



The Town of  
**Weaverville**  
NORTH CAROLINA

**e-FOCUS**  
Town Newsletter

January 2018

Volume 25

### **Congratulations on your Retirement!**

The Town of Weaverville would like to again extend a fond farewell and congratulations to our retiring **Police Chief Greg Stephens** and **Public Works Director Tony Laughter!** Both men have served the Town for many years, providing excellent public service and will be missed tremendously.

Enjoy this new phase in your lives, friends!

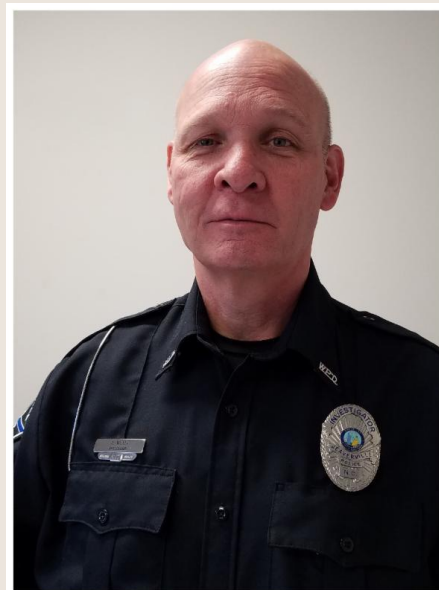


### **Alan Wyatt Promoted as Police Chief**

Weaverville's Town Manager Selena Coffey has announced that former detective and Assistant Police Chief Alan Wyatt has been promoted to Police Chief for the Town of Weaverville. Wyatt, who has worked for retiring Police Chief Greg Stephens for 15 years in progressively responsible positions of Officer, Sergeant, Detective and most recently as Assistant Chief, will take the reins of the Department upon the retirement of Chief Stephens on January 2, 2018.

"I am confident that incoming Chief Wyatt will lead the Weaverville Police Department in a professional manner and he and his officers will continue to provide Weaverville with a police department to be proud of," Town Manager Coffey stated. "I look forward to working with him in his new capacity as Chief and I am very happy that we were able to promote from within our top-notch Department for this important position."

Wyatt is a Veteran of the United States Air Force where he served 10 years as a Security Specialist and Mobility Officer. His experience also includes serving as a Police Officer for the Mars Hill Police



Department and the Mars Hill College Security. Wyatt holds a Criminal Justice Education Training and Standards Commission Advanced Law Enforcement Certificate and a North Carolina Justice Academy Criminal Investigator Program Certificate.

This appointment comes after the retirement of long-term employee Tony Laughter.

"We are fortunate to hire Dale Pennell, who has



### **Dale Pennell Appointed as Public Works Director**

Weaverville’s Town Manager has announced the appointment of Dale Pennell as the Town’s new Public Works Director.

served the Town in a civil engineering capacity, for many years,” said Town Manager Selena Coffey. “His background working with the Town coupled with his extensive engineering capabilities made him a strong candidate to manage the Public Works Department as we continue working on the Town’s major projects, such as street improvements, the construction of a new community center at Lake Louise and infrastructure issues that we must address moving forward.”

Dale Pennell, who resides in the Weaverville area, has 40 years of engineering experience in western North Carolina, including civil engineering design and construction, pavement, sidewalks, greenways, erosion control measures, storm water management, water and sewer lines, parks, and commercial and institutional facilities. Over the years, he has worked for Lyda Associates and McGill Associates, both in the private sector and for the City of Asheville for some seven years. Pennell will begin in his official capacity as the Town of Weaverville Public Works Director on January 2, 2018.

### **Garbage Collection Rescheduled due to New Years Holiday**

Please note that garbage collection normally scheduled for Monday January 1 will be collected Thursday, January 4, 2018 due to the New Years Day holiday.

All alternate scheduling for garbage collection for 2018 can be found on the Town’s website at [www.weavervillenc.org/sanitation](http://www.weavervillenc.org/sanitation).



## **Town Council Meeting & Workshops Calendar**

Please note that changes to the following calendar may be made as necessary by Town Council and noticed in accordance with N.C. General Statutes. Revisions to this calendar are made to the Calendar of Events on the Town’s website.

