



Boykins Bits and Bites

New Mayor and Council Take Office

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On July 14, the newly sworn in mayor and council held the first meeting of the 2020-2021 fiscal year. Council meetings will continue to be held on the second Tuesday of each month at the Town Office located at 18206 Virginia Avenue, Boykins, at 7:00 p.m. Citizens are welcome to attend the meetings.



The first order of business was to select a vice mayor to serve. Jackie Robertson was unanimously selected to serve as Vice Mayor. Then, according to the Code of Virginia, the Town Council filled the fifth council seat which was vacated when Carolyn Modlin was elected Mayor by write-in votes during the May election. The council chose to select Hank Fuller to fill the fifth seat until the special election is held in November.

A special election will be held to fill the vacant council seat for the 2020-2022 term. The filing date is August 14. Anyone wishing more information about the special election should contact the County Registrar.

Special Notes

- Town Shop destroyed by Fire
- Former Mayor and Town Clerk pass
- Farmer's Market August 22
- Town Council Meeting August 11
- Limb pick-up August 10

Major Fire Destroys Town Shop

On May 28th, Michael Bryant reported seeing smoke coming from the town's shop building. Within two minutes of the report to 911, Boykins Volunteer Fire Department arrived on the scene and immediately calls were made for help from Newsoms, Capron, Severn, and several other departments.

The fire was brought under control within several hours; however, the building and its contents were declared as total losses.

It has not been possible to replace vehicles and equipment yet. Because we do not have the equipment or means to pick up debris from yards at this time, we ask for your cooperation in taking your own limbs, trash, debris to the dumps available to you in Boykins on General Thomas Highway or in Branchville.

Long Time Mayor Passes/Town Clerk Passes

R. S. Edwards, Jr. (Spier) a long time mayor of Boykins passed peacefully at Duke Medical Center on July 1 after a long illness. Spier loved Boykins and was often found at the town office working on ways to improve the town. He was credited with working to get the Dollar General located in the town. His involvement with the Lions Club was

legendary when it came to selling brooms or tickets to the annual Steak Feed.

Mr. Edwards is survived by his wife, Mary Ann and two children, Susan Edwards White and Richard S. Edwards, III. He leaves behind four grandchildren and two great grandchildren. Burial was at Beechwood Cemetery with the Reverend Scott Biggers officiating.

Pat Draper, the town clerk, for many years died after a short illness on March 13. She has been missed by many who have stopped by the office and who remembered her easy smile that she shared with all who came into the office. The Coard Foundation is collecting donations to create a garden in front of the town office in her memory. Donations may be made to [GoFundMe.com](https://www.gofundme.com)

**Street
Sweeping
August 11**

**NO CARS CAN
BE PARKED ON
MAIN STREET**

On August 22, A Farmer's Market will be held in the Town Parking Lot on Bryant Street. Vendors and Farmer's are encouraged to pay \$10.00 for a parking spot and set up to sell their items. The Farmer's Market will be open from 8:00 until 12:00 noon.

Farmer's Market

Visitors are encouraged to wear masks and practice hand cleaning by bringing hand sanitizer to use. Fresh fruits and vegetables and local wares will be for sale. We encourage vendors and customers to participate. The money raised will be

used to replace small items lost in the fire of the maintenance building. This is a way that everyone has a chance to help contribute and help the town recover from the losses incurred due to the fire.

Covid-19 Suggestions to Keep You Safe

Everyone is aware of changes brought about by the strange virus that took the country by storm. Schools, churches, and many stores closed. Events that had been held for years were cancelled because of the fear of spreading the

disease.

Masks that cover your nose and mouth must be worn to enter public buildings. Hand washing is still considered to be the most effective strategy against the virus. Safe spacing between people is a

must.

Everyone is encouraged to maintain safe distances, use hand sanitizer when soap and water are not available, wear masks, avoid crowds, and spend more time at home rather than going out.

