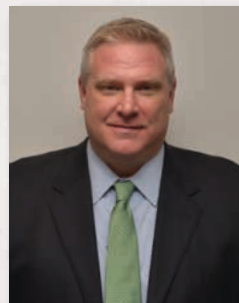


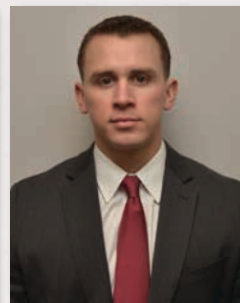
PFPD PATROL

New Officers Join PF Force

In April, these three new police officers were sworn in to protect and serve the residents and guests of Pigeon Forge.



▲ Robert Berkley



▲ Joseph Ryan Sberill



▲ Matthew Whaley

COMMUNITY CENTER UPDATE

Summer Camp 2015



Summer Camp 2015 is right around the corner. This year's camp begins June 8 and continues for eight weeks, ending Aug. 7. Children can go for one week or all summer long.

Each day will be full of activities, and at the beginning of each week, all children will have the opportunity to pick which classes he or she wants to take. We will be at the pool every day, as long as weather cooperates, and each child is provided swim lessons that address individual skill levels.

Breakfast, lunch and an afternoon snack will be provided every day. The Community Center provides a weekly menu, so you can pack a lunch and snack if you want to substitute on any particular day.

Reminder: The Community Center's outdoor pool opens May 23, closes Aug. 16. Please call us at 429-7373 for information on any of our summer programs.

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225 Pine Mountain Road
Pigeon Forge, TN 37863
www.cityofpigeonforge.com

MESSENGER

A PUBLICATION FOR THE RESIDENTS OF PIGEON FORGE



COMMISSIONERS UPDATE

Earlene Teaster,
City Manager

The 2015 election is in the history books. Thank you to the citizens of Pigeon Forge that voted and made their voices heard. When the votes were tallied, Ken Maples was elected and David Wear re-elected to the commission. We extend our sincere thanks to commissioner Howard Reagan for his dedicated service to the City of Pigeon Forge.

The members of the current Pigeon Forge City Commission—David Wear, Kevin McClure, Joyce Brackins, Ken Maples and Jay Ogle—are excited about the future of our town and can't wait to keep Pigeon Forge moving forward, for the benefit of residents and visitors alike.

Another school year has come and gone, and we are fortunate to live in a town that has plenty of summer jobs, as well as countless ways to for students to enjoy their well-deserved time away from the classroom.

We look forward to seeing all of you at Patriot Festival on July 4. It's a great time to gather with family and friends and celebrate America's Independence Day. And, don't miss the Veterans Homecoming Parade on Aug. 29. All veterans are invited to participate, so if you're interested, please call the Office of Special Events at 429-7395.

May you all experience a summer filled with happy memories.

JUST THE FACTS

PIGEON FORGE COMMISSIONERS

David Wear, Mayor
Kevin McClure, Vice Mayor
Joyce Brackins
Ken Maples
Jay Ogle

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 Sherri Kirby at the Department of Tourism at 429-7368.

KEEP IN TOUCH

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

PIGEON FORGE SCRAPBOOK

Fort Weare Game Park

Elephants named Princess Roni and Princess Meena were part of the menagerie of more than 300 animals at the Fort Weare Game Park in Pigeon Forge in the 1950s and 1960s.

James Householder is pictured here on one of the favorite animals of area school children. Mr. Householder spent many hours working with Trotter Electric in the wiring and plumbing of the local amusement.



Another favorite animal, Tonga, was billed by some as the star of Fort Weare, the “queen of the white-faced educated chimpanzees.” After her show, she was followed by a trail of children through the park. A major attraction at Fort Weare was the rattlesnake milking lecture and demonstration, where a local herpetologist extracted venom from deadly Western diamondback rattlesnakes and Southern cottonmouth water moccasins.

The structure that housed the game park was patterned after Col. Samuel Wear’s fort, which was built in Pigeon Forge in the late 1700s.

Three Miller brothers, of the circus and performing animal industry, owned Fort Weare. It was managed by one of the brothers, Robert, and operated until the 1960s.



LIBRARY UPDATE



You can check out eBooks and audio books through the Pigeon Forge Public Library website at www.pfpl.net. Books are available in multiple formats and compatible with almost any device you own—Kindle Fire, Samsung Galaxy, iPad, or the new Android or iPhone. Thanks to so many of you already using this service, PFPL was number four on the list of top ten libraries in Tennessee for eBook checkouts per capita in 2014. If you’re thinking about getting on the eBook bandwagon, but haven’t yet purchased a device, stop by the library and browse through our collection of devices. You can call us to set up an appointment with a technical assistant for personalized, hands-on training on a variety of eReaders.

To find out more visit our website, pfpl.net, click Audio/eBook to begin your search for the perfect book. You can check out eBooks for 7, 14 or 21 days. When your lending period ends, the book simply vanishes from your device. You don’t even have to visit the library to access these materials. They can be downloaded from home or wherever it’s convenient. As with all library services, eBooks and audio books are offered at no charge. All you need is your library card. For more information about eBooks or other library services, call 429-7490. Happy reading.

EVENTS OF INTEREST

SEAA Girl’s Fast Pitch World Series
Wear Farm City Park
July 17-19 and July 20-26

StringTime in the Smokies and Smoky Mountain Cornhole Tournament
Old Mill Square
August 1

25TH ANNUAL PATRIOT FESTIVAL

In addition to food, games and local entertainers, this year’s Patriot Festival will be highlighted by a concert by Grammy-award winners, Diamond Rio.

Since its first release in 1991, Diamond Rio has sold more than 10 million albums and been named Vocal Group of the Year by both the Country Music Association and the Academy of Country Music. Departure, a Journey tribute band, will open for Diamond Rio.

The Independence Day fun begins at noon in Patriot Park, and onstage entertainment begins at 1:30 p.m. At approximately 9:30 p.m., following the onstage entertainment, a spectacular fireworks display will bring the festivities to a close.

Bring lawn chairs and blankets for seating. Umbrellas and coolers will not be allowed. Patriot Festival activities are free. Come join the fun as we celebrate America’s birthday.



SALES TAX HOLIDAY 2015

Each year, the first Friday in August marks the beginning of the Sales Tax Holiday in Tennessee. This year, the savings begin at 12:01 a.m. on Friday, Aug. 7, and end at 11:59 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 9.

The Sales Tax Holiday means that you’ll pay no sales tax on the following purchases that weekend: clothing and school supplies of \$100 or less and computers that cost \$1,500 or less. There are a few exceptions, and those can be found at tntaxholiday.com.

Sales Tax Holiday is a great weekend to make the most of end-of-summer sales and stock up on supplies before the 2015 school year begins.



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).