



VOL. 2 ISSUE 9 • September 2020

Pittman Center Times

Official Newsletter of the Town of Pittman Center

Dear Subscribers,

Thank you for continuing to read the Pittman Center Times! We believe this is one of the best methods to communicate with the citizens of this community. We look forward to continuing communicating with YOU, the CITIZEN!

If you have any comments or suggestions, please feel free to call Town Hall at (865) 436-5499 or you can email us at asutton@pittmancentertn.gov.

-Your PC Times Staff



MESSAGE FROM MICHAEL

We hope everyone has had a great summer 2020 as we say goodbye to summer and hello to fall! I personally love watching the change of foliage in our beautiful mountain region. We would like to feature your favorite fall foliage Pittman Center area pictures in our upcoming newsletters! Please send pictures to asutton@pittmancentertn.gov.

This fall is an especially exciting time with local, state, and national elections this November. We are very excited to feature an article with all four of our Pittman Center Alderman/Aldерwoman candidates. Please remember the deadline for voter registration is Monday October 5th, 2020. Early voting will be from Wednesday October 14th to Thursday October 29th. For more information please contact the Sevier County Election Commission at (865) 453-6985.

After much internal discussion we have made the decision to reopen our playground. Town staff are also discussing the logistics of our annual Yule Log event and how to comply with local, state, and federal guidelines regarding COVID-19. As of now we have tentatively scheduled the event for December 4th from 5 -6:30pm. Please visit us on our website, Facebook, and keep reading the newsletter for more information.

The Town is currently hiring for a full-time maintenance worker (CDL required within 90 days of employment). Come join our excellent team! Visit our website at www.pittmancentertn.gov for more information.

We hope you have a great start to your fall season!

Michael T. Borders
City Administrator

TOWN MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

All Town meetings are open to the public. Members of the community are encouraged to attend! Complete minutes (after they are approved) are available on the Pittman Center website. Below is an **unofficial** and brief overview of the meetings.

Board of Zoning Appeals

The Board of Zoning appeals during the regularly scheduled meeting held on September 14th:

1. Request to continue the use of a recreational vehicle during construction for the property located at 128 Perkins Road Gatlinburg, TN 37738 (Map: 118 Parcel: 193.00). The continued use was approved for an additional three months.
2. Other Business or Discussion: Town Staff presented the new signs which will be placed in yards of those requesting a variance.

Planning Commission

The Planning Commission during the regularly scheduled meeting held on September 14th:

1. During the Campground Regulations Workshop: The commission heard from a professional surveyor and engineer on their campground experience. Town staff compiled the most discussed issues which will be reviewed at the next meeting.

Board of Mayor and Aldermen

During the regularly scheduled Board of Mayor and Aldermen meeting held on September 17th:

1. Second Reading and Consideration of Ordinance No. 299 An Ordinance of the Town of Pittman Center, Tennessee Repealing Ordinance No. 159 in its entirety. The Ordinance passed on second and final reading.
2. Second Reading and Consideration of Ordinance No. 300 An Ordinance Amending Section 11-310 of the Zoning Ordinance of the Town of Pittman Center, Tennessee to allow mixed use developments in the C3 – Crafts Commercial District. The Ordinance passed on second and final reading.
3. Second Reading and Consideration of Ordinance No. 301 An Ordinance Amending the Zoning Ordinance of the Town of Pittman Center, Tennessee to allow Single Family Dwellings in the TR – Tourist Residential District. The Ordinance passed on second and final reading.
4. First Reading and Consideration of Ordinance No. 302: An Ordinance Amending Height Requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Town of Pittman Center, Tennessee. The Ordinance passed on first reading.
5. First Reading and Consideration of Ordinance No. 303: An Ordinance Amending Section 11-410 of the Zoning Ordinance of the Town of Pittman Center, Tennessee to amend regulations for temporary signage within the Town of Pittman Center. The Ordinance passed on first reading.

6. Reading and Consideration of Resolution No. 227: A Resolution for an Interlocal Agreement Between the Town of Pittman Center and Sevier County Relating to Storm Water Management. The Resolution passed.

