



VOL. 1 ISSUE 6 • September 2019

Pittman Center Times

Official Newsletter of the Town of Pittman Center

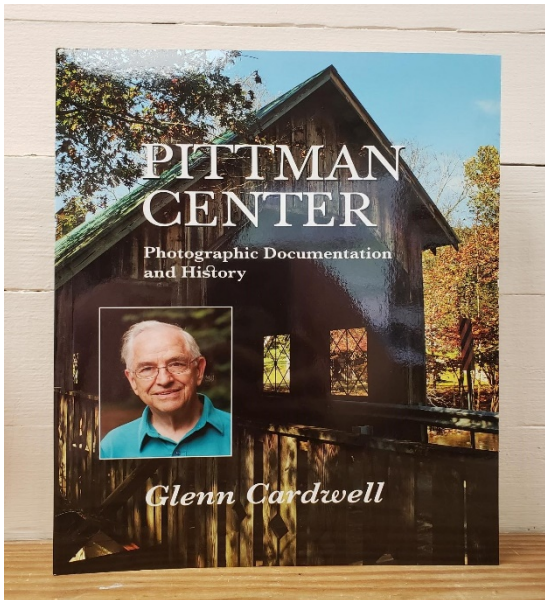
Dear Subscribers,

We are once again proud to bring you the Pittman Center Times! Thank you for subscribing and staying informed about your Town. The number of subscribers seem to creep up every month. Please spread the word about the newsletter!

If you have any comments or suggestions, please feel free to call Town Hall at 436-5499 or you can email us at astownhall@gmail.com.

Your PCTimes Volunteers

MESSAGE FROM MICHAEL



Is it almost October already?! Time flies when you are having fun! This month we are pleased to announce at the time of the release of this newsletter that the third Glenn Cardwell book, *Pittman Center Photographic Documentation and History*, is available for purchase at City Hall. Pick up your copy today!



Our Maintenance Department is enjoying the extra level of service we can provide with the new dump truck. With this new piece of equipment, we have been able to repair washed out areas of Webbs Creek Road. The Maintenance department is also examining the cost vs. benefits of purchasing more equipment to allow us to expand our scope of service to better address potholes, minor road projects, and culvert repair.

Our Police Department has been busy with training, grants, and keeping the citizens of Pittman Center safe. In the last few weeks our Police Department has been awarded a Safety Grant through Public Entity Partners to purchase 3 new body cameras along with safety equipment for our maintenance department, Chief Parton has attended training on Traffic and Road safety and the department has been awarded a second grant to send two officers to Decision Making and Use of Force training in Oak Ridge. The PCPD takes traffic safety and the safety of its citizens and visitors seriously.

Michael Borders
City Administrator

MEET OUR PITTMAN CENTER ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL



Wendy Patterson, Principal of Pittman Center Elementary School

This fall I began my 27th year with the Sevier County School System. I was a middle school math teacher for many years at Pigeon Forge Middle School. Later I taught math at Catons Chapel Elementary before becoming their assistant principal. In 2013, I became the principal at Pittman Center Elementary. I have seen a lot of changes in education over the years but believe the one factor that remains the same is that holding students to the highest of standards while forming strong relationships is how kids learn best. I have been married for 29 years to my husband Greg. We have one daughter Rylie who recently began her junior year at the University of Tennessee.

Fun Fact: Completed the Hike 100 Centennial Challenge with my family in 2016 when the GSMNP turned 100 yrs.

There is no such thing as a typical day in this line of work. School begins with daily announcements and the pledge. I try and visit all classrooms on a daily basis and stay very visible in the hallways. If there are no interruptions a student is scheduled to have academic classes, special area classes, RTI, lunch and physical movement every day. We have very high expectations at Pittman Center but offer lots of love and support along the way!

I would like for everyone to know what a huge honor our school recently received. In late summer I received notification from the Commissioner of Education that our school had been identified as a REWARD SCHOOL for the 2018-2019 school year. We had an overall accountability score greater than 3.1. This identification was made due to exemplary student success in achievement and growth.

There is no question what sets this school apart from the others: THE PEOPLE WHO ENTER IT. In all of my years I have never worked with a more devoted group of educators who motivate, challenge and love every child that walks through the door. I have been blessed working alongside this faculty and staff and am proud to call them my colleagues and friends.

