# **ROCKY TOP NEWS**

## **SPONSORED BY THE ROCKY TOP** CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

## **DECEMBER 2015**



#### 2015 Rocky Top Parade Awards Floats

First Place -Second Place -Third Place

**Clear Branch Baptist Church** FFA Anderson County Animal Hospital



**Group Category** Sleepy Eye Johns First Place -

Second Place - Little Ponderosa Tractors

First Place - Ronnie Johnson

**Antique Cars** First Place -**David Landreth** Second Place - Esco Raines





Hot Rod Cars First Place - Benny Braden Second Place - Bill Gregory

#### **Royalty Hair Resort** 224 S. Main Street, Ste 1, Rocky Top, TN



**A Candlelight Christmas** Museum of Appalachia, NORRIS, Tenn.: Beginning on December 5th, the Museum will celebrate *Christmas in Old Appalachia*, a festive winter celebration that captures the beauty and simplicity of an oldfashioned Christmas. Inside the cabins, simple cedar Christmas trees are draped with paper chains, popcorn strings, sweet gum, and sycamore balls. Tattered or well-worn quilts are laid under the trees; topped with carved wooden animals, tin horns, rag dolls, wagons, and spinning tops—all of which were presents found early on Christmas morning. The Little Tater Valley School House is adorned with handmade ornaments made by local students.



On Saturday, December 12th the Museum will host A Candlelight Christmas from 5pm until 8pm. Stroll selected buildings in the Museum village, enjoy the Christmas story, sample holiday wassail, sing carols in the Irwin Chapel, visit with Museum animals, and more. Families will experience the beauty of an Appalachian Christmas during a simpler and more peaceful time. Guests are encouraged to bring flashlights or battery operated lanterns.

Continuing through December 24th, special holiday exhibits include the children's display in the Hall of Fame, with toys and furniture made by loving parents and grandparents, and Granny Irwin's traditional Christmas Crazy Quilt-brought out only on special or festive occasions.

Browse the Shop at the Museum where you'll find 'American made', hand-crafted items. Enjoy hot, southern country-style lunches, served daily from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Museum restaurant. Home-made cakes, pies, cookies, and other holiday treats are available all day, or can be made special to order for Christmas gatherings.

December hours are 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. daily (9:00 a.m.-3pm on Christmas Eve and closed Christmas Day). The Museum, a Smithsonian Affiliate and a not-for-profit organization, is located 16 miles North of Knoxville, one mile East of I-75, Exit 122. For more information, call 865-494-7680, or visit the web site at ww.museumofappalachia.org.



#### Send Us Your News

The Rocky Top News is published by volunteers who are not always able to gather all of the news happening in Rocky Top. Therefore, we are asking for your help. If you are at an event, please take a picture and email it to the Rocky Top News at info@rockytoptnchamber.com with the details of the event. Also, if you are involved in an organization or group that is planning an event in Rocky Top, please email or call the Rocky Top News with the details. There is no event too big or too small to let us know about.

#### Christmas in Old Appalachia-December 5-24

The simple joys of an old-fashioned Christmas await Museum of Appalachia visitors during December. Music of the season can be heard across the grounds. Cabins will be decorated in pioneer style. Christmas shoppers will find many hand-crafted items in the gift shop. Hot, country-style lunches are served daily from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the museum restaurant and homemade cakes, pies, cookies and other holiday treats are available all day. For more information, contact the museum at <u>865-494-7680</u> or visit www.museumofappalachia.org.

Santa Train Rides- Dec. 12th & 13th at Secret City Excursion Train

One-hour excursions with narration will take place on December 12th and 13th. The excursions depart at 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. on Saturdays and 1p.m. and 3p.m. on Sundays. Santa is sure to delight all the children as he and Mrs. Claus make their way through the coaches passing out Christmas gift bags and posing for pictures. Refreshments and souvenirs are available for purchase in the train's commissary car. For more information, call <u>865-241-2140</u> or visit <u>www.secretcityrailroad.com</u>.

#### Christmas Spectacular – Dec. 11-13 at Second Baptist Church

You don't want to miss the true Christmas story coming to life with this musical drama including a fantastic choir, band and live animals. This is a must see for the whole family! The Christmas Spectacular is free and will have three performances - Friday, December 11th from 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm, Saturday the 12th from 1:00 - 2:30 and Sunday the 13th from 10:30 am – 12:00 pm. For more information, call 865-457-2046.

