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Issue

Oct. 2020

WESTON

A Monthly Insight into your City Government

On the

Murdocks To the Rescue

Ask Sharon and Kim Murdock how they feel about Weston's early warning siren and they will tell you "It's part of our hometown." After the City of Weston received \$9000 in grant funding through Senators Doug Facemire and Mike Romano, a balance was left of \$3000 to replace the siren. The Murdocks stepped right up and generously offered to donate toward the project. While some find the siren annoying, many residents share the feelings of the Murdocks that the siren is our history and its nightly blare at 10:00 p.m. is a welcome and comforting sound. The siren and generator will be installed in the very near future and will be located on the east side of the Weston Municipal Building. Pictured below are Kim Murdock, Mayor Kim Harrison, Sharon Murdock, Deputy Chief Jimmy Suttle and Captain Gary Hall (Halligan in background).



What is URA and BZA?

The City of Weston enacted a Zoning Ordinance in May 2019. The Zoning Ordinance is consistent with the City of Weston's Comprehensive Plan and was developed to promote the health, safety, and general welfare of the public.

The chief purposes of the zoning ordinance include: To plan so that adequate light, air, convenience of access and safety from fire, flood, and other danger is secured; To ensure attractiveness and convenience is promoted; To lessen congestion; To preserve historic landmarks, sites, districts, and buildings; and To promote the orderly development of land.

The Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) hears appeals on zoning issues, hears conditional use permit applications and variance applications, and reviews nonconforming uses. The BZA is comprised of 5 members appointed by Weston City Council. There is currently a vacancy on the BZA. New members are awaiting training from WVU Law Clinic.

The Urban Renewal Authority (URA) shall consist of five commissioners who will be appointed by Weston City Council. Their role, as established through WV Code §16-18-4, is to identify slum or blighted areas within the community and review whether the redevelopment of these areas are necessary in the interest of public health, safety, morals or welfare of the residents of the community. This committee, in essence, provides for future visioning.

We are seeking citizens of Weston to serve on these and other committees. To obtain more information or to make application, please contact the Weston Municipal Building at 304-269-6141.

Put on your
walking shoes

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Historic Walking

Tour to Go Digital

Members of the Historic Landmarks Commission and other volunteers are currently working on updating the landmark inventory in Weston.



Weston's Cemeteries

The Arnold and Machpelah Cemeteries will be featured on the Historic Walking Tour. Volunteers are currently working on this inventory list.



Featured Monuments

Having the cemeteries on the tour, will allow us to showcase our rich and interesting history. We have individuals buried in each cemetery who will be featured through narration on the Walking Tour.

If you would like to help with this project, we welcome you. Please contact the City Municipal Building at 304-269-6141.

The Clio

Once updated, the Historic Walking Tour will be available in written form and digitally by using the Clio app on your phone. The app will provide narration of landmarks and navigational assistance to visit each site.

Over the years, the Arnold Cemetery has sustained damage to several monuments. The fencing is in need of repair. This year the City of Weston entered into a contract to have the cemetery mowed and cleaned of all debris. This will help us in our attempts to restore its lustre.



A Must See!

Per Lewis County Schools--- The art mural displayed at Robert L. Bland Middle School is the project of the Weston City Arts Council in collaboration with the Lewis County Board of Education, and Steve Jerden. The mural was designed by Jill Stewart which displays the art work by Landon Bush JLES, Olivia Shiflett RLBMS, and Sara Flesher LCHS. Bruce Talago and Frank Greathouse were responsible for placing the display on the school.



Several items are being placed in the sanitary sewer system via toilets. These items are causing multitudes of problems throughout the sanitary sewer system. These items block main lines, clog pumps, and block off personal home/residential lines. One of the main items that is causing the biggest problem is any and all disposable wipes, baby wipes, adult wipes, and disposable wipes of any kind. Even if they are marketed as flushable – they do

not break down or dissolve in the sewer and water. Other items that cause clogs and blockages are: paper towels, feminine hygiene products, plastic bags and articles of clothing. The photo at right is an actual clog due to disposable wipes.