Meet the Town Clerk/Treasurer

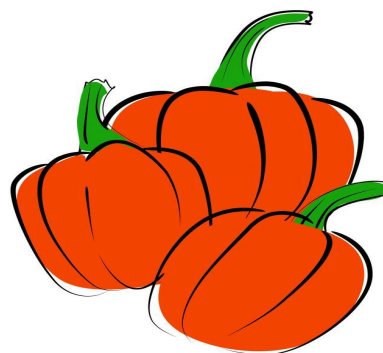
Victoria Edwards is the Boykins Town Clerk and Treasurer. She has quickly learned the computer system and brought order to the office. She will be glad to assist you with your questions or concerns if you call the town office at 654-6361.

Victoria has many interests and talents. She is very knowledgeable about early American history and crafts.

She makes wonderful soaps, bath bombs, and other natural products that are marketed under her business name of Swamp Creek Soap Works. Her products are sold locally and on the Internet. In her spare time she often teaches classes in soap making or demonstrates how to make soap at craft fairs which she attends with her husband, Mat-

thew, and her two sons..

Victoria enjoys exploring nature and historical reenactments with her family.



Pumpkin Fest

On October 17, Pumpkin Fest will be held along Virginia Avenue and Main Street. All regulations for COVID-19 will be in place with hand washing stations or hand sanitizers and recommendations for everyone to wear masks. Vendor applications are available at

the town office by contacting Victoria Edwards or calling 654-6361 to request having one sent to you. This will be a great opportunity to get the family out and to do something together in the fresh air.

Pumpkin Fest will take place two weeks before Halloween.

This might be a good chance to pick out a pumpkin and let your child dress up for Halloween. It could be a safe way to enjoy the fall tradition in a time of COVID-19.

Cleaning Up Our Town

Help make the town look more inviting to live in by doing your part to keep your grass cut and your property clean. Porches and sidewalks need to be kept free of trash and debris. When each of us works to make the town look better,

our property values rise, making our homes worth more. People who own businesses in town appreciate having the town looking cleaner when their customers and patients come to Boykins.

Showing pride in our town makes us feel better and shows that we care about where we live. It takes all of the citizens of Boykins working together to make this happen. Please do your part!

The Town of Boykins is continuing to look for a full-time maintenance person who has a driver's license with a knowledge of construction, electricity, mechanics, or other skills is a plus. Leadership skills are a plus.

Cemetery Notes

As always, cutting and weed eating the cemetery is a large job and requires a great deal of time.

It is an important job and we are fortunate that Justin's Lawn Service does such a good job for the town each year in keeping Beechwood looking nice. We recently experienced several weeks of extremely dry weather and during that time, the decision was made to wait one week longer to

cut the grass so that the cemetery would not look brown with short grass. After the first rain this

week and the passing through of Isaias, the grass was much greener and definitely in need of

cutting. If anyone has ever noticed the process for the lawn care, the weed eaters are run throughout the cemetery before others come through with the lawn-mowers. There was a recent

picture posted on social media of a headstone that

had grass clippings on a stone. This was the first step in the lawn care process and not a final picture. The cemetery was being weed eaten and cut at the time this picture was taken. Before the process ends, the team goes back through the cemetery and blows off all clippings in order to leave all of the tombstones and markers clean. If

you are unsure of the process, have concerns, or question, please take time to come to the Town

Office and ask your questions or express your opinion. This is where your questions or concerns

can be addressed.

As a reminder, Section 92.34 (D) of the Town Ordinances dealing with Decorative Items on

Plots, states that "Other temporary/seasonal receptacles and decorative items, including toys, solar lights, and arrange-

ments, must be affixed to or placed adjacent to the headstone or

footstone so as not to obstruct the cutting or trimming of the plot. Each item should have a name

and contact phone number securely attached in the event bad weather causes the receptacle or decoration to be displaced from the grave, to ensure it is returned to the proper location." This is especially important during hurricane season.

Please remember that a cemetery is a sacred place where family members and friends are given a final resting place. The Town of Boykins has tried to maintain a dignified, clean, and neat

cemetery for any citizen choosing to be buried there. Anyone having questions about burial plot

availability, prices, and care should contact the Town Office at 654-6361.

Reminders

- Limb pick-up
August 10
- Town Council
Meeting August
11
- Street
Sweeping
August 11, no
parking on Main
Street
- Farmer's Market
August 22