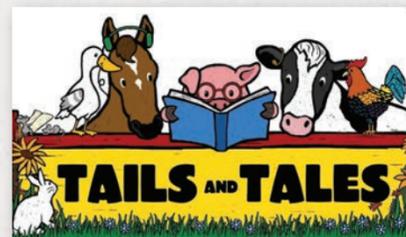


## LIBRARY UPDATE



Pigeon Forge Public Library's animal-themed Summer Reading Program Tales and Tails begins on June 8 at 1 p.m. with magician Matt Fore. On June 15, the Runaway Puppet Theater presents timeless tales with a twist to get kids excited about reading, and on June 22 is Mr. Bond, Science Guy visits to make science fun, cool, and easy for kids. Then on June 29 Barry Mitchell will perform his Smile Maker show accompanied by Sam the Turtle.

Preschool programs will be held throughout the summer on Tuesday mornings at 11 a.m., and teens and adults also will have opportunities to join the fun. Stop by the Library, call 865-429-7490, or visit [www.pfpl.net](http://www.pfpl.net) for more information.

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# MESSENGER

A PUBLICATION FOR THE RESIDENTS OF PIGEON FORGE



## CITY HALL UPDATE

Earlene Teaster, City Manager

This spring we saw more of our visitors return to the Smokies, and as the weather warms and school breaks begin, we expect the summer season to be just as busy. With this in mind, we ask that you continue to follow the health and safety tips we've all become accustomed to this past year even if you're vaccinated.

In case you missed this year's virtual State of the City address, below is an update on some infrastructure projects and improvements underway in Pigeon Forge.

- The pedestrian bridge above Teaster Lane along with the new Mountain Lot are now complete.
- The Jake Thomas connector will extend Jake Thomas Road and will connect Teaster Lane to Veterans Boulevard and is set to be completed in 2024.
- Construction will begin on a new section of greenway along the Little Pigeon River at Dollywood Lane in the fall of this year.

Thank you in advance for another safe and successful season. We appreciate all the work you continue to do to keep your fellow residents and our visitors safe while they're in our city.

## STAY UP TO DATE

For real-time updates and city announcements, please visit [www.CityofPigeonForge.com](http://www.CityofPigeonForge.com) or follow the City of Pigeon Forge Department of Tourism Facebook page.

### 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](http://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).*

## EVENTS OF INTEREST

### Dollywood's Summer Celebration

Dollywood  
June 25-July 31

### Titanic Honors Jewish Passengers Onboard

Titanic Museum Attraction  
July 1-Dec. 31

### 31st Annual Patriot Festival

Patriot Park  
July 3

### Shenandoah in Concert

Country Tonite Theatre  
July 30

### 7th Annual Veterans Homecoming Parade

Pigeon Forge Parkway  
Aug. 7

### The Oak Ridge Boys in Concert

Country Tonite Theatre  
Aug. 13

### Southeast Shrine Association Parade

Pigeon Forge Parkway  
Aug. 14

### Great Smoky Mountain Jeep Club Invasion

LeConte Center at Pigeon Forge  
Aug. 26-28

### Shades of the Past Hot Rod Roundup

Dollywood's Splash Country  
Sept. 10-11

### Pigeon Forge Fall Rod Run

LeConte Center at Pigeon Forge  
Sept. 16-18

### Ronnie Milsap in Concert

Country Tonite Theatre  
Sept. 24

### 18th Annual Old Mill Heritage Day

Old Mill Square  
Sept. 25

### National Quartet Convention

LeConte Center at Pigeon Forge  
Sept. 26-30



## PATRIOT FESTIVAL

The 31st annual Patriot Festival takes place on July 3 and will celebrate Independence Day with Clint Black as this year's headliner. The event will include a tribute to our nation's veterans, free entertainment from the local Brad Hudson Band, Rumors, Fleetwood Mac tribute band, and more.



At 8:30 p.m. Clint Black will get the crowd on its feet before the fireworks spectacular begins. This is a free event and is open to the public. Please note no umbrellas or coolers are allowed, and all CDC and state COVID-19 guidelines will be in place.

