

OLDE TOWNE PEARISBURG

REGISTER

DECEMBER 2015

This year marks the 125th anniversary of the DAR, Daughters of the American Revolution. Following the centennial of America's founding in 1876, a group of men and women met to organize a group to preserve the history and thoughts of the Revolutionary War which achieved our country's separation from Great Britain. It was felt that this might be a unifying way to honor our earlier soldiers and expend energy which would cause a spirit of agreement among all faithful Americans.

With the emphasis on military and history, it seems simple to observe what better place than in the capital of the United States to begin work on this new idea. A group of men sent out a call for women who were descended from early patriots. However, the men's group later known as the SAR, Sons of the American Revolution, voted to exclude women from their all men's society.

From this, a small group of women continued to work toward the same purpose and four women are credited with being the actual founders of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

These four women are: Mary Desha, Mary Smith Lockwood, Ellen Hardin Walworth, and Eugenia Washington.

Mary Desha was descended from both a patriot soldier and a mother who was dispatch bearer at the time. She was part of the group that first responded to the SAR men's call and later extended all of her effort to bring the women's group to fruition. She also spent a significant amount of time working with the soldiers of the Spanish-American War. Along with her day job in a government office she worked every night at the Hospital Corps in Washington for the benefit of the wounded soldiers. She died suddenly at the age of 61 likely from the effects of overwork.

Mary Smith Lockwood's contribution as a founder was to strongly encourage the progress of women. She considered all of the "daughters" of the DAR Society as her daughters. She held a number of offices in the early fledgling society.



Ellen Hardin Walworth, born in Illinois, was the daughter of a congressman who was also a veteran of the Mexican-American War. Her husband was abusive to her and during her marriage she took up the study of law and was licensed to practice in New York and the District of Columbia. She was present at the field hospital at Fort Monroe and met the first wounded brought home from the Spanish-American War at Santiago.

Eugenia Washington, who was born near Charleston, WV, was a direct descendant of George Washington's brother, Samuel. Her mother had died when she was young and she was responsible for the care of her invalid father. They had the misfortune of being in Fredericksburg when the famous Civil War battle occurred in 1862. She and her father were caught, unable to escape, and spent the day huddled in a small trench in a desperate condition.

From these four women and the efforts of thousands of others, this enduring patriotic organization has grown. The DAR is represented by 3000 chapters both nationally and internationally. The names of these chapters are a recital of American history, each name honoring a person who contributed significantly to American history or an important location.

Do you have a family story? Check it out. It may enrich your life more than you can imagine. You may be surprised at what you find and then you may be secure and proud that your family has given something special to this country. But all of us can thank the women of the DAR, for carrying on the memories of our brave patriots.

DATES TO REMEMBER

December 4, 2015	Festival of Trees/Downtown Stroll begins
December 6, 2015	Pearisburg Christmas Parade
December 8, 2015	Pearisburg Town Council Meeting
December 24-25, 2015	Holiday Closure—Christmas
January 1, 2016	Holiday Closure-New Year's
January 12, 2016	Pearisburg Town Council Meeting
January 18, 2016	Holiday Closure—Martin Luther King Jr Day
February 9, 2016	Pearisburg Town Council Meeting
February 15, 2016	Holiday Closure—President's Day

* find a complete list of holiday events on our website at www.pearisburg.org and on [facebook.com/townofpearisburg](https://www.facebook.com/townofpearisburg) * Most events will also be covered in this newsletter.

PEARISBURG TODAY

Pearisburg Water Rate Increase

Effective November 1, 2015 a water rate increase became effective. The minimum bill for up to 2500 gallons was increased by \$3.75 per month. The minimum bill for water will increase from \$22.00 to \$25.75. No change was made to the cost of water used above the minimum. The increase will appear on bills mailed to customers in December.

Council increased the water rate following a presentation by the Public Service Authority concerning a need for additional funding. Council felt that if a water rate increase was not put in place at this time the PSA would have moved forward with a River Withdrawal Project. This would have resulted in significantly higher water rate increases being needed. The PSA will put in place several capital improvements in the near future that will be beneficial. These include adding a backup generator at the water treatment plant and connecting the Tannery Well to the town's backup generator at the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

PEARISBURG BUSINESS CORNER

The town has several new businesses coming soon. Dollar Tree is under construction in the Pearisburg Square shopping center. Hurley Drug Store plans are being reviewed for a new store to be located on the corner of Wenonah Avenue and French Street. Staff is working with a small business wanting to locate into the Shelton Place storefront and we hope to make an announcement soon. We are also working with a developer for one or more new businesses on the vacant lot on Boxwood near Wal-Mart.