Upcoming Meetings

The Board of Mayor and Aldermen will meet on Thursday October 15th at 4:30.

The Planning Commission/Board of Zoning Appeals/Design Review Commission will meet on Monday October 12th at 4:30.

The next Tree Board will meet on October 28th at 3:30 location TBD.

Please check our website and Facebook for up to date information. If you have any questions regarding agenda items or action please contact the City Administrator at (865) 436-5499.

REMINDERS...

Please remember in order to participate in the citizens comment section of the Board of Mayor and Aldermen meeting you must fill out a form provided by Town staff and return the form prior to the end of day Tuesday before the Thursday meeting. You can find the form at www.pittmancentertn.gov go to the “government” tab in the ribbon bar then to “printable forms”. You may also contact Town staff and have the form filled out over the phone at (865) 436-5499.

Let’s keep our Spring Branch Walking Trail beautiful! The Town has become aware of several four-wheeler tracks in the Spring Branch Walking Trail area. Please remember this is not a four-wheeler trail. We do offer a parking area off of Spring Branch road to park vehicles.



DID YOU KNOW...?

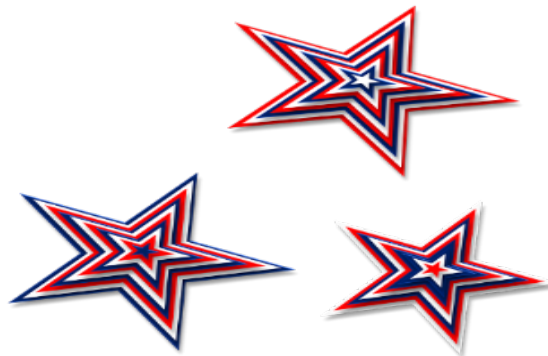
The Town of Pittman Center recently updated it's website address from a ".com" to a ".gov"? Come check out our website at www.pittmancentertn.gov. Our website has our meeting agendas, minutes, updates, all of our previous newsletters, and much more!

After discussion from Town staff we have decided to begin featuring Pittman Center businesses! We believe this to be an excellent way to support our local businesses and learn a little history at the same time. If you know of or are part of a business that you would like to be featured please reach out to us at asutton@pittmancentertn.gov.

The Town is currently in the process of modifying it's temporary sign regulations. We ask that, although the second reading of the Ordinance is not until October 15th, that citizens limit political signs to one (1) sign per candidate per premise, each sign not to exceed four (4) square feet in residential districts or sixteen (16) square feet in all other districts. Please remove your signs after the election or within seven (7) days after the results of the election are certified. Please remember that political campaign signs are not permitted on public property including utility poles.

Connecting with YOU the citizen

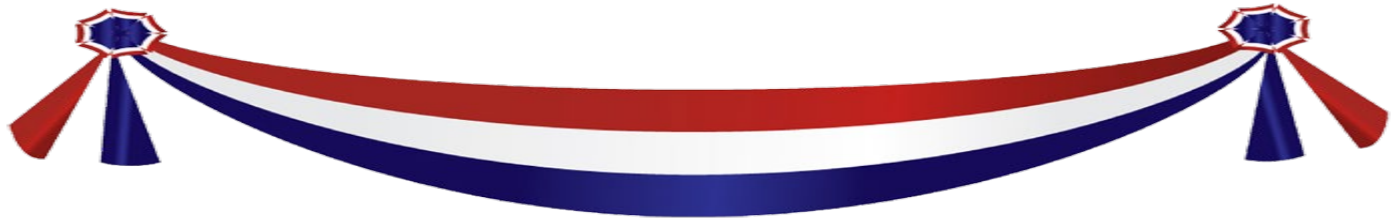
We have really missed community interaction, especially with the cancellation of Heritage Day in April 2020, and are looking for ways to reconnect. Would you like to walk Emerts Cove with the City Administrator and his Irish Wolfhound? Would you like to have donuts and coffee with the Chief? We will be scheduling several events both before and after business hours. Keep an eye on our website and future newsletters for more information! The more successful these events are the more events we can do! Let us know your thoughts and ideas by emailing us at mborders@pittmancentertn.gov.