## VETERAN'S HOMECOMING PARADE



Join the city of Pigeon Forge as it salutes America's military veterans during the Annual Veterans Homecoming Parade on Saturday, August 7. As a part of Celebrate Freedom!™ the parade honors military veterans, and will begin at 9 a.m. The parade will travel northbound on the Parkway to Traffic Light #5.

## UPDATED TROLLEY SCHEDULE AND GUIDELINES

All Pigeon Forge Mass Transit routes are operating from 8 a.m. to midnight at this time. Until further notice, all trolley passengers must wear a mask, per federal guidelines. Please know that parking at Patriot Park is limited due to ongoing construction. Free parking is available in both city parking lots (the River Lot between The Island and the LeConte Center and the Mountain Lot near The Ripken Experience on Jake Thomas Road). Free shuttle service is offered from the River lot. Those who park in the Mountain lot can use the pedestrian bridge to access the nearest trolley stop on Jake Thomas Road for transport to the Pigeon Forge Mass Transit hub at Patriot park.

## PFFD NEWS

Keep these safety tips in mind as you enjoy summer vacations, camping, family reunions, picnics and the Fourth of July.

### Fire Safety

- Build campfires at least 25 feet away from tents, shrubs and anything that can burn.
- Use chimineas, outdoor fireplaces, and firepits outdoors only and at least 10 feet away from your home or anything that can burn.
- Use propane, charcoal, and wood pellet barbecue grills outdoors only. Indoor use can cause a fire or carbon monoxide poisoning.
- Place your grill well away from siding and deck railings and out from under eaves and overhanging branches. If you want to see fireworks, go to a public show put on by experts. Sparklers can reach 1,200 F and cause third-degree burns.

### Activity Safety

- Never swim near a boat, marina or boat launching ramp, and always use U.S. Coast Guard-approved life safety jackets when near the water.
- Adults should stay with children when they are around water.
- Keep the pool and deck clear of floats, balls and toys after you get out of the pool and **never swim alone**.
- Always wear a bike helmet and bright clothes when cycling so people can see you. Add reflectors to your bike for more visibility.
- Always ride with both hands on the handlebars, and ride in single file with traffic stopping at all stop signs and traffic lights.

## PIGEON FORGE SCRAPBOOK

Does the library have some of your relatives on DVD? Come on by and see! The Pigeon Forge Public Library has a wonderful collection of archival photos from our area that encompass more than 100 years of local history. One of the most important aspects of continuing to grow our historical collection is interviewing lifelong Pigeon Forge residents who share their memories of going to school, working, and expanding their families, attending church and all the other activities that help create a community.



These interviews are added to our collection as DVDs and can be checked out by our patrons. Some of these are one-on-one, while others are part of the Wilderness Wildlife series. The DVDs with the bright green labels include oral histories and are available for library patrons to check out. Library cards are free and never expire.

## PFPD NEWS

It seems simple enough, but is this a routine for you? Join the Pigeon Forge Police Department as we practice a proven way to lower crime in our community, the 9 p.m. Routine. Crime statistics show that 70% of car burglaries involve unlocked vehicles. The 9 p.m. Routine should include the following steps:

- Turning on outside lights
  - Removing valuables from the car
  - Making sure the doors are locked
  - Closing the garage door
  - Making sure that all mail and packages are brought inside
  - Locking the house doors before settling in for the night
- This is a simple routine that might save you an unwanted police report. Do your part to protect your property. Join us in the 9 p.m. Routine.

## MASK MANDATE LIFTED

The Sevier County mask mandate has expired and will not be renewed, however our city's commitment to providing a safer environment for our visitors, employees and residents continues. With that in mind, please know that masks are still required until further notice:

- In all Pigeon Forge governmental office or city-owned building/facility
- On all Pigeon Forge Mass Transit trolleys;
- In Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

## COVID-19 VACCINE INFORMATION

The state of Tennessee has begun distribution of the COVID-19 vaccine to all people 12 years of age and older.

Please visit [www.seviercountycovidhelp.com](http://www.seviercountycovidhelp.com) to find out more about the vaccine and a vaccination appointment.

## 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](mailto:cityhall@cityofpigeonforge.com).

### 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 Victoria Johnson 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](http://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.