In addition, the town welcomes Buckland Law Firm, Katherine's Royalty Pageants, Serenity Nail Salon, and Mathew's Jewelry as new members of the town's business community. As always the Town of Pearisburg encourages you to shop locally whenever possible.

Annual Pearisburg Christmas Parade and pictures with Santa on December 6

Local businesses and organizations are invited to join in celebrating the Christmas Season by being a part of the Annual Pearisburg Christmas Parade on Sunday, December 6th at 4:00 pm.

Line-up for the parade will be between 3pm and 3:45pm on Mountain Lake Ave in Pearisburg. Mr. & Mrs. Claus will participate in the parade.

There will be "Free" pictures with Mr. & Mrs. Santa Claus at the Pearisburg Community Center Cafeteria immediately following the parade.



Pearisburg Small Town Christmas Festival of Trees

December 4, 2015- January 4, 2016

Christmas trees have become a festive custom and tradition in the United States throughout its history. They have been sold commercially since about 1850 and are produced in all 50 states; ninety- eight percent are grown on farms. When decorated, the tree is the centerpiece of festivities during the holiday season.

In recognition of the history of Christmas trees, the Pearisburg Junior Woman's Club has sponsored the *Festival of Trees* for two years. This year it features decorated trees throughout the town of Pearisburg.

Celebrate the holidays with this family activity- tour the town and visit each tree at the following locations.

- **New River Office Supply**
502 Wenonah Ave. 540-921-4040
- **Giles Sheriff's Office**
503 Wenonah Ave. 540-921-0031
- **Britt's Service Company**
512 Wenonah Ave. 540-921-1448
- **Dance Motion**
519 B Wenonah Ave. 540-599-0952
- **Ms. Audre's Fabric-n- Fellowship**
530 Wenonah Ave. 540-921-2042
- **BB&T**
800 Wenonah Ave. 540- 921-3011
- **Yasou Pawn Shop**
110 S. Main St. 540-921-1930
- **Giles County Health Department**
120 North Main St. 540-235-3136

- **Pearis Mercantile**
200 N Main St. 540-921-7074
- **Giles County Historical Society**
208 N Main St. 540-921-1050
- **C & P Discount**
323 N Main St. 540-922-8800
- **Pearisburg Town Hall**
112 Tazewell Street, 540-921-0340
- **Papa's Pizzeria & Subs**
111 Tazewell St. 540-921-1333
- **Giles County School of Dance**
124 Tazewell St. 540-921-4273
- **State Farm Insurance**
Mt. Lake Rd., PO Drawer 457. 540-921-1067
- **Pearisburg Public Library**
209 Fort 112 Branch Rd. 540-921-2556
- **University PT**
130 Kinter Way. 540-921-5200



For latest information on tree locations visit the Small Town Christmas Facebook page or the Town of Pearisburg website.

Christmas Holiday Market is scheduled for December 5

The Pearisburg Community Market is where our community meets to share in a vibrant array of local and regional grown and produced products. The December market will be held on December 5 from 9-2pm in the gym of the Pearisburg Community Center on 1410 Wenonah Avenue.

Stroll through the market on Saturday to shop with the following vendors for baked goods and locally produced goods and crafts. Mingle with neighbors and visitors alike! Free kids activity! Free parking!

Do you Facebook? Become a fan of the **Pearisburg Community Market Facebook community!**

Event Details

December 5, 2015 from 9-2pm

Location: Pearisburg Community Center Gym, 1410 Wenonah Avenue

Some of the participating vendors and scheduled activities include:

- **Nanny's Garden:** Kathy is planning to bring most of her regular items, which include baked goods, vinegars, jellies, spices plus gift baskets, wreaths, and holly. She also plans to bring basket fixings so she can put together gift baskets for people who have purchased items from other vendors on December 5!
- **J & S Creations:** Jeff and Elizabeth will bring all natural soaps, jewelry, handcrafts, and homemade hot sauces from fresh ingredients!
- **Tammy Turner:** Tammy will bring handmade wreaths, decorative mason jars, crochet baby blankets and other crochet items, hand crafted goats milk and glycerin soaps, and much more.
- **Reliant Farm:** Tonya will bring USDA pasture raised heritage Pork cuts for your holiday needs!
- **Farm Table:** Katelyn will bring assorted baked goods, stuffed biscuits, cakes and more!
- **Ms. Audre's Fabric-n-Fellowship:** Ms. Audre will bring fabrics, sewing supplies, needlecraft items and more!