Pittman Center 2020 Election

The Town of Pittman Center's Board of Mayor and Aldermen consists of five members, one Mayor and four Aldermen, that serve in staggered four-year terms. The Pittman Center Election coincides with the November general election and will take place on November 3rd at the Pittman Center Elementary School precinct.

We reached out to all of the qualified candidates and asked them to provide some information about themselves, why they chose to run for the position of Alderman/Alderwoman, and what is their vision for the Town of Pittman Center. Here is what they have to say:



Kristine Johnson



About the Candidate

My name is Kristine Johnson, I have forty years of experience in public service including natural resource management, environmental compliance, project planning, budget administration, law enforcement and fire management. B.A. in philosophy and M.S. in Forestry from University of Tennessee.

Civic Engagement: Pittman Center - Planning and Zoning Board secretary, Tree Board chairperson, Firewise Committee member, Bee City representative. Board of directors and past president of TN Invasive Plant Council. Executive Committee member for Harvey Broome Group of TN Sierra Club.

Why run for Alderman/Alerwoman?

I grew up in an incorporated town the size of Pittman Center (though the demographics were very different) and know that for a town this size to thrive, the citizens must take an active role in government. Those who are qualified, able and motivated by public service should step up. If we all participate, we can make Pittman Center a safe, healthy and sustainable place to live.

What is your vision for the Town of Pittman Center?

Our town has a remarkable legacy to preserve, and many underutilized opportunities for citizen participation, including Tree Board, Recreation Board, and the Planning and Zoning boards. I support our current town mayor, administrator and staff in their efforts to encourage citizen involvement, improve infrastructure, maintain sound fiscal operations, and develop enforceable ordinances that keep our town safe, improve quality of life, and protect the environment.



Lee Mellor



About the Candidate

For the last 22 years my late husband, John, and I owned and operated Buckhorn Inn. The hallmark of our time at the Inn has been to embrace and maintain its historic charm while providing modern conveniences. This is the same sensibility I want to bring to leadership decisions in our town.

I grew up on a ranch in Texas in a community about the size of Pittman Center. I have BA and MA degrees from Texas A&M University-Commerce. For most of my long professional career, I worked as a senior administrator in higher education with management and budgetary responsibilities. I have had the opportunity to serve on many civic boards and committees. I have three children, two grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.

Why run for Alderman/Alderwoman?

I am running for alderman because I want to:

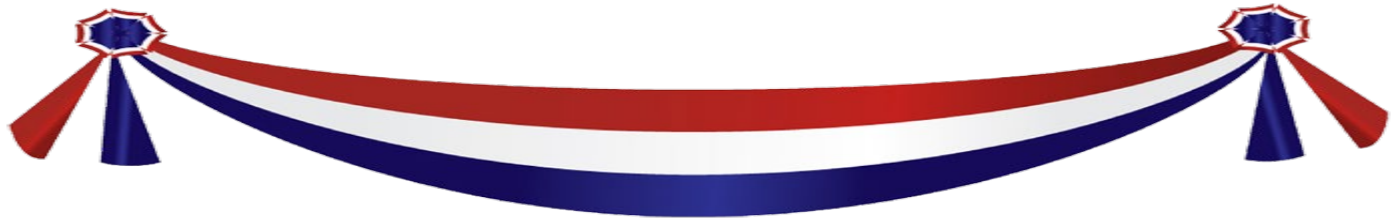
- Ensure that enforceable zoning ordinances and building codes reflect the values of our community
- Protect our ridgetops
- Help the Glenn Cardwell Heritage Museum develop and expand
- Look into petitioning the postal service to enable our residents to use the town's name, Pittman Center, as our official address
- Encourage more community participation in developing the town's policies and strategic vision
- Work toward ensuring that all residents can access broadband internet without excessive access fees

What is your vision for the Town of Pittman Center?

My vision for our community aligns with that laid out in the 1990's Futurescape project --a rural community with a built environment reflecting the traditional values of our community and economic development, principally tourist-based, which protects and sustains our physical environment.

