

# PIGEON FORGE SCRAPBOOK

Did you know Pigeon Forge was once home to industries other than tourism? The Pigeon Forge Canning Company was the new name given to the Dixie Canning Company after A.F. Stott became a partner in 1920. Dixie Canning was originally located in Sevierville on the Beal Farm near the railroad depot. In August 1917, a second location was added in Pigeon Forge.



By 1930, Dixie Canning employed 100 people and had four buildings totaling 12,400 square feet. When a new truckload of vegetables arrived to be processed and canned, workers were called in to the factory by the shriek of the plant whistle. One building, located at 403 Dixie Avenue, remains from the original operation. The building is located nearby the present-day Old Mill Historic District at Old Mill Avenue and Veterans Boulevard.

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# EVENTS OF INTEREST

**Dollywood's Summer Celebration**  
Dollywood  
June 18-Aug. 7

**Southeast Shrine Association Parade**  
Pigeon Forge Parkway  
Aug. 13

**Patriot Festival**  
Patriot Park  
July 4

**Oak Ridge Boys in Concert**  
Country Tonite Theatre  
Aug. 19

**Ronnie Milsap in Concert**  
Country Tonite Theatre  
July 22

**Shades of the Past Hot Rod Roundup #39\***  
Dollywood's Splash Country  
Sept. 9-10

**Veterans Homecoming Parade\***  
Pigeon Forge Parkway  
Aug. 6

**Pigeon Forge Rod Run - Fall\***  
LeConte Center at Pigeon Forge  
Sept. 15-17

*\* Please be aware there will be traffic delays during these dates and consider using alternate routes.*

# JUST THE FACTS

**Pigeon Forge Commissioners**  
David Wear, Mayor  
Kevin McClure, Vice Mayor  
Dr. Keith Whaley  
Jay Ogle  
Tony Watts

**You Are Invited**  
The public is encouraged to attend the following Pigeon Forge meetings at City Hall:

**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](mailto:cityhall@cityofpigeonforge.com).

**City Council**  
Second and fourth Monday at 5:30 p.m.

**City Planning Commission**  
Fourth Tuesday at 3 p.m.

**Keep In Touch**  
Information about Pigeon Forge is right at your fingertips when you visit our website at [CityofPigeonForge.com](http://CityofPigeonForge.com).



# MESSENGER

A PUBLICATION FOR THE RESIDENTS OF PIGEON FORGE



## CITY MANAGER UPDATE

Earlene Teaster, City Manager

It is inspiring to see our community pull together in a time of hardship. The commissioners and I would like to extend our gratitude once more to our local firefighters, more than 70 fire departments from across Tennessee, first responders, the Tennessee Department of Forestry, and emergency personnel who so bravely fought the Hatcher Mountain and Millstone Gap fires. We also greatly appreciate the many Pigeon Forge businesses who provided lodging, meals and other support. Please join me in praying for those who suffered a loss as well as our community in the months ahead.

As the summer season begins it brings welcomed warmer weather and a season full of exciting local events and programs for you and your family. Don't let the longer days slip by without taking advantage of family-friendly activities available to our residents.

One of the benefits of living and working in Pigeon Forge is that some businesses offer special days for discounted or free admission. It's a great opportunity to spend time with your friends and family and explore our city. The Pigeon Forge Department of Tourism's Facebook page shares this information. Please follow them for updates.

Pigeon Forge Public Library is a great community resource. The staff is always ready to assist you, and this summer is no exception. You'll find a full roster of free reading programs for adults, teens and children (details inside). Summer is a great time to introduce young folks to a good book or to reacquaint yourself with the joy of reading.

Finally, every year we celebrate America's independence at Patriot Festival with music, fireworks, games and more. This year, country music star Josh Turner headlines a free concert on July 4! We hope to see you there as we say thank you for your continued support and hard work in our community.

## WEAR FARM PARK UPDATE

State and federal grants will allow the city to upgrade the Wear Farm Park fields with artificial turf which will allow the fields to drain better and dry faster when it rains. The Ripken Experience Pigeon Forge will use the fields for overflow games between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday-Thursday, and half a day on Fridays.

Wear Farm Park remains open to the public, and there is no fee if residents would like to attend the games. Residents also can attend games free of charge at the Ripken Experience.

## SUMMER 2022 EVENTS

### Patriot Festival 2022

The 31st annual Pigeon Forge Patriot Festival takes place on July 4 and will celebrate the Fourth of July with country music star Josh Turner. The event includes a tribute to our nation's veterans, free entertainment from the Pigeon Forge Community Chorus, Free Fallin (a Tom Petty Tribute Band), a free Kids Karnival and more. At 8:30 p.m. event headliner Josh Turner will get the crowd on its feet before the fireworks spectacular begins at 9:45 p.m. This is a free event, and attendees are encouraged to bring blankets and chairs. No umbrellas or coolers are allowed.



Image courtesy of Josh Turner.

