

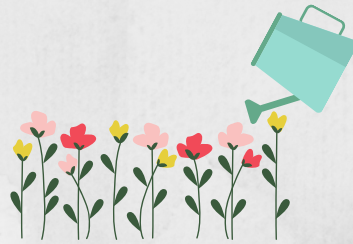
The Town of Laurel Park

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER FOR THE TOWN OF LAUREL PARK

WHAT'S INSIDE...



Ecusta Trail



Parks and Greenways Event and
Volunteer Opportunities



Town Employee Salary
Study

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN TOWN

S.W.A. P.

SOCIALS WITH A PURPOSE

JOIN US ON MAY 20th AT 9 AM AT FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

- MEET OUR NEW TOWN MANAGER, ALEX CARMICHAEL
 - MEET OUR POLICE AND FIRE CHIEFS
 - JOIN THE Q&A WITH COMMISSIONER BRIDGES
 - BRING YOUR DOCUMENTS TO BE SHREDDED BY SHRED-IT
 - SAFELY DISPOSE OF EXPIRED OR UNWANTED MEDICATION
 - HAVE YOUR CHILD'S CARSEAT CHECKED FOR PROPER INSTALLATION
- AND MORE!

SEE THE FLYER AT THE END OF THE NEWSLETTER FOR MORE DETAILS

Commissioner's Corner

Town Conducts Salary Study

By: Commissioner Kristin Dunn

Our Town deserves the best and brightest staff. Citizens need a fully staffed police force, a great public works department, and fantastic administrators. The Town of Laurel Park is committed to ensuring that all citizens are well cared for by investing in our own workforce.

Staff at Town Hall recently completed a Salary Study and Town Council voted in favor of additional pay to attract and retain incredible employees in each department. The lowest paid Laurel Park employees now earn a Living Wage, beginning at \$17 an hour. This allows Laurel Park to be a competitive employer and remain fully staffed even as other local workplaces struggle with vacancies. Our Department Heads say that they feel lucky and proud.

Over the past year and a half, employees have received numerous internal promotions. Some long-term staff have recently become our Assistant Police Chief, our new Public Works Superintendent, Crew Leader, and newly created position of Park Technician. The Town is so fortunate to have staff members who have worked for the Town for upwards of five and ten years.

Finally, Town Council approved a paid FMLA policy for town staff fourteen months ago. After a recent meeting, an employee came up to me. They shared that the employees at the Town of Laurel Park were so glad to have paid medical leave. One of their colleagues recently had a baby. This individual was able to take off up to six paid weeks of family medical leave to stay home with their infant. The word that this employee used was that our Laurel Park staff feel appreciated.

I want to thank each citizen at the Town of Laurel Park for supporting incredible staff that help our town run smoothly every day. I moved to this area because of the gorgeous landscape and truly love walking to our unique parks and waterfalls with my family. But our staff is what makes Laurel Park continue to shine. Please join me in thanking them, through better pay, work/life balance, or even popping into Town Hall to say how much you appreciate their hard work.

Town seeking new Assistant To Town Manager

The Town of Laurel Park is currently in the process of accepting applications for the vacant position of Assistant to the Town Manager. If you, or anyone you know is interested in applying, please see the complete job description at www.laurelpark.org.

BRUSH PICKUP HAS CONCLUDED

We still pick up bagged leaves year-round, upon request. Leaves must be placed in a paper bag in order for us to accept them. Just go to our website and the *How do I...* tab, fill out the form and it will go directly to our Public Works department.

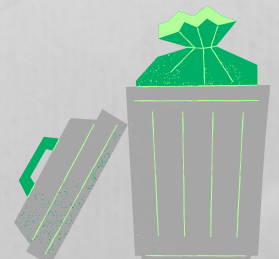


IMPORTANT INFORMATION

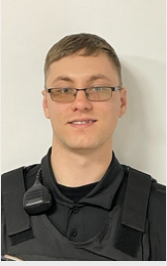
The second annual Jump Off Rock Half Marathon and 10k is taking place on Saturday, May 14th. Portions of roads throughout Town will be limited to traffic that morning from 7 a.m. - 11 a.m. Please allow extra time to travel.

Garbage & Recycle Information

Trash and recycle pickup will be delayed one day the week of Memorial Day, therefore collection will take place on Friday, June 3.



New Police Officer Sworn In



Please join us in welcoming our new police officer, Austin Pittman. Austin is a life long Hendersonville resident and comes to us fresh out of BLET.

He is excited to be a part of the Laurel Park law enforcement team and eager to serve our residents!

Bee Keepers in Laurel Park Organize

June has been designated Pollinator Month by Bee City, USA. As an official Bee City, Laurel Park is making a concerted effort to support this ecosystem. If you are a Bee Keeper, or know someone who is, please contact

Town Hall at 828-693-4840 or email tamin@laurelpark.org to support our efforts.

Volunteer Appreciation Day

May 21st at noon in Rhododendron Lake Nature Park

We want to celebrate YOU, that rare species, a Laurel Park volunteer! If you've helped us with pulling weeds, planting perennials or bushes, clearing a trail, monitoring a bluebird house, or picking up trash along our streets, we'd like you to join us at the park for an opportunity to meet your like-minded neighbors. We will provide hot dogs and hamburgers for anyone who volunteers with us, past, current and future.