**Regular Meeting Dates**  
Meetings held at 7pm  
at Town Hall Council Chambers

**Regular Workshop Dates**  
Workshops held at 6pm  
at Town Hall Council Chambers

Monday, January 22, 2018  
Monday, February 26, 2018  
Monday, March 19, 2018  
Monday, April 16, 2018  
Monday, May 21, 2018  
Monday, June 18, 2018  
Monday, July 16, 2018  
Monday, August 20, 2018  
Monday, September 17, 2018  
Monday, October 15, 2018  
Monday, November 19, 2018  
Monday, December 17, 2018

Tuesday, January 9, 2018 - CANCELLED  
Tuesday, March 13, 2018  
Tuesday, May 8, 2018  
Tuesday, July 10, 2018  
Tuesday, September 11, 2018  
Tuesday, November 13, 2018

## 2017 Annual Christmas Parade Review

by Councilwoman and Parade Committee Chair, Dottie Sherrill



The annual Christmas Parade was held on its regularly scheduled date, the first Saturday of December, the 2nd. The weather really cooperated this year with temperatures hovering in the 50s with scattered clouds. One of the largest crowds I can remember in the 28 years working on the parade. A lot of work goes into a parade, beginning in October when the telephone committee starts calling prospective float entries. The Town Manager, along with the Police Chief and Fire Chief, begin assessing street closures, the parade route and line-up procedures. Then, all entries are put on a computer for line-up. A Grand Marshal and float judges are chosen. Posters have to be made and advertising completed. Santa's sleigh has to be cleaned and decorated. Santa's candy has to be purchased. The telephone committee calls each entry in order to get mailing and calling data, as well

A special thanks to:

Weaverville Public Works Department; Town Manager Selena Coffey; Weaverville Fire Chief Ted Williams and the Weaverville Fire Department; Weaverville Police Chief Greg Stephens and the Weaverville Police Department; the Christmas Parade Committee, including Tina Jenkins, Jill Totman, Debbie Wallen, Lynne Sherrill, Patrick Fitzsimmons, Jamie Penley, Gracie Vetas, Beth Ann Sprinkle and Tim Laster; Master of Ceremonies Rob Mangum and Stewart Sound.

The Grand Marshal for Weaverville's 2017 Christmas Parade was Reverend Jim McCoy, retired pastor of the First Baptist Church of Weaverville. Reverend McCoy and his family have resided on Church Street for many years.

as entry information. Then, a letter is mailed to all participants with line-up numbers and necessary parade information. After meeting with Fire Chief Ted Williams, Police Chief Greg Stephens and Town Manager Selena Coffey, location and spaces must be decided and marked for all entries. For the past 13 years the parade line-up has been at North Buncombe Middle School. Because there are so many entries, the North Buncombe High School Marching Band moves to Tractor Supply Company.

Again this year, we decided to have a PA system set up to announce all entries as they came down Main Street. The system was set up at Rodney's Auto Service by Stewart Sound. Local Main Street merchant, Rob Mangum, was our announcer this year.

The morning of the parade, Weaverville Firefighters, Weaverville Police Officers, volunteers and myself are stationed early at the command post to see that all entries have their line-up numbers and are directed to their proper spaces. Both the Police and Fire Departments, help me with the line-up and overseeing traffic control.

When the parade, which this year lasted one hour and fifteen minutes, is over, the Public Works Department's hard work really begins, so as to get up all the thrown candy and trash off the streets before dusk. Finally, Santa's sleigh has to be cleaned and put in storage for the next year.

This year, 100 entries were in the parade. The streets were lined with people from the corner of Dula Springs Road down North and South Main Streets to witness the Town Parade and everyone waiting on the arrival of Santa Claus and lots of candy! Friends told me they had never seen so much enthusiasm with both the crowd and the participants. After all, it's all about the children!

Right as the parade began, a wheel on the float carrying children from Richland Baptist Church broke, thus leaving the award winning float unable to participate. Children as well as adults were left crying standing beside their broken float, still located within the gates of the middle school. Covenant Church spotted the disappointed group, then stopped and invited them to jump on their float and ride in the parade. How happy they were to be in the parade. To me, that is what Christmas is about.

**Float Winners:** (each received a trophy and ribbon)

**1st Place: Flat Creek Baptist Church;** Float submitted by Trade and Brian Hanrahan

**2nd Place: Rodney's Auto Service / Rodney's Bike and Cruise;** Float submitted by Rodney Edwards

**3rd Place: Richland Baptist Church;** Float submitted by Erica Blankenship

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## 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.weavervillenc.org](http://www.weavervillenc.org)

### Contact Us



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e-Focus Editor: Selena Coffey, Town Manager