FREE Kids activity from 11-1pm! Gingerbread houses are a Christmas tradition the whole family can make together. Instead of spending hours making gingerbread, kids can make gingerbread houses using graham crackers at the Christmas market, which you can display in your home on your table or in a decorative corner for Christmas Day.

Mayor's Corner

Where has summer gone? This has been a very busy year. The town continues to move forward as the economy slowly recovers. The Town Council is set for another two years as Jimmy Williams, Colin Munsey, and Judy Harrell won new four year terms. Congratulations!

The Farmer's Market completed its first full year and was a great addition to the community. Monthly events are being planned in the off season and a second full season is planned to start in late spring. Stop by the Community Center on December 5th for the first event. There are several improvements that have been made to the Community Center. Repairs have been made to the heating system, asbestos has been removed, and a handicap ramp completed to make the first floor fully accessible. The old PATS building is being remodeled into a new picnic pavilion. Stop by and see the new murals on the front windows.

Our first Fall Scarecrow Festival was a huge success with over 50 scarecrows exhibited. The newly reformed Merchant's Association sponsored the event, and I look forward to continued partnering with them on future events. The 2nd Downtown stroll and Christmas Tree competition is right around the corner to kick off the holiday season. The numerous events are outlined in this edition of the newsletter.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Robert L. Dickerson

NEW BOAT RAMPS CONSTRUCTED

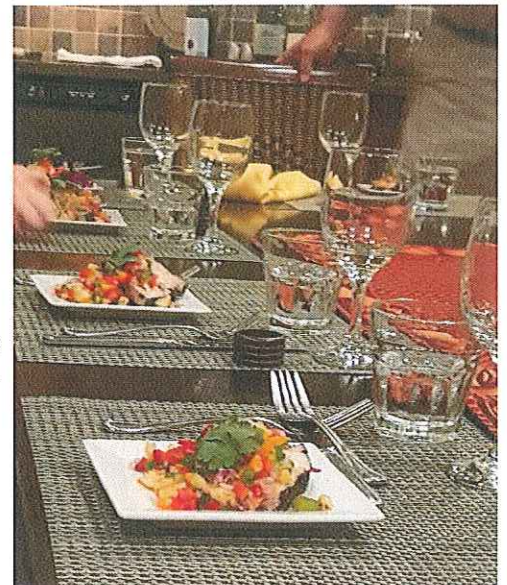
Giles County and the Town of Pearisburg are constructing boat landings at Whitt Riverbend park and at Bluff City. The Bluff City landing was dedicated to John Hale in October and is nearing completion. A restroom facility is being added at that location to go along with the paved access and parking area and concrete ramp. This area serves as a major take out along the River for many canoe and raft trips.

The Whitt Riverbend Park landing is also under construction and will include restrooms, paved access and parking areas. This new landing will be part of the 28-acre public park maintained by the Town. The Park includes camping, picnic pavilion, and walking trails. This landing will provide an improved access over the existing informal pull offs located along the access road to the park.

Christmas Red Wine and Food Pairing

"If you do anything in Giles County at all, make sure you have time for a wine and food pairing on December 10 from 6:30-8:30pm." At the seated, multi-course Red Wine & Food Pairing, Instructor Charles Lytton, guest speakers, and Farm Table Head Chef, Katelyn Dinger, will serve three small plates paired with three hand selected red Virginia wines. Guests will enjoy a fine dining presentation at a shared table, a discussion hosted by one of our friendly wine experts, and a relaxing, fun and unforgettable wine experience while seated at the 15 foot Christmas tree at the Inn. Please register for this event by December 6th by contacting Lynne at 921-0340. The event is \$30 per person.

The December 10 menu will include Pinot Noir served with Salmon cake over baby arugula; Merlot served with a braised short rib; and, Primitivo served with cheesecake and a stone fruit compote.



The Giles County Homeless Shelter – The Hope House

Mission Statement

The Giles County Shelter's mission is to provide a safe emergency shelter for families experiencing a housing crisis and to connect them with supportive services that promote and enhance their self-sufficiency and stability.

People Served

The homeless population of Giles County is those individuals and families living in areas unfit for human habitation, those who have been victim to house fire, and those who are stranded or have been evicted from their homes. The two-unit home is occupied the majority of days each year. Generally, the length of stay at the Shelter is limited to 2 weeks, although the time can be extended depending on the particular circumstances.