RSVP to one of the following:

jjacksonjr@yahoo.com

robustja@gmail.com

garyand99@gmail.com

Valley Hill Fire & Rescue Wants You to Stay *Lightning* Safe this Spring

Lightning Safety: What You Need to Know

·NO PLACE OUTSIDE is safe when thunderstorms are in the area!!

·If you hear thunder, lightning is close enough to strike you.

·When you hear thunder, immediately move to safe shelter: a substantial building or a metal topped vehicle.

·Stay in safe shelter at least 30 minutes after you hear the last sound of thunder.

Indoor Lightning Safety

·Stay off corded phones, computers and other electrical equipment that put you in direct contact with electricity.

·Avoid plumbing, including sinks, baths, and faucets.

·Stay away from windows and doors and stay off porches.

·Do not lie on concrete floors, and do not lean against concrete walls.

·If you think your house has been struck by lightning call 911 immediately and have the fire department respond.



For any questions or additional information contact Fire and Life Safety Officer Chris McDowell at 828-692-2581 ext 105



Now you can report any Street or Road issues directly to Public Works through our website!

As always, you can also:

- Request a House Check when you're away
- Request a Bagged Leaf pickup
- Reserve and pay for Park use

We encourage you to use our online portal as much as possible so that we have electronic records of all requests and issues.

Laurel Park Outdoor Volunteer Opportunities

Both the Parks & Greenways Board and the Friends of Laurel Park host activities and projects to beautify and maintain our wonderful outdoor spaces. Please contact any or all of the following resident leaders if you are interested in helping.

- Adopt-a-Garden: Judy Lyons (jjacksonjr@yahoo.com)
- Parks Clean-up/Renovation: Judy Lyons (jjacksonjr@yahoo.com)
- Walking Trails: Jenny Brown (jenprior@hotmail.com)
- Invasive Vines: Sally Buchholz (tatebuc@gmail.com)
- Birdhouse Monitoring/Maintenance: Anne Hartig (anneholt.hartig@gmail.com)

CALENDAR

May 1-7	Clerks Week
May 7	Wildfire Community Preparedness Day
May 11-17	Police Week
May 14	Planting and Clean Up at Rhododendron Lake Nature Park
May 14	Jump Off Rock Half-Marathon & 10k Race
May 15-21	Public Works Week
May 20	Town of LP's Social With a Purpose (S.W.A.P) <i>See attached flyer below</i>
May 21 @ Noon	Volunteer Appreciation Day at Rhododendron Lake Nature Park (Rain date May 22nd at noon)
May 30	Memorial Day - Town Offices Closed
June 3	Trash Pickup on Friday

Public Meeting Schedule

Town Council Regular Meeting

May 17 @ 9:30 am in person and via Zoom
June 21 @ 9:30 am in person and via Zoom

Town Council Work Session

May 12 @ 9:30 am in person and via Zoom
June 16 @ 9:30 am in person and via Zoom

Parks & Greenways Board

May 10 @ 9:30 am in person and via Zoom
June 14 @ 9:30 am in person and via Zoom

Centennial Committee

May 9 @ 11:30 am in person and via Zoom
June 13 @ 11:30 am in person and via Zoom

Bike Committee

May 9 @ 1:00 pm in person
June 13 @ 3:00 pm in person

Planning Board

May 10 @ 3:00 pm in person and via Zoom
June 14 @ 3:00 pm in person and via Zoom

Mayor: J. Carey O'Cain

Mayor Pro Tem: A. Paul Hansen

Commissioners:

A. Paul Hansen
George W. Banta
Kristin R. Dunn
Debra H. Bridges



Town of Laurel Park
441 White Pine Drive
Laurel Park, NC 28739-0910

ABC Board - at the ABC Store

May 24 @ 8:30 am in person
June 28 @ 8:30 am in person

Zoning Board of Adjustment

May 12 @ 4:00 pm in person and via Zoom

Town Contact Information

Town Hall **693-4840**
9:00 am – 5:00 pm Mon - Fri

City of Hendersonville Water/Sewer

Customer Service **697-3052**
Leaks/Service Issues **697-3073**
After Hours/Emergency **891-7779**

Police Office **692-9399**
(non-emergency)

Police Non-Emergency **697-3025**

Valley Hill Fire **692-2581**

Town Manager: Alex Carmichael

Town Clerk: Tamara Amin

Finance Officer: Heather Smith

Assistant to Town Manager: Vacant

Police Chief: Bobbie Trotter

Public Works Director: Brandon Johnson



**THE TOWN OF LAUREL PARK'S
S.W.A.P.
(SOCIALS WITH A PURPOSE)**

**PLEASE JOIN US
FRIDAY, MAY 20, 2022, FROM 9 A.M.-12 P.M. @
FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UCC
(ACROSS FROM TOWN HALL)
1735 5TH AVENUE WEST, LAUREL PARK, NC 28739**

You are cordially invited to meet the new Town Manager
Alex Carmichael
Meet the Chiefs-
Police Chief Bobbie Trotter and Fire Chief Tim Garren
Q&A with Commissioner Bridges
Shred Documents
Medicine Drop
Car seat checks
Events and Volunteer/Donor information
Healthy eating and getting active information
And more!

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: TAMIN @LAURELPARK.ORG 828-693-4840