I would also envision an increase in tourist-based development that brings prosperity to our community and much needed tax revenue to the town. The needs of our community will continue to increase and without an increase in revenue, the town will not be able to meet these needs.

I envision our town continuing to be a model of how tourism and quality of life can cohabit the same space harmoniously. And that, in the future, our generation will have left this special place as good for future generations as we found it.



Cheryl Houston



About the Candidate

My name is Cheryl Houston. I've lived in Sevier County for over 25 years and Pittman Center for 6 ½ years. I am a University of Tennessee graduate, a mother of three and a grandmother of 2 precious boys and one little angel girl. I am a CPA and have been employed in the banking and insurance fields and as Sevier County's Finance Director for twelve years. I am currently employed by an individual in the tourism industry.

Why run for Alderman/Alderwoman?

I chose to build a house in Pittman Center after visiting for many years. The sense of community and the natural beauty of the area drew me to making Pittman Center my home and it is the best place I have ever lived. I'm running for the position of Alderman to preserve the small and quaint community for our future generations. My children and grandchildren live here and I want to ensure Pittman Center retains the qualities that make it such a special place.

What is your vision for the Town of Pittman Center?

My vision for the Town of Pittman Center is to continue being dedicated to preserving the natural beauty of the area, offering quality public services the residents expect such as police protection, sanitation services and road and grounds maintenance while giving careful consideration to ways that we could expand the tax base without hurting the wonderful environment we all enjoy. My vision is for a town that continues to place fiscal soundness as a priority. I believe, through my years in administering the County's budget that I can offer practical advice on ways Pittman Center can operate more efficiently. I also want to personally dedicate time and energy in expanding our community library as another resource for our residents.

I consider it a privilege to be considered as your next Alderman.



Billy McCarty



About the Candidate

My name is Billy McCarty, my father and I moved to Pittman Center in 1988 at age 11. I attended Pittman Center Elementary, GP High School, and graduated Sevier County High School 1995. I'm married to my wonderful wife Holly and the proud father of 4 amazing sons.

I am the General Manager/Vice President of Museums International. I over see all day to day operations of all businesses in the Gatlinburg and Pigeon Forge area for the past 23 years.

Why Run for Alderman/Alderwoman?

I am running for Alderman because I always wanted to be on the board since I attended Pittman Center Elementary. I want to give my time and efforts to the Town of Pittman Center. I would like to help keep PC beautiful by maintaining our clean waterways and streets and keeping the environment safe for our families and children.

What is your vision for the Town of Pittman Center?

My vision is to keep PC the naturally beautiful place it is and a place where families are proud to live, a place where friends and visitors are excited to see the pristine environment PC has to offer. I also would like to see safer walk ways and roads for Locals and visitors alike.

As Alderman I will listen to the voices of the people and do what's best for the Town of Pittman Center.

Staff Note: Please note Town staff are impartial, have not edited the responses of the candidates, and ordered the candidates in the order their articles were received by staff.

A LITTLE BIT OF HISTORY: GREENBRIER GROCERY STORE

This month our newsletter is featuring a staple in the Pittman Center Community, Greenbrier Grocery. On 2406 E. Parkway Gatlinburg, Tennessee sits a building that holds groceries, camping supplies, RV equipment, tubing supplies, fishing bait, tackle, firewood and lots of charm and memories.

As Mr. Gordon Clay Huskey served our country in the United States Army under General George S. Patton in WWII, he also had a dream of owning his own business one day. He saved up money while in the service and in 1953 The Greenbrier Grocery Store was opened.

As I walked through the screen door, I immediately noticed the beautiful wood that extended from floor then up across the ceiling. The shelves are all stocked and neat and to the left of me stood Mr. Brent Huskey, Gordon Huskey's son along with Sidney Huskey, Mr. Brent Huskey's son. To the right side of me behind a small well-worn swinging door waist high was the original cash register of the store and the stool that Mr. Huskey (Senior) had used for years. Brent told me how his dad would sit on the stool and turn back and forth while talking to and serving his customers. I wondered how many times that register drawer had opened and closed after the ending of a sale to all the customers over the years. How many neighbors and friends came by and stopped to talk for a bit and then leave with their store find.

