

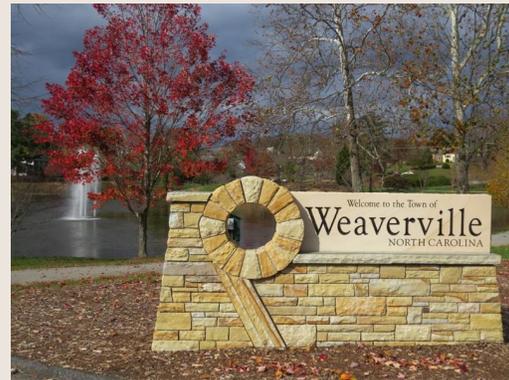
Monthly News for our Community

Thank you for subscribing to the Town's first *e-Focus*!



**Town Welcomes New Planner &
Code Enforcement Officer**

James Eller has been named the Town of Weaverville Planner & Code Enforcement Officer. He began work with Weaverville on January 5th after having worked as the Code Enforcement Officer & Zoning Administrator for the Town of Woodfin. James is a native of Buncombe County and was employed with the Town of Woodfin for eight years. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Political Science with a Minor in Community & Regional Planning from Appalachian State University. Town Manager Selena Coffey added, "James has really hit the ground running and we are very happy with his initiative." We welcome James and encourage our residents to stop in and introduce yourselves!



Message from your Town Manager

Greetings friends!

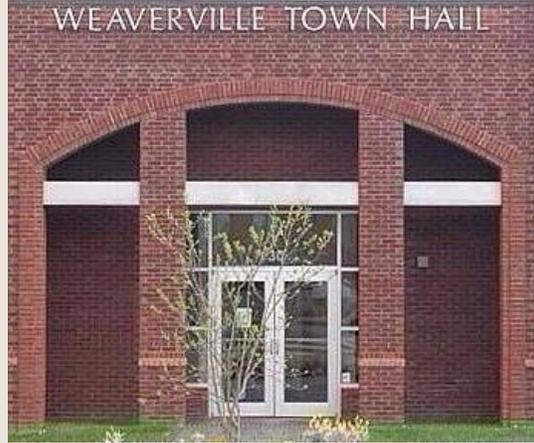
Thank you, thank you, thank you, for signing up for our new *e-Focus*! We are very pleased to offer the traditional Town newsletter in a new technological format! Obviously, as we gain momentum, we will add more features and hopefully always include news you can use. There may also be occasions when we use this software to send out urgent messages regarding inclement weather, emergencies, or to simply remind you of major events coming up in our beautiful community!

Once more, thank you for signing up! I will say, as I say regularly, I am so very happy to be a part of this wonderful Weaverville community!

Your Town Manager,
Selena Coffey

Highlights from Town Council

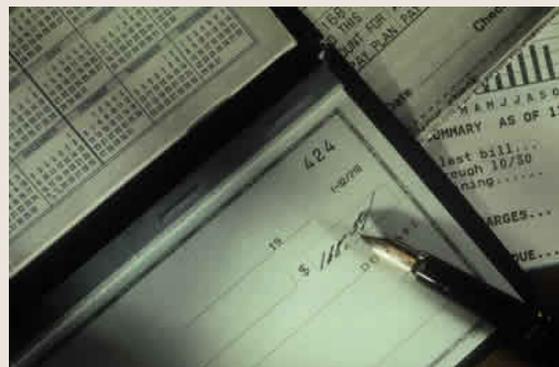
Town Council held a work session on January 12, 2016 to discuss general budget issues for the upcoming fiscal year budget deliberations. Council directed the Town Manager to advertise for Requests for Proposals (RFPs) for legal services and established a budget calendar, which has been posted under Calendar of Events on the Town's website. In addition, Council discussed and gave direction to the Town Manager to bring back a proposal for public use of the Town's community room at Town Hall and the community center at Lake Louise. This proposal will be forthcoming.



Town Council held its regularly scheduled monthly meeting on Monday, January 25, 2016 at 7pm. During this meeting, Town Manager Selena Coffey commended the Town's Public Works, Police and Fire Departments for their excellent work during the recent snow event. In other business, Town Council approved the refunding of Series 2005 general obligation bonds to save the Town an average of \$25,921 annually from 2017 through 2030. In addition, Council approved the execution of the second year of the Town's three-year audit contract with Killian Gould CPA. A waterline extension out of Town limits was approved down Reems Creek for a future development with the stipulation that the development eventually apply for voluntary annexation into the Town of Weaverville. Finally, Town Council approved the transfer of a lot from Greenwood Park to Reems Creek Village. Town Manager then provided a brief report to Council before Council moved to go into closed session. Upon returning from closed session, no further action was taken prior to adjournment. Minutes from Town Council meetings can be located on the web at <http://www.weavervillenc.org/Town-Minutes>.