Operational Background

The Giles County Homeless Shelter began operating in Pearisburg in a small mobile home in 1990. Later the Shelter moved to a house on Curve Road. This single unit could not meet the needs of the homeless as only one family could be served at a time. With a growing population of homeless families, the Shelter expanded. Relocating to Narrows and selling the property on Curve Road occurred in May of 2008. Hope House is located at 138 Old Virginia Avenue just off Route 460 in Narrows.

One unit is a single occupancy suitable for either one person or for a parent and child. The second unit is suitable for families. Both units are handicapped equipped. With the expansion came additional capital costs as well as anticipated increased operating costs.

Funding

The Giles County Homeless Shelter relies on donations to support capital costs of Hope House as well as the operational costs. The Shelter Board has solicited financial support from businesses, churches, individuals, governmental units, United Fund and the Community Foundation of the New River Valley.

Hope House is grateful to all those who have donated funds as well as other household items to the shelter in the past. Students from various colleges have also helped to repair and maintain the outside areas of the shelter. We continue to strive to fund capital outlay cost associated with the increased shelter capacity. If you have any questions about how you can assist, please contact any one of the board members.

The Shelter Board is asking for your assistance in keeping Hope House open as a valuable community resource. Any donation is welcome and much appreciated. The Giles County Shelter, Inc. is a non-profit 501©3 organization making your gift tax deductible. Please consider making a donation this holiday season. Send your donation to:

Giles County Shelter, Inc.
The Hope House
PO Box 165
Pearisburg, VA 24134

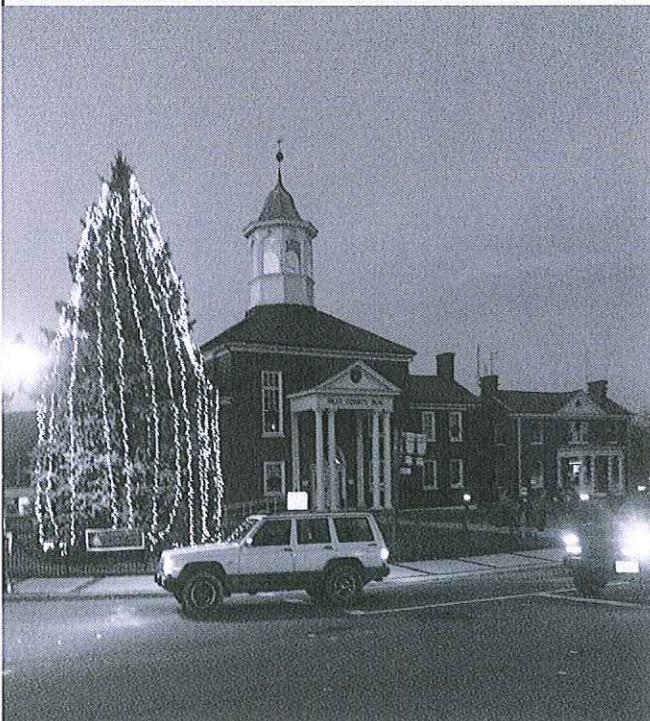
SPECIAL EVENTS

PET PICTURES WITH SANTA

Bring your pet to have photos with Santa on December 11 from 4:30-6pm at Bold Springs Veterinary Service on 1100 Henson Ave in Pearisburg. Photo proceeds will be donated to Giles County Animal Shelter. Call [540-921-1991](tel:540-921-1991) for further information.

FORGET THE HUSTLE AND BUSTLE OF THE HOLIDAY MADNESS AND JOIN US FOR A SMALL TOWN CHRISTMAS STROLL!

Join our merchant's for evening shopping, refreshments and special offerings. Tour the Festival of Trees with the kids, hear the music filling the streets and enjoy our small town charm.



PROJECT HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS

The Pearisburg Junior Woman's Club NEEDS
YOUR HELP!

PJWC asks for your help with a project to provide bags of breakfast and lunch foods for children who are in dire need of sustenance during the holiday break. All three county elementary schools will be included, as well as children who attend Pearisburg Head Start. Please help in any way you can. All help is appreciated!