Our largest and only fundraiser will take place on Saturday, November 9th The Pittman Center Fall Festival will begin with a turkey dinner at 4pm followed by a silent auction, live auction and crowning of this years king and queen. Everyone is invited to join the fun!

The community support for this school is unbelievable. We receive everything from school supplies to Thanksgiving dinners for our students and their families. We are so appreciative of our neighbors and cant thank them enough for their contributions. Any interested donor may call the school for a list of needs.

Like most schools, drop off and pick up can be a bit chaotic. I have seen our enrollment grow more than 100 students since I have been here. Growth is a wonderful thing and speaks volumes about our school, but with growth also comes challenges especially in the area of school traffic. Fortunately, we have a great system in place that is very safe and orderly. At the end of the day its "all hands-on deck" as we dismiss our kiddos.

I have several hobbies but I would have to say I enjoy traveling and exploring new places with my family the most. I find pleasure in simply hanging out at the river or sailing across the Atlantic on a cruise

TOWN MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

All Town meetings are open to the public and members of the community are encouraged to attend! Complete minutes are, or will be, available on the Pittman Center website. Below, is a brief overview of each meeting.

The September 9th Planning Commission meeting and the September 19th Board of Mayor and Aldermen meetings were cancelled.

The Town held a special called meeting to host a joint Planning Commission and Board of Mayor and Aldermen workshop to discuss short-term rentals on August 29th. There was an enormous amount of citizen participation and input at this meeting. Just a reminder: this was a workshop and no action has been taken. Thank you for coming, your input is extremely valuable!

At the September 25th Tree Board meeting there was discussion of a UT Urban Forestry Program which plans to prepare a tree inventory of City Hall. The kudzu issue was also discussed. The Tree Board reviewed a draft tree ordinance with the City Administrator and Building Official. The Town is also celebrating its 11th year as a Tree City! The Town of Pittman Center will be applying to also be a “Bee City”! We will let you know when this comes to fruition.

The Planning Commission, Design Review Commission, and Board of Zoning Appeals will meet on October 14th at 4:30.

The Board of Mayor and Aldermen will meet on Thursday, October 17th at 4:30.

Reminder: Heritage Day will be April 25th, 2020

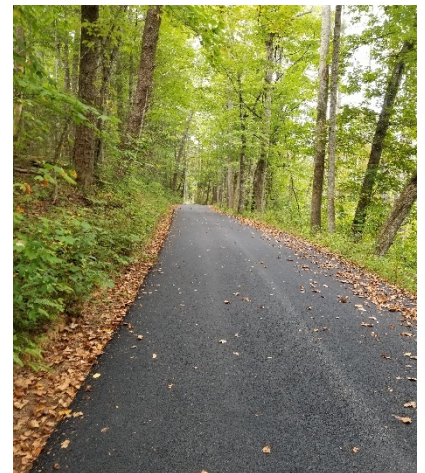
INFRASTRUCTURE/ PROJECT REPORT

Below: Emerts Cove



Roads

Thank you Sevier County Highway Department for your excellent paving work! Over the last week and a half the Highway Department has been busy paving throughout the Town. Emerts Cove, Tudor Mountain, and Webbs Creek have been completely paved or had large portions of the road paved. Nell Rose and Tunis Rd. has had the worst spots paved and Copeland



Above: Tudor Mountain

has been paved where it connects to Highway 321. We were able to complete a significant number of paving projects this year due to the amount of money in our State Street Aid Fund, which legally must be spent on roads.

Left: Copeland to 321

Where's the Pavilion?

We have gotten several questions regarding the Town's plans for a pavilion behind City Hall. The Town is currently in the process of examining the pros and cons of applying for a Local Parks and Recreation Fund (LPRF) grant through Tennessee's Department of Environment and Conservation's (TDEC) Recreation Educational Services (RES). Our existing playground was funded with a LPRF grant! While grants are great and can provide an influx of funding for projects sometimes it can limit the scope or cause unwanted conditions. The Town is working with Mitch Loomis from the East Tennessee Development District (ETDD) to walk through the application process to determine if a LPRF grant would be feasible. The next grant cycle will be due early summer 2020 and award announcements should be made by fall of 2020 (if the cycle and funding continues as it has historically). In the meantime, Town officials are meeting with health department officials to determine the feasibility of the proposed project location in relation to septic and field lines. The available funds and competing priorities are also being examined to determine which projects will be funded in the future. This is currently a future goal that is one of the Town's three-year goals as determined in the Town's Strategic Planning Session earlier this year.



