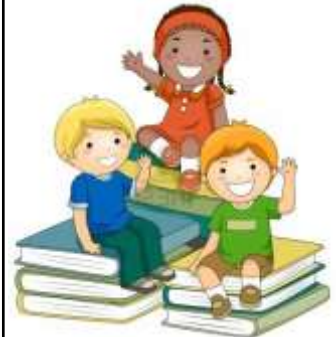
THE 1ST BENCH HAS BEEN RECEIVED, BY PARTICIPATING IN THE "BAGS FOR BENCHES" RECYCLING PROGRAM

Mrs. Debbie Morris, Deputy Clerk, has been working persistently towards this project, along with the help from many of you, whom have dropped off their plastics at the Town Office. We continue to collect the plastic, so keep bringing it in. Thank you for all your help and "Thank You Debbie" !

The Bags For Benches recycling program encourages the collection of plastic grocery or department store bags, newspaper sleeves, dry cleaning bags, bread bags, produce bags, stretch film, and other plastic wrap. The plastic is then recycled into a TREX® bench, at no cost to the Town, keeping the plastic out of our landfills.

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

Check our website and watch for more information coming soon about the Rich Creek Public Library's Summer Reading Program!



TOWN ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS

- ◆ A new computer was purchased for the Rich Creek Police Department
- ◆ The new volleyball court is finished at the town park and additional play ground equipment will be installed, prior to the opening of the park on May 1, 2019.
- ◆ A quote from Vittum Painting (\$4,000) was approved to paint the exterior surfaces, awnings, doors, etc. of the Rich Creek Town Office Building.
- ◆ Council voted to pay \$2,000 towards the cost of replacing a retaining wall on Giles Avenue.
- ◆ The Town Employee Personnel Manual was amended to include a Drug & Alcohol Policy.
- ◆ Council approved a Rural Development Resolution and Code of Conduct Policy, to be eligible to receive a \$25,000 Community Facilities Grant, to purchase the new police cruiser.
- ◆ A bid from Leonard Trailers in Blacksburg, VA was approved for an enclosed trailer to haul and store the lawn maintenance equipment.
- ◆ \$500 in additional Christmas decorations was approved to install on Main Street.
- ◆ A bid from Bluefield Glass & Interiors (\$2,969.36) was approved to replace the front entrance doors of the Town Hall.
- ◆ A Cancellation Policy, for rentals of the town park and community center, was adopted.
- ◆ A Proclamation, recognizing the Month of February as Healthy Relationship Awareness month, was approved.
- ◆ A Zoning Request for a Change of Use Conditional Use Permit for the building located at 109 Old Virginia Avenue was approved. Council also accepted a proposal from Taylor Hollow Companies, to repurpose the 23 room assisted living facility into 12 apartments for seniors age 55+ LMI residents and 1 classroom for the Giles County Head Start program.
- ◆ Council approved the purchase of the 250 Old Virginia Avenue (BB&T) property.
- ◆ Mr. Thomas Kantsios was re-appointed to the Rich Creek Board of Zoning Appeals. (Term April 2019-2024)
- ◆ Council agreed to hire Mr. Tanner Hazelton as a part-time police officer.

Zoning Applications Approved:

- 2-New additions to current residence/business
- 1-New Home construction
- 1-Installation of new sign
- 1-Change of Use-Conditional Use permit

WATER/SEWER SYSTEM REPORT

- ◇ Average leak loss: 11.09% Leak detection ongoing.
- ◇ The pavement was repaired at the Family Dollar store on Federal Street, after a recent water line repair.
- ◇ Four town employees participated in a Systems Management Training class, sponsored by SRCAP.
- ◇ Two private laterals (705 Mercer Road and 904 Woodland Road) have been repaired, using SRCAP grant funding.
- ◇ After the September 22, 2018 flooding, 383 tons of large stone was needed to cover exposed water/sewer service lines, throughout the town's utility system. Town crews assisted with relocating campers at Gentry's Landing from the flooded areas, placing sand bags to divert the flood waters from homes and businesses in the Town and clean up after the flood, with the assistance of the Rich Creek Volunteer Fire Department.
- ◇ A new water/sewer tap was installed on McKenzie Avenue and Hilltop Street for new home construction.
- ◇ Several batteries on the radio read water meters have been replaced.
- ◇ The sidewalk at Queen's Pizza was repaired by the town, after repairs were made to a sewer lateral.
- ◇ The Town supplied an employee and town equipment to assist the Giles County PSA with the installation of a new water service line along Powell Mtn. Road.



These pictures were taken by Steve Buckland, Chief of Police, during the flooding of Rich Creek on Main Street, September 22, 2018.





HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

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

The Town Offices will be closed the following days:

Good Friday	April 19
Memorial Day	May 27
Independence Day	July 4
Labor Day	September 2



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

WELCOME BRAD!

We want to welcome Mr. Brad Riner to the Town of Rich Creek. Brad is the Operator in training of the Glen Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant.



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. Inquire at the Town Office.



****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

(APRIL 2019-SEPTEMBER 2019)

MEMORIAL DAY	MAY 27TH
INDEPENDENCE DAY	JULY 4TH
LABOR DAY	SEPTEMBER 2ND



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 or at any USDA office, or call (866)632-9992 to request the form.

Visit our website at www.richcreek.org



Town of Rich Creek

Rich Creek, Virginia 24147

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