SPONSOR A CHILD FOR \$20 OR ASSEMBLE A
BAG OF THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

- 1 BOX CEREAL (15 OZ)
- 2 CANS TOMATO SOUP
- 1 BOX RITZ CRACKERS (4 TUBES)
- 1 PACKAGE POP TARTS (8 PATRIES)
- 2 CANS CHICKEN NOODLE SOUP
- 1 PACKAGE APPLE SAUCE (6 CUPS)
- 1 JAR PEANUTBUTTER (18 OZ)
- 1 BOX INSTANT OATMEAL (10 PK)

The food can be dropped off at the Pearisburg
Town Office located at 112 Tazewell St.

Or

to any PJWC Member **By December 9, 2015**

Thank you for your support of this project!



Pearisburg Junior Woman's Club

30th Annual Breakfast With Santa

Saturday, December 5th, 2015

**First United Methodist Church
Pearisburg**

Breakfast served 8:00am until 10:30am

Tickets \$4 in advance, \$5 at the door.

Children 2 and under eat free.

Tickets may be purchased at the Pearisburg Town Hall, Pearisburg Library,
DBD's in Pembroke or from any PJWC member.

Don't forget your camera!!!

Pearisburg's Second Annual Small Town Christmas

Thursday-December 3

- CGCH Auxiliary's Love Light Tree Ceremony at 6pm.

Friday-December 4

- Lighting of the Giles County Community Christmas Tree on the Court House lawn at 5pm.
- Christmas Stroll downtown Pearisburg. Shop-Eat-View the decorations and festival of trees from 5-8pm.
- Festival of Trees Opens at Pearisburg Town Hall and at local area businesses Contest results will be announced Dec 8. Trees come down Jan 4. A flyer of tree locations will be available November 23rd.
- "Christmas with the Johnstons" celebration is scheduled all weekend beginning Friday evening with a candlelit tour.
- Light and Christmas decoration drive through exhibit at Holiday Motor Lodge. Exhibit will be on display until January 2nd.
- "Ugly Sweater Contest" at the Pearis Mercantile. This contest will run through Sunday, December 6th. Prizes to be awarded.
- Ms. Audre's Fabrics is holding a contest for strollers who wish to judge homemade ornaments. Stroller's choice will receive a prize.

Saturday-December 5

- 30th Annual Breakfast with Santa: Enjoy breakfast from 8:00-10:30am at the Methodist Church on 1101 Valley View Drive.
- Holiday Christmas Market from 9-2pm at the Pearisburg Community Center Shop with Pearisburg Community Market vendors and more for fresh produce, baked goods, local products and more! Make a purchase and visit Nanny's Garden who for a fee will provide a decorated basket for gift giving!
- Kids! Construct and decorate small gingerbread houses at the Holiday Christmas Market at the Pearisburg Community Center from 11-1pm. The Pearisburg Community Market sponsors this free activity.
- Shop Local! Many of the shops that are participating in the stroll will offer specials to Saturday shoppers! These Saturday specials/activities will be listed on Small Town Christmas event Facebook page.
- C&P Discount will have a Christmas Wreath to be given away at the end of the day to registered shoppers.
- Giles Art Council Mistletoe & Music Gala from 7-10 pm at Giles Country Club

Sunday- December 6

- Annual Pearisburg Christmas Parade at 4pm. Mr. and Mrs. Claus will join the parade. Some of the parade participants will hand out or gently toss candy from floats and vehicles so kids be sure to bring a bag or basket! Old and young alike enjoy the tradition of the Christmas Parade, from the floats, to the animals, to the bands, walkers & the fire & rescue vehicles.
- The Giles County Sheriff's Department will provide hot chocolate and cookies at their office during and after the parade.
- Free Pictures with Mr. and Mrs. Claus immediately following the parade at the Pearisburg Community Center.

Thursday- December 10

- Red Wine and Food Pairing 6:30-8:30pm at the Inn at Riverbend. Enjoy the fifteen foot decorated Christmas tree, a fine dining presentation at a shared table, a discussion hosted by one of our friendly wine experts, and a relaxing, fun and unforgettable Virginia wine experience Inn. Three red wines will be paired with three small plates.

Saturday – December 12

- Christmas Art Activities - 10 am to 12 noon - sponsored by Giles Arts Council & Friends of the Library - free fun for children of all ages - refreshments provided.

Wednesday-December 16

- Potluck Luncheon at Giles County Senior Center at 11:30am.

Friday-December 18

- Visit with Santa at BB & T from 4-6pm. Refreshments will served and goodie bags will be given out.
- Story time at the Pearisburg Public Library at 10:30 am.