Save the Date!

A promotional poster for the "Fire on the Lake" event. The top half shows fireworks and an American flag with the text "4TH OF JULY". Below that, it says "Town of Weaverville" and "FIRE ON THE LAKE" in large red letters. It features "Leigh Glass & Devils in Dust" with "Live Music ★ Food ★ Fireworks" and is scheduled for "Monday, July 4, 2016 at 5pm" at "LAKE LOUISE".



Online Water Billing Coming Soon!

Beginning in March, Town water customers will be able to register to receive future water bill statements electronically. Water customers will notice directions on how to enroll for this feature on the bill sent out the first week in March. Directions on registering can be found on the upper right-hand side of the bill. Each customer will need to go to the website address indicated on the bill and use the Registration ID provided on their bill to register for the service. Please contact Town Hall at (828) 645-7116.



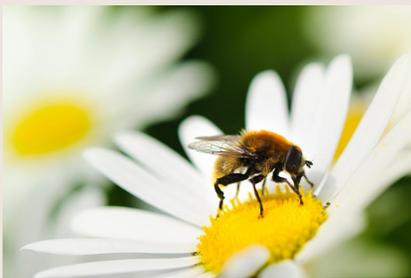
Home Fire Sprinklers

Over 80% of fire deaths occur in the home. Home fire sprinklers can save lives. They respond quickly and effectively to fire, often extinguishing the fire before the fire department arrives. Only the sprinkler head closest to the fire will activate, putting water on the fire.

SAFETY TIPS

- Home fire sprinklers protect lives by keeping fires small. In many situations a family who has survived a fire will also have their “home” to live in and enough of the items and space in their home to continue living their lives as they did before.
 - The cost of a home fire sprinkler system in a new home averages \$1.35 per sprinklered square foot totaling an amount similar to what is spent for carpet upgrades, paving stone driveway or a whirlpool bath.
- A home fire sprinkler system can reduce the homeowner’s insurance premium. Fire departments typically use roughly 10 times as much water as a fire sprinkler would use to contain a fire.
 - Fire sprinklers are environmentally friendly. They can reduce the amount of water run-off and pollution, fire damage by up to 71%, and water usage to fight a home fire by as much as 91%.
 - Cigar smoke or burnt toast will not activate a firesprinkler. Only the high temperature of a fire will activate the sprinkler.
 - A home fire sprinkler system is easy to maintain. Just inspect your home to make sure the sprinklers are not blocked by something that would prevent the water from coming out such as paint and be sure the main control valve is never turned off.
 - Home fire sprinklers are effective in cold and warm climates. Guidelines have been created for the proper installation of systems to avoid pipes freezing. A home fire sprinkler system should be winterized the same way a domestic water supply is winterized.

-Submitted by the Weaverville Fire Department



Conservation Board to Launch Pollinator Initiative

We’ve been hearing a lot lately about the decline of pollinating insect species. These species are extremely important given that about 80% of our major food plant crops rely on them, including virtually all fruits and vegetables. Because of their commercial importance and because they are experiencing a phenomenon known as colony

The message of the Weaverville Wildlife Habitat project and the underlying aim of ongoing work in Main Street Nature Park have been to provide habitat for wildlife by landscaping with native plants. While most people immediately think of birds as the target for these programs, the goal has been to provide suitable living conditions for all wildlife – including our native insects. So the goal of the Conservation Board is to raise the level of awareness in our Weaverville community about the importance of all our pollinators and provide landowners with the information needed to encourage a healthy pollinator population in our area.