#### Holiday Homecoming – December 12th at Norris Dam State Park

Join us for a walk through time discovering old time traditions representing Tennessee Holiday Homecomings in the local region. Celebrations will take place on the east side of the park as our rustic cabin area transforms into a winter village of festivities for the holiday season. There will be live animal demonstrations, historical depiction of Appalachian life, old time music and holiday treats. Be expected to walk approx. one mile, so dress warmly and bring a flashlight. For more information, call <u>865-426-7461</u>.

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## **Chamber Networking Events**

The next Rocky Top Chamber of Commerce's Networking Event will be a Coffee hosted by Suntrust Bank on January 12, 2016 from 8:00 to 9:30 a.m. **Everyone is welcome.** This is a great opportunity for chamber members to network with other chamber members. If you are interested in joining the chamber, please feel free to attend this event. For more information about the Rocky Top Chamber, visit ww.rockytoptnchambercom.





This paper is published by the Rocky Top Chamber of Commerce monthly and is free to the public.

> Rocky Top Chamber of Commerce P. O. Box 1054 Rocky Top, TN 37769 865-426-9595 Fax 865-457-4545 info@rockytoptnchamber.com

Please submit events and content information by email or fax.

#### Rocky Top News Advertising Rates

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#### **Rocky Top Chamber Member's Rates**

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Classified Advertisements available to \$5 per line

Contact the Rocky Top Chamber of Commerce for multi-month discounts

#### **DECEMBER 2015**

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## **IBRARY NEWS**

The Rocky Top Public Library will host a Free Basic Desktop Computer Classes every Tuesday at 11:00am.– 12 noon. "Except on the first Tuesday of every month since we are closed for Staff Meeting until 1:00pm."

Call 865-426-6762 to register or for more information.

**Book Discussion** on December 28th, at 10 a.m. "Please come join us for brunch and bring a favorite book to talk about."



The library's children story times will be on Fridays at 4 p.m. and Saturdays at 12 noon. "Come join us for story time, snack, and craft! This is a free programs for kids of all ages.

**Senior Game Day** - The Library will be hosting a senior program which will have games, snacks and activities, on December  $14^{th}$  and 28th from 11:00am to 1:00pm.

#### **Children's Christmas Party**

On December 18<sup>th</sup> at 4:00pm The Rocky Top Public Library will be hosting our annual kid's Christmas party. We will have fun games and activities and tasty snacks!



All of the Rocky Top Public Library's events are free and open to the public. For more information, visit www.rockytoppubliclibrary.com or call 865-426-6762.

#### Closings

The Rocky Top Public Library will be closed December 24<sup>th</sup> though December 27<sup>th</sup> in observance for the Holidays.

The Rocky Top Public Library will be closed January 1<sup>st</sup> though January 3<sup>rd</sup> for the New Year.

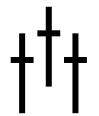


#### Everyone is Welcome at

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Main Street Baptist Church offers specialized ministries for each member of the family; Men, Women, Seniors, Youth and Children. They also have a Food Pantry that is open on Tuesdays from 12 to 2 p.m. and a Soup Kitchen every Wednesday from 11 a.m.12:30 p.m.



Sunday School 9:45 a.m. • Sunday Morning Worship 8:30 a.m. & 10:45 a.m. Wednesday Evening Worship 6:30 p.m.

## CITY OF ROCKY TOP Decemberber 2015 MEETING SCHEDULE

- December 8, 2015 at 5:30 PM -
- December 9, 2015 at 8:00 AM –
  December 10, 2015 at 5:30 PM –
- December 10, 2015 at 5:30
  December 15, 2015 at 6:00
  - December 15, 2015 at 6:00 PM -
  - December 17, 2015 at 6:30 PM December 19, 2015 at 7:00 PM –
  - December 19, 2015 at 7:00 PM City Council Meeting December 24 & 25, 2015 – City Hall CLOSED for Christmas

#### Coal Creek Smokehouse Bar-B-Que

Located at 211 S Main St, Rocky Top, TN Hours: Monday - Thursday 11-9

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## **Norris Dam State Park News**

#### **Rustic Cabin Renovation**

By Ranger Lauren Baghetti

The rustic cabins, built by the Civilian Conservation Corp in the 1930's, are very popular and loved by many. Nestled in the woods, the cabins have wood floors, walls, and ceilings and stone fireplaces giving them a rustic and cozy feel. Many couples who spent their honeymoon at Norris Dam State Park staying in a rustic cabin have returned twenty, thirty, and even fifty years later to stay once more, and families and vacationers have made many memories here. After years of use and enjoyment it was time for major renovation work in order for couples to continue enjoying their wedding and anniversaries, families to gather, and vacationers to enjoy nature.