### Veterans Homecoming Parade

Join the city of Pigeon Forge as it salutes America's military veterans during the annual Veterans Homecoming Parade on Saturday, Aug. 6. As a part of Celebrate Freedom!™ the parade honors military veterans, and will begin at 9 a.m. The parade will travel northbound on the Parkway to Traffic Light #5.

### Celebrate Freedom!™

Pigeon Forge is honoring America's heroes during the month of August with Celebrate Freedom!™. Participating businesses say thank you to active and veteran military personnel, police, firefighters, paramedics and other first responders with special discounts. Visit the Pigeon Forge Welcome Center at Traffic Light #0 to receive the Celebrate Freedom!™ benefits.

## FLAG DAY 2022

America's flag is a representation of our country, the freedom we cherish, and the brave men and women who fight for this country. To honor America's most-beloved symbol, each year Flag Day commemorates the adoption of the flag.

Flag Day is June 14. To honor the day, please take a moment to ensure that your business' flag is displayed and cared for respectfully.

- The flag should not be flown with the union down (except for during rare emergencies as a sign of distress).
- The flag should not touch the ground, floor, water, merchandise or anything beneath it.
- The flag should never be carried flat or horizontally but always aloft and free.
- The flag should not be dipped to any person or thing.

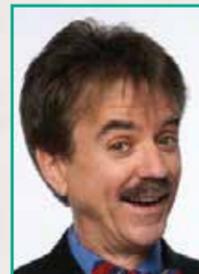
To learn more about correct flag protocol and how to properly dispose of a flag, visit [www.nationalflagfoundation.org](http://www.nationalflagfoundation.org).

Information courtesy of National Flag Foundation.

## LIBRARY UPDATE

Be sure to join the Pigeon Forge Library on Saturday, June 4 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. for the first ever county-wide summer reading kickoff! This event will take place at the TITANIC Museum Attraction on the Parkway in Pigeon Forge. There will be activities, entertainment, food and fun for all ages.

The library's Summer Reading Program, *An Ocean of Possibilities*, begins on Tuesday, June 7 at 1 p.m. with crowd-favorite funny-man Matt Fore. Matt's interactive magic show is appropriate for all ages.



On Tuesday, June 14, Kennedy Center Partner in Education teaching artist Hobey Ford will visit with his hand-constructed golden rod puppets and sets. Your kids may just be inspired by Hobey to create their own works of art.

Come see one of our favorite storytellers, Steven James, on Tuesday, June 21. The entire family will enjoy Steven's unique blend of drama, comedy and inspirational storytelling.

On June 28, our entertainer will be Mr. Bond, Science Guy. His mission is to make science fun, cool and easy for kids. Mr. Bond has been bringing exciting and educational programs to kids for more than 20 years.



After a break for the 4th of July holiday, we will close out our summer programs with guests from our own TITANIC Museum Attraction on Tuesday, July 12 at 1 p.m.

Preschool programs are scheduled throughout the summer on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings at 11 a.m. Preschoolers will also be eligible for prizes by attending the library and reading with their families.

Teens have their own self-paced program with a chance to win prizes at the end of the summer. Adults can participate in a summer reading program as well, with prizes awarded weekly.

Stop by the library at Traffic Light #2B to get all the details or call 429-7490. Summer reading program information is also available online at [www.pfpl.net](http://www.pfpl.net) or on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/pflibrary](http://www.facebook.com/pflibrary). Come join us for summer fun that's good for you too!

### 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](http://CityOfPigeonForge.com) and sign up.

## PFFD UPDATE



Congratulations to Pigeon Forge Fire Department volunteers Joseph Valle and Emily Wood (center), both recent graduates of the Sevier County Fire Chiefs Association's 2022 recruit academy class.

The Pigeon Forge Fire Department recently utilized the Integrated Public Alert & Warning System (IPAWS) during the Hatcher Mountain/Indigo Lane fire. This is one of the fastest ways to get evacuation information to a large number of people. The evacuation message is sent through cellular networks, radio, television and NOAA weather radios. When you receive these messages, it is important to follow the directions if you are in the affected area. While IPAWS is a great asset to our community, a better tool is making certain that our residents create a fire-adaptive community. To learn more, please check out <https://fireadapted.org/> to learn more about being a fire adaptive community.



## PFFD NEWS

It seems simple enough, but is this a routine for you? Join the Pigeon Forge Police Department as we practice the 9 p.m. Routine, a proven way to lower crime in our community. Crime statistics show that 70% of car burglaries involve unlocked vehicles, and the 9 p.m. Routine includes steps to discourage theft:

- Turn on outdoor lights
- Remove valuables from the car
- Lock car doors
- Close the garage door
- Bring all mail and packages inside
- Lock the house doors before settling in for the night

This is a simple routine that might save you an unwanted police report. Please do your part to protect your property, and join us in the 9 p.m. Routine.

*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 (12 U.S.C. 2000d).*