Brent offered the comfy chair in the small office so that we could look over some pictures from the 50's, 60's and 70's of the store. Many of the pictures had Brent's Father, Gordon Huskey, his mother, Sarah Huskey, Brent as a child and his sister Patty. Greenbrier Grocery Store had been closed for about 30 years but on May 29, 2019 a new chapter in it's story began when the doors were again reopened. Brent and Sidney both agreed the store has been a family business from the beginning and is a 24/7 job. Sidney spoke of the commitment that it takes to have a family business of how even when you work together for hours during the day that when they aren't at the store, they are still talking about business. Sidney sees each day as an opportunity to do something just a little bit different, something to make the store a little better every day. He also enjoys working with his dad while sharing his heritage and spreading their southern hospitality.

The Greenbrier Grocery Store had, at different times during the years, gas pumps, a clothing store on one end of the building and a campground behind it. Today it is strictly a general store fully stocked and surely a place you will find something that you need. When I asked Brent what made his store unique, he was quick to say it is the down home atmosphere, the large variety of items for a small store and the customer service. Stop in and you will see Brent and Sidney ready to help you find what you are looking for and visit for a while.

Don't forget our neighborhood stores, our mom and pop shops, we are their lifeblood and they give life to our communities. The store is open 7 days a week (seasonally), 8:30-8:30. You can also see them on their website, greenbriergroceries.com



GREENBRIER GROCERY STORE "THEN"



GREENBRIER GROCERY STORE "NOW"



GORDON CLAY HUSKEY



ORIGINAL CASH REGISTER AND STOOL



BRENT HUSKEY AND SON, SIDNEY HUSKEY



FOR GORDON'S CORNCOB WINE



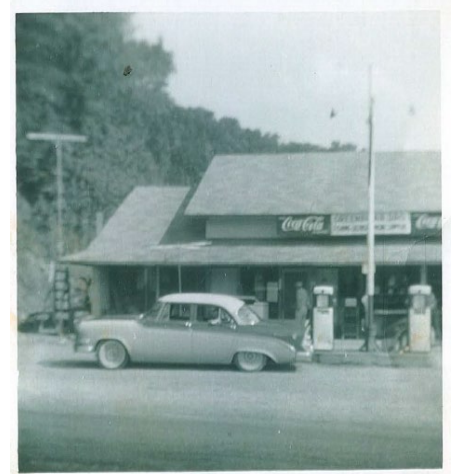
SCALES



GORDON HUSKEY AND CUSTOMER



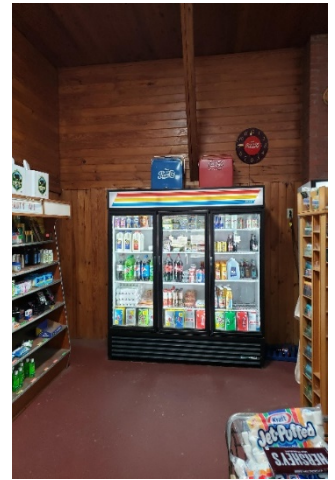
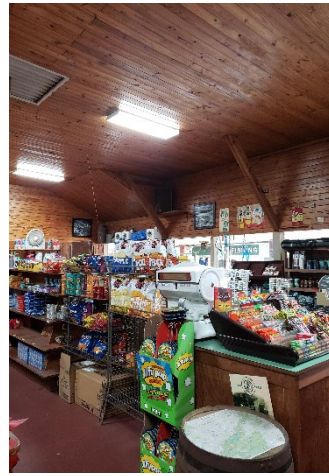
GORDON HUSKEY WASHING
A CUSTOMER'S WINDSHIELD



JOHN HUSKEY



BRENT, SARAH (MOTHER), PATTY (SISTER)



GORDON HUSKEY AND SON, BRENT HUSKEY



BRENT HUSKEY AND SON, SIDNEY HUSKEY



CAMPGROUND ON THE PROPERTY OF THE STORE