Please take note of this information and talk with children and others in your household about items that are not appropriate to dispose in the sewer system. Any questions should be directed to the Weston Sanitary Board at 304-269-1300.



Weston Sanitary Board Proposes Rate Increase



The Weston Sanitary Board is proposing its first rate increase since 2015. Customers recently received in the mail a description of the increase which is based on usage by a 5-member household. The increase being proposed is 19%. The following is a brief outline of what makes up the proposed increase: 9% is due to Senate Bill 234 which

Passed in February 2020. This bill now requires Sanitary Boards to match 1/8 of operating and maintenance costs each year. The amount must be placed in a separate reserve account each month to be used for extraordinary expenses. 3% will cover the expenses associated with leasing a crane truck, jet truck and utility truck. This equipment is used to provide service daily to customers. An amount of 2% was calculated based on the current inflation rate. 1% of the proposed increase is required for renewal and replacement fund. Finally, 4% of the total proposed increase represents the increase in actual operating and maintenance costs for the last 5 years.

Based on usage of 2000 gallons inside city limits, the average bill will increase \$3.83. Based on usage of 2000 gallons outside city limits, the average bill will increase \$4.53 -should the rate increase pass.

For questions or additional information, please contact the Weston Sanitary Board at 304-269-1300.

House Beautiful....or scary? >>>

*Mountain State Waste and
The City of Weston Sponsor
3rd Annual Decorating
Contest*

City of Weston residents have until October 21st to call the Weston Municipal Building to enter the Halloween House Decorating Contest. 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place prizes will be awarded plus a People's Choice Award. Get creative and show off your talents!



Trick-or-Treat

Trick-or-Treat will be held Saturday, October 31st from 6 – 7 pm. Everyone participating is asked to wear a mask and gloves and practice social distancing. Please use your own discretion on whether to participate in the event. In case of rising Covid-19 numbers, any change or cancellation will be announced on the City's Facebook page or our website at www.cityofwestonwv.com.

A number of opportunities exist to be a part of making your city a vital community. Applications are available at the Weston Municipal Building for the following committees:

- ❖ Parks & Recreation
- ❖ Board of Zoning Appeals
- ❖ Cemetery Board
- ❖ Fairs & Festivals
- ❖ Historic Landmarks
- ❖ Board of Zoning Appeals
- ❖ Walking Tour Comm.
- ❖ Planning Commission
- ❖ Urban Renewal Authority

A majority of these committees are currently active and waiting for you! Call the Weston Municipal Building at 304-269-6141.

Welcom

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Starting up a new business is a huge undertaking! Starting a new business during Covid-19 presents additional challenges. We'd like to thank our newest businesses in Weston and/or Lewis County and encourage everyone to offer their support.



Drs. Adam & Roxanne Evans pictured at left are the new owners of Weston Veterinary Hospital located at Sunset Acres Weston.

Katie Gissy recently opened Advanced Clinical Massage Therapy at 153 John St. Weston.



Mountaineer Food Bank has opened a new warehouse at the former Louis Glass location on US 33E next to Shentel.



WESTON

Dates to remember

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Regular City Council Meeting – Oct. 5

6:00 p.m. LC Courthouse

Planning Commission Meeting –

Oct. 6 4:00 p.m.. Lewis Co Sr. Ctr.

Historic Landmarks Commission

Meeting – Oct. 8 5:00 p.m. at Weston Municipal Building

Parks & Recreation Meeting – Oct. 9

2:00 p.m. Weston Municipal Building

Weston Cemetery Board Meeting –

Oct. 12 9:00 a.m. Weston Municipal Building

Weston Sanitary Board Meeting – 4:30

p.m. Weston Sanitary Board Office

Oct. 31 Trick-or-Treat 6 – 7 pm