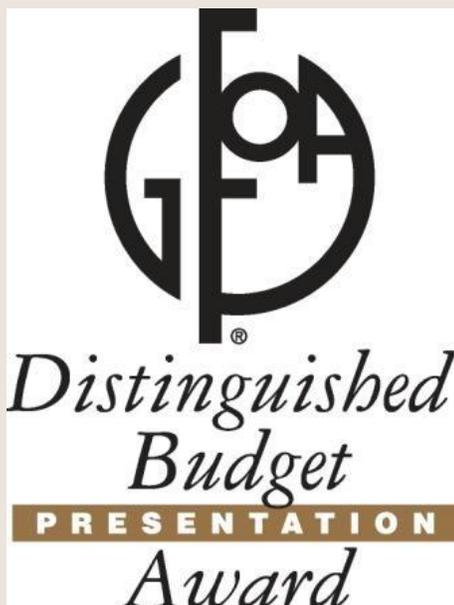
The initiative will include educational programs given by our local experts, activities at the library, tours of local gardens designed to support pollinators, seed giveaways, and plant sales. The

collapse, the emphasis has been on honeybees – a species that is native to Europe. Another iconic species, the Monarch butterfly, is much in the news because its' numbers have severely declined over the past several years. Although there is uncertainty about the cause of these declines, it is likely to be due to a combination of habitat loss and use of pesticides.

What is less well-known is that we have many native pollinator species. Did you know that there are many other kinds of bees, as well as beetles, wasps, and flies that are also important for pollination? These native insects could actually do the whole job of pollinating our locally-grown crops. But this depends on providing habitat for them. In large agro-ecosystems, like our Midwest and Central Valley of California, the habitat mosaic that might support native pollinators no longer exists. But here in our area, farms tend to be small and surrounded either by natural habitats or by human-modified landscapes. Home food-producing gardens are of course largely embedded within extensively developed areas that are landscaped primarily with non-native plants (and often overgrown with highly invasive exotics). Few of these non-natives provide what our native pollinators need to survive. Can you imagine how much we could contribute to solving this problem if all of us provided suitable habitat for pollinators in our back yards?

initiative will launch in early April and will be conducted in partnership with the Weaverville Library and the Weaverville Garden Club. The Garden Club website: gardenclubofweaverville.org will be “information central” for the project and “up to the minute” information will be posted on the Weaverville Wildlife Habitat Facebook page. Next month’s issue of the Focus will have specific information about the first event in April (look for the box titled Notes from the Conservation Board). Consider highlighting products or services, sales or promotions, personal bios, and more. Use images that complement your message, and link your images to supporting resources.

-Submitted by the *Conservation Board*



Town Wins Distinguished Budget Award for 20th Year

The Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) announced recently that the Town of Weaverville won the *Distinguished Budget Award* for its FY 2015-2016 Budget. This is the 20th consecutive year that the Town has won the Award. The GFOA established the Distinguished Budget Presentation Awards Program (Budget Awards Program) in 1984 to encourage and assist state and local governments to prepare budget documents of the very highest quality that reflect both the guidelines established by the National Advisory Council on State and Local Budgeting and the GFOA's best practices on budgeting and then to recognize individual governments that succeed in achieving that

The Weaverville Business Association wants Weaverville to *THRIVE!*

“The Weaverville Business Association is committed to fostering a thriving Weaverville business community.”

This is our mission and we take it seriously! Did you know that the Candlelight Stroll is an event organized by the Weaverville Business Association? It is a signature event for Weaverville and it has many local benefits including the promotion of local businesses, fundraising for Cops for Kids, creating a vibrant downtown atmosphere and building community between neighbors. Who can walk down Main Street on the eve of the Candlelight Stroll without stopping to greet a friend or neighbor?

The WBA also presents Art in Autumn, our outdoor art festival that graces Main Street each September. This event is a first rate, hometown art festival that is family friendly and has put Weaverville’s art scene on the map in WNC. Each year the festival has grown and next year we will celebrate 10 years of great art at Art in Autumn.



In addition, the WBA sponsors a local scholarship at North Buncombe High School for a student seeking post-secondary education in the field of business and an interest in entrepreneurship. The goal of this scholarship is to promote the spirit of entrepreneurship that makes a town like Weaverville, full of small businesses, great.

We are fully vested in a successful, vibrant local Weaverville economy. We invite you to buy local in 2016. Visit your local insurance agent, accountant, realtor, retailer, massage therapist, art gallery or restaurant. Visit our website at visitweaverville.com for a listing of great local businesses who regularly invest in Weaverville.

Our new brochure will be available at town hall and local businesses in early February.

-Submitted by the Weaverville Business Association

Town of Weaverville

Town Hall Physical Location:

30 South Main Street, Weaverville, NC 28787

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 338, Weaverville, NC 28787

Phone: (828) 645-7116

Business Hours:

8:30am- 5:00pm

Website:

www.weaverrillenc.org

Contact Us



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