In November 2014 renovation work began on the rustic cabins. This past September, just ten months later, we were able to open them up to be rented once more. In the eighty years of existence they have undergone several changes and renovations. This past one included aesthetic and infrastructure work.

When you step inside you will notice several changes. All the kitchen appliances were replaced, including the sink, refrigerator, and range. New cabinets and counters were also installed. Many guests have commented the beds needed to be replaced. We listened and each box spring and mattress was replaced. Each cabin was cooled by a window unit and heated by a space heater. Those days are gone. Each cabin now has its own central heat and air unit controlled by a remote control. We have also installed dehumidifiers for the humid East Tennessee summer months. The bathroom fixtures were also replaced.

This year's class of Jr. Rangers contributed to the project as well. Each Jr. Ranger painted a piece of artwork which was framed and hung in a rustic cabin. Pictures depict the park, wildlife, plants, and some are patriotic. Their artwork adds color and brightness to the cabins.



The outside of the cabins also received attention. Driving through you will see the cabins are now dark brown instead of the light brown they were for several years. Steps were installed at cabin five. Work was also done which may not be as apparent. Sidewalks and driveways were repaired from running water after heavy rains and new roofs were put on. Infrastructure work included electrical, plumbing, and replacing rotten subflooring and floor boards.

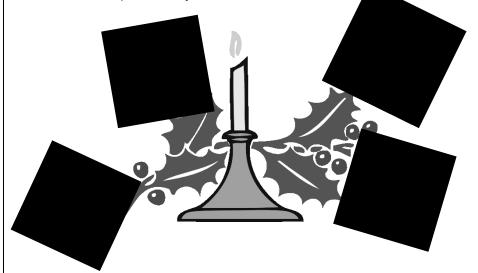
There is still more to come. In a few weeks the dining tables and restaurant style chairs will be replaced with wooden tables and chairs made in Tennessee. Another major change is the rustic cabins are now open year round. Previously, they were shut down for the winter months.

As the saying goes, pictures tell a thousand words. However, to get a real real for the rustic cabins and the work done, you will have to stay in one for yourself. If you are interested in renting a rustic cabin contact the park office or go online to http://tnstateparks.com/parks/about/norrisdam.

Norris Dam State Park will be having our annual Holiday Homecoming Saturday, December 12, 2015. This will be the 12<sup>th</sup> year of enjoying the holiday season in nature! The festivities will take place on the historic East Side from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Join us for a walk through time discovering life and traditions from the 1930's. The rustic cabins are transformed to a winter village of living history. Cabins will have natural, historical, cultural themes, as well as remembering the nation's veterans. It's an evening full of historic and education interpretation, olde time music entertainment, theatrical holiday skits, storytelling, holiday treats, and of course St. Nick to tell your Christmas wishes. The Tea Room will be lit up with trees, lights, and olde time caroling. A hot meal will be available for you to purchase. Hot chocolate and coffee will also be available. Alcohol is prohibited at the park and event.

Be prepared to walk about half a mile through a sea of luminaries, so dress warmly and comfortably, and for your added safety please bring a flashlight. In lieu of an entrance fee donations will be greatly appreciated. For more information call the park office at (865) 426-7461. We hope to see you there!!



#### Midnight New Year Celebration Hike

Thursday, December 31 Starts at: 11:59 PM to 2:00 AM. Join the fun! Over 60 hikers joined us last year to kick off the New Year hike along Andrews Ridge. We are shooting for over 100 participants this year. Bring flashlights and warm clothes. We will end the hike with refreshments and a bon fire. Last year we had to send everyone home at 3:30 AM!



Start 2016 with us and then join other parks for their hikes later in the day. This is a two and a half mile, moderate hike. Young and old are welcome to join the fun! For more information, contact Park Manager Mark Morgan at the park office, 865-426-7461. Meetup: Andrews Ridge Trail System, just below the west campground. We will meet/head out on Andrews Ridge and drop off onto Sinkhole Trail.

