

COMMUNITY CENTER UPDATE



You'll find a lot of fun activities this summer at the Pigeon Forge Community Center. Our outdoor pool will be open through the beginning of August and is included in your membership; however, if family or friends are not members, a day fee can be paid to use the facility. Summer Camp for children is Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. and costs \$80 per week. The camp includes swimming, bowling, arts and crafts, soccer, basketball, dance, hockey,

tag games, and much, much more! Camp weeks are July 10-14, July 17-21, July 24-28, and July 31-Aug. 4. For those who want to get out of the heat, come inside to enjoy basketball, racquetball, walleyball, volleyball, as well as our indoor pool, bowling center and fitness center.

For information on everything the Community Center has to offer, please call 429-7373.

EVENTS OF INTEREST

Patriot Festival

Patriot Park
July 4

Celebrate Freedom!™

Businesses throughout Pigeon Forge
Aug. 1-31

Veterans Homecoming Parade

Pigeon Forge Parkway
Aug. 18

MAILBOX OR ONLINE?

If you had a preference, would you rather receive your quarterly copy of The Messenger online as opposed to regular mail? If so, simply go to CityOfPigeonForge.com and sign up.

The City of Pigeon Forge does not discriminate based on race, color or national origin in federal or state-sponsored programs, pursuant to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000d).

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MESSENGER

A PUBLICATION FOR THE RESIDENTS OF PIGEON FORGE



COMMISSIONERS' UPDATE

Earlene Teaster,
City Manager

The success of Pigeon Forge is a result of hard work and dedication from our business community, as well as the heartfelt welcome visitors receive from our residents.

The Pigeon Forge Commissioners appreciate you sharing your love of our town with our guests and making this a place where people want to bring family and friends.

Each year, we celebrate America's Independence Day with an afternoon and evening of fun, games, music and fireworks in Patriot Park. The annual Pigeon Forge Patriot Festival is our way of saying thank you for your continued support.

This year's festival, July 4, begins at noon. Starting at 1:30 p.m., some of your friends and neighbors will be featured onstage, including Cruisin' Memories, the Brad Hudson Band and our own Pigeon Forge Community Chorus, just to name a few. Electric Avenue will play hits from the '80s before headliner Craig Morgan takes the stage. A fireworks finale will bring the celebration to a close.



Admission to Patriot Festival is free, and we hope that you will join us for a day to celebrate America. We are blessed to live here and truly appreciate everyone who calls Pigeon Forge home.

JUST THE FACTS

PIGEON FORGE COMMISSIONERS

David Wear, Mayor
Kevin McClure, Vice Mayor
Ken Maples
Jay Ogle
Tony Watts

CITY HALL

8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Monday-Friday
453-9061
City Hall wants to hear from you. Send questions and comments to cityhall@cityofpigeonforge.com.

YOU ARE INVITED

The public is encouraged to attend the following Pigeon Forge meetings at City Hall:

- City Council
Second and fourth Monday at 5:30 p.m.
- City Planning Commission
Fourth Tuesday at 3 p.m.

CONTACT

If you have a story idea you would like to share, or if you would like to request more information on a story you read in this issue, please contact Jessica Nichols at the Department of Tourism at 429-7364.

KEEP IN TOUCH

Information about Pigeon Forge is right at your fingertips when you visit our website at CityofPigeonForge.com.

LIBRARY UPDATE

Pigeon Forge Library's Summer Reading Program, Libraries Rock!, kicks off Tuesday, June 5, at 1 p.m. with best-selling novelist Steven James. Steven's adult book "The Bishop" was named Book of the Year by *Suspense Magazine*, which says that he "sets the new standard in suspense writing." *Publisher's Weekly* calls him "a master storyteller at the peak of his game." Steven has a master's degree in storytelling, which he will use to entertain our youngsters.

On June 12, Jeff Robbins will bring the authentic sights and sounds of Appalachian mountain music and instrument-making to the library. Jeff's program is entertaining, educational, participatory, hands-on and fun.

Can you imagine having our very own group of dinosaurs at the library? We are excited to welcome first-time library guests "Dakota and Friends" from Charlotte, N.C., to the library on Tuesday, June 19. Come see the dinosaurs for yourself.



Magician Scott Humston has led an extraordinary life. Scott can be seen on a weekly BBC Television show called "Now You See It" in the United Kingdom. Come be entertained and inspired by Scott on June 26. Another first-time guest to the library will be The Frisbee Guy on July 10. Come join the fun with Gary Auerbach, the 1995 world freestyle Frisbee champion. Kids will learn simple tricks, and Gary will give each child a free Frisbee to take home.

We will finish up the summer fun on July 17 with perennial favorite illustrator Michael P. White. Michael has illustrated four children's books including the award-winning "The Library Dragon." Michael's high-energy, fast-paced art program will have your kids' artistic juices flowing.