DO YOU KNOW ABOUT TINKERGARTEN?

If you have driven by City Hall recently on Sunday afternoons or Monday mornings you may have noticed a pack of children running, spinning, singing, laughing, splashing, digging in the dirt or just generally having a good time in the fresh air. That is your local Tinkergarten class at its finest! That is what learning through play in an outdoor classroom looks like and is a proven way to give children the best foundation.

In today's fast-paced, technology-driven world, parents need to balance screen time with outdoor time to raise healthy, well-adjusted kids. 80+% of brain development occurs before the age of five. Children build foundational skills in these first five years that will affect the rest of their learning and life. When children play outdoors, under the right conditions, it inspires unique learning opportunities – they open up, push limits, tinker, create, and problem solve. Spending time in nature also provides children a wide range of health benefits including social and emotional well-being. Research shows that time outdoors supports improved relationship skills, and reduces stress, anger, and aggression.



Bird Nest Craft

Tinkergarten is on a mission to elevate childhood. Local leader, Elizabeth Black, brings families together in a natural place in this community for these classes where kids learn through play. Each class becomes a tight-knit group of children and adults who learn together through expert-designed, outdoor play-based activities. She helps kids develop a host of important capabilities, including empathy, collaboration, creativity, persistence, and problem-solving. Her classes and activities help kids ages 18 months – 8 years develop core life skills while enjoying healthy, fun, engaging experiences in the physical freedom of our local green space.

Local classes are currently being held at the Pittman Center City Hall green space Sunday afternoons 4 – 5:15pm and Monday mornings 10 – 11:15am. Elizabeth will also be leading a “Tinkergarten Fall Lantern Walk”, on November 3 at 5:15 p.m. – dusk, which is free and open to all who register and designed to help people of all ages welcome the darkness of the end of Daylight Savings time. To sign up for classes, register for the Lantern Walk or for more information visit www.tinkergarten.com or email Elizabeth directly at Elizabeth.black@mail.tinkergarten.com.

- Elizabeth Black

DID YOU KNOW... Bee City USA: How you can help pollinators



One in three bites of food we eat is courtesy of insect pollination, and ninety percent of the world’s flowering plants depend on pollinators to reproduce!

1. Provide diverse and abundant pollinator food sources (nectar and pollen from blooming plants) that bloom in succession from spring to fall.
 2. Provide water for drinking, nest building and cooling, diluting stored honey and butterfly ‘puddling’.
 3. Build your habitat with mostly, if not all, native species of grasses, perennials, shrubs and trees.
**Many native pollinators prefer or depend on the native plants with which they co-evolved for millions of years.*
 4. Provide undisturbed spaces (leaf piles, un-mowed fields, fallen trees) for nesting and overwintering for native pollinators.
 5. Use pesticide-free materials and source plants from nurseries that do not treat seeds with neonicotinoid pesticides, which permeate the entire plant and remain active for as much as years in woody plants.
**Not all retailers reveal pesticide treatments on plant labels; sometimes a plant may be labeled “bee-friendly” even though it was treated with a neonicotinoid- (systemic) pesticide.*
 6. Provide for safe and humane removal of honey bees when required.
 7. Raise pollinator awareness by designating pollinator zones in public spaces with explanatory signage.
- Visit www.beecityusa.org for more information!



DID YOU KNOW... The Town of Pittman Center has partnered with UT Lifestar for YOU?

The Town of Pittman Center is proud to partner with UT Lifestar to provide limited coverage for all residents of the Town. Please review the following brochure on what is covered and how you can upgrade!



TOWN OF PITTMAN CENTER TN AND UT LIFESTAR ARE PROTECTING YOU

Dear Town of Pittman Center TN Residents,

Great News! Town of Pittman Center TN has partnered with UT Lifestar to provide you with a tremendous opportunity. As a resident, you are now covered under a limited AirMedCare Network membership when transported by UT Lifestar (or any other AirMedCare Network Provider).