## Celebrity Waiter Event Raises \$12,600 for American Cancer Society

The 4th Annual Celebrity Waiter Dinner in Anderson County was once again a huge success, with \$12,600 raised to benefit the American Cancer Society. The event was held at 205 Main on Thursday evening, November 12<sup>th</sup> with 155 guests seated at 18 tables hosted by area "Celebrity Waiters". The emcee of the evening was Ron

Arms. A delicious barbecue dinner from Vernon's Burnins was served by the celebrity waiters and high school students from the Clinton High School Culinary Program with Jessie Hall and Hoppy Merryman. Corporate sponsors for the dinner included Knight's Flowers and Ameriprise Financial. Zach Farrar auctioned off the desserts donated by area restaurants and bakers that were served at the event, totaling \$2,000 in donations.

Celebrity Waiters decorated their tables with various entertainment themes including: On a Pilgrimage For a Cure by Fox Toyota with

waiter Judy Bates, Kentucky Fried Chicken by Y12 Federal Credit Union with waiter Jason Lawrence as Colonel Sanders,

Hollywood by Clinton Physical Therapy Center with waiter Taylor Herrell as Marilyn Monroe and Allen Smith with St. Mark United Methodist Church dressed as an elf with his crew of Santa Claus and other elves. Other table themes included the Fall Holiday, Breast Cancer Hope, Kick Cancer Butts and School Alumni.

Jason Lawrence dressed as Colonel Sanders with his wife Lou and daughter Miranda

dressed as his Kentucky Fried Chicks was crowned the "**2015 Celebrity Waiter of the Year**". The "Most Creative Table" was awarded to Art Miller from the Anderson County Health Department with their theme of, "Kick Cancer Butts" for lung cancer prevention. The top fundraising award went to the Fox Toyota table for the fourth consecutive year at \$2,695 with all the guests of their table dressed as pilgrims, Indians or the

Thanksgiving turkey. The second place fundraising award went to waiter Jason Lawrence of Y12 Credit Union with \$1,308 raised at their table. The third place in fundraising was awarded to breast cancer survivor Vicki Gibson with \$981 raised. Clinton Physical Therapy Center raised \$3,177 as the event organizer. Allen Smith from St. Mark United Methodist Church received an award for his part in promoting this event by bringing in 5 tables of guest for the event including his church, as well as the Class of 1972 and 1973.

A fun and exciting evening was had by all, as they came together in the fight against cancer. If you don't want to miss being a part of this great event next year, please contact Kelly Lenz at Clinton Physical Therapy Center at 457-1649 or <u>CPTCKLENZ@aol.com</u>. Space is limited, so reserve your table early!!!

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#### Fiction

Sidney Sheldon's Reckless by Tilly Bagshawe The Guilty by David Baldacci The Gift by Wanda Brunstetter All Dressed in White by Mary **Higgins Clark** The Crossing by Michael Connelly The Promise by Robert Crais The Mistletoe Inn by Richard Paul Evans Tricky Twenty-Two by Janet Evanovich The Golem of Paris by Jonathan back: So you want to be a Jedi? Kellerman The Consultant by Bentley Little Where they found her by **Kimberly McCreight** Above the Waterfall by Ron Rash

**Young Adult Fiction** Legacy of Kings by Eleanor Herman

**Paperback Fiction** Christmas with you by Nora Roberts

**Juvenile Fiction** Star Wars the Empire Strikes



By Adam Gidwitz

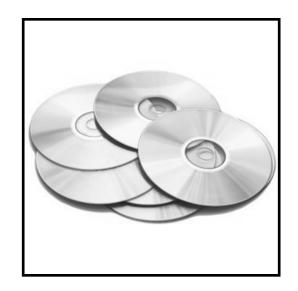
#### Non-Fiction Books

Batman: The War Years 1939 - 1945Coping with BPD: DBT and CBT Stars of fortune by Nora Roberts skills to soothe the symptoms... by Blaise Aguirre My Southern Journey by Rick Bragg Prison Ramen: Recipes & Stories by Clifton Collins DIY Updos, Knots, and Twists by Melissa Cook Let's Kill Mom: Four Texas Teens and a Horrifying Murder Pact by Donna Fielder

Household hints: Amazing uses for Salt, Lemons, Vinegar and Baking soda by Heather Rodino Superman: The War Years 1938 – 1945 by Roy Thomas Personal Finance after 50 for Dummies by Eric Tyson

#### DVD

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