Preschool programs take place throughout the summer on Tuesday and Thursday at 11 a.m., and toddlers have their own programs at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday mornings in June. Babies and preschoolers will be eligible for prizes by attending the library and reading with their families.

Teens have their own self-paced program with a chance to win prizes at the end of the summer. Adults of all ages can participate in a summer reading program as well, with prizes awarded weekly.

Stop by the library to get details or call 429-7490. Summer reading program information is also at pfpl.net or on Facebook at [facebook.com/pflibrary](https://www.facebook.com/pflibrary).

PFPD PATROL

Jordan Chambers and Shane Chipley, wearing the neckties, are the newest officers of the Pigeon Forge Police Department (PFPD). Upon graduation from the East Tennessee Regional Law Enforcement Academy, they will return to Pigeon Forge for 16 weeks of intensive training with Field Training Officers.



Of the 59 sworn officers of the Pigeon Forge Police Department, six are women.

Lt. Barbara Ward started in Communications and Records, then became a patrol officer in 1981. She moved to the Criminal Investigation Division (CID) in

1986 and became the supervisor of that unit in 1989. In 1999, she became one of the first four lieutenants in the department. Lt. Ward is a graduate of East Tennessee State University.

Mikki Brown began as a patrol officer in 1995 and was the first female motorcycle officer hired in the state of Tennessee. In 2003 she left the traffic division and teamed with Britt, a dual-purpose narcotic detector K-9. Now a patrol officer, Officer Brown has a degree in Criminal Justice and Criminology from East Tennessee State University and has been an accident reconstructionist since 2000.

Candace Teaster became a patrol officer in 2012. She has a degree in General Studies and Criminal Justice Administration from Walters State Community College, as well as a degree in Criminal Justice Administration from Columbia Southern University. She is a licensed advanced emergency medical technician, a certified child passenger safety technician and a certified instructor in basic women's self-defense. She currently conducts rape aggression defense (RAD) classes.

Kristie Brock was hired as a Patrol Officer in 2012. She holds degrees in Law Enforcement and Organizational Management. Officer Brock is a field training officer for the department and a member of the Crisis Negotiation Unit. Prior to joining PFPD, she was a patrol officer and detective for the Oak Ridge Police Department.

Cynthia Larregui has been a Patrol Officer since April 2017. Officer Larregui is a three-year veteran of the United States Army, where she was assigned to Air and Missile Defense Operations.

Officer Natalie Burnett became a Patrol Officer in October 2017. She is a graduate of the Walters State Regional Law Enforcement Academy and currently in the field training program. Officer Burnett has degrees in Criminal Justice and Sociology from the University of Arkansas.

"We are extremely proud of our female officers. Each varies in experience, and all are assets to the department. We are very fortunate to have officers of this caliber representing the Pigeon Forge Police Department," said Chief Richard Catlett.

PIGEON FORGE SCRAPBOOK



To escape the dangers of the Civil War and to establish a new church, United Baptist Church of Christ, members of the Baptist Church of Sevierville began meeting at Henderson's Chalybeate Springs in November 1856. United Baptist Church of Christ currently is Henderson Chapel Baptist. A log church was constructed near Henderson Springs Resort, followed by a wood-frame building. Around

1890, the structure was razed, and the lumber hauled to the site where the church sits today at 407 Henderson Road. As a little boy, George F. Sharp rode on the wagon coupling pole, splashing his feet through water crossings. William A. and Rebecca McClure Henderson deeded the land to the church in Pine Grove after the church was built. This photograph was taken June 30, 1963, by Bashor's Photography and is courtesy of Helen Peeler.

Shiloh Methodist Episcopal Church meeting house originally was a frontier log building used for church and school. It once stood among the grey weathered gravestones of Shiloh Memorial Cemetery. Renowned circuit-riding minister, Bishop Francis Asbury, first addressed the congregation here on October 20, 1808. This painting was created by Hazel Wilson Hatcher; copy is courtesy of Agnes Hatcher Marshall.



PFPD NEWS

Warm summer weather means more time in the pools and on the lakes. The Pigeon Forge Fire Department shares these water safety precautions from the National Safety Council to help make your summer safe.

- Never leave your child alone. If you have to leave, take your child with you.
- Find age-appropriate swim lessons for your child, but keep in mind that lessons do not drown-proof your child.
- Lifeguards are not babysitters. Always keep your eyes on your child.
- Don't let children play around drains or suction fittings.
- Never consume alcohol when operating a boat. Always make sure everyone is wearing U.S. Coast Guard-approved life jackets.
- Don't underestimate the power of water. Even rivers and lakes can have undertows.
- Always carry a first aid kit and have emergency contacts handy.
- Get trained in CPR.
- If a child goes missing, check the water first.