TOWN OF PITTMAN CENTER MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

- **NO OUT-OF-POCKET COSTS** for Town of Pittman Center TN residents insured at the time of flight when pick up location is in Sevier County.
- **DISCOUNTED FLIGHT BILL** for Town of Pittman Center TN residents uninsured at the time of flight when pick up location is in Sevier County. Bill reduced to the Medicare Allowable Rate. Uninsured residents may purchase the discounted full membership for zero out-of-pocket expenses.
- **DISCOUNTED FULL MEMBERSHIP:** Residents are eligible to upgrade at \$45/yr. providing a \$40/yr. discount!

UPGRADE TODAY!

Upgrade today and you can receive full membership benefits, giving you coverage across four leading air ambulance operators for the price of one!

AirMedCare Network members take comfort in the knowledge that, should they experience a medical emergency, there will be no out-of-pocket expenses if flown by an AMCN provider. Secure peace of mind for your family today!

FULL MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

- **LOWER UPGRADE RATE:** provides full coverage for flights provided by Air Evac Lifeteam, GuardianFlight, Med-Trans Air Medical Transport, and REACH Air Medical Services.
- **FULL COVERAGE:** With over 320 locations across 38 states, full memberships will ensure no out-of-pocket expenses for life or limb-threatening emergency transports from any of these locations!
- **BE A PART OF SOMETHING BIG!** AirMedCare Network currently has the support of over 3 million members, allowing us to provide financial peace of mind.

AirMedCare Network cares about you and your loved ones. Our mission is to make it possible for people living in rural areas to get the lifesaving emergency care they need, when they need it.

TO UPGRADE TO A FULL MEMBERSHIP, CONTACT:

Daniel Willis | Membership Sales Manager
(865) 343-1329 | track code: 14229
daniel.willis@airmedcarenetwork.com
www.amcnrep.com/daniel-willis



"AirMedCare Network membership is a good thing. You never know when you might need it."

Eddie Forrester—member & survivor

QUESTIONS?



ONLINE:

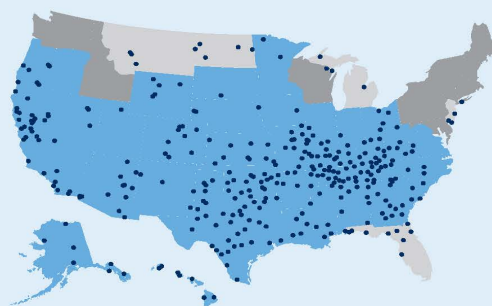
www.amcnrep.com/daniel-willis



PHONE:

(865) 343-1329

**AMERICA'S LARGEST AIR
MEDICAL MEMBERSHIP NETWORK**
Over 320 locations across 38 states



AMCN PARTICIPATING PROVIDERS INCLUDE: AIR EVAC LIFETEAM | GUARDIAN FLIGHT | MED-TRANS CORPORATION | REACH AIR MEDICAL SERVICES | AEROCARE | AIR LINK | AIRLINK CCT | AIRMED | AIR REACH | AIRMED RESPONSE | AMERICAN MED FLIGHT | ANMED LIFE FLIGHT | ARIZONA LIFELINE | CAL-ORE LIFE FLIGHT | CALSTAR | CAPE FEAR LIFELINE AIR | CARECONNECT | C.A.R.E. FLIGHT | CARILION CLINIC LIFE-GUARD | CHILDRENS HOSPITAL COLORADO | EAGLE AIR MED | EAGLE MED FIRST FLIGHT | FLIGHTCARE | GALLUP MED FLIGHT | GHS MED TRANS | HAWAII LIFE FLIGHT | LIFE AIR RESCUE | LIFE FORCE | LIFE GUARD | LIFESTAR | LIFE STAR OF KANSAS | MCALESTER REGIONAL AIR CARE | MED EVAC | MEDUCARE AIR | METHODIST AIRCARE | MIDWEST AEROCARE | MISSISSIPPI AIR RESCUE | MOUNTAINSTAR AIRCARE | NOVANT HEALTH MED FLIGHT | REGIONAL ONE | SIERRA LIFEFLIGHT | SOUTH CAROLINA AIR CARE | SUNRISE AIR AMBULANCE | TRAUMA ONE | UCHEALTH LIFELINE | UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI HEALTH CARE | VALLEY MED FLIGHT | WINGS AIR RESCUE | WOMAN'S AIR CARE

Terms and conditions apply.