

## More TROUTVILLE tidbits!

STRATEGIC PLANNING EFFORT CONTINUES TO MOVE FORWARD  
*Continued from Page 1*

### Key Overall Strengths for our Town:

- The Appalachian Trail and its close proximity to the town
- Town owned Park
- Close proximity to I-81
- The Friends of the Park

### Key Overall Weaknesses for our Town:

- No Town Identity
- Lack of Sidewalks
- Lack of Parking

### Key Overall Threats for our Town:

- US 11 Speed limit

### Key Overall Opportunities for our Town:

- Businesses Supporting the Trail, Rail Road, Bike Route
- Old School House
- Farmers Market
- Appalachian Trail
- Loop Trail/Bike Path from the AT to the Park
- North/South Connecting Sidewalks
- Home Cooking Diner

**What's next?** Key Stakeholders have volunteered to assist the steering committee in drafting the initial Vision Statement for the Town of Troutville, and also to draft the initial Strategic Plan based on all the data that has been collected thus far. Another public session will be planned to collect feedback on these initial drafts.

**We deeply appreciate the support** of the following leaders who helped us to get to this point in our strategic planning journey:

**Mel Lester** of *The Business Edge*, who volunteered his time to lead the facilitation of the public input session;

**Paul Economy** of Roanoke, **John Rader** of Troutville and **Brandy Vassar** of Bank of Botetourt, who facilitated the table discussions during the public input session;

**Gerald Burgess**, our Botetourt County Administrator, and the **Botetourt County Board of Supervisors**, who pledged their support by requesting **Jake Gilmer** of the Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission to lead the facilitation of the work sessions in November. Jake Gilmer also supplied various key reports.

**Questions/Thoughts/Feedback?** We would love to hear from you! Please call the Town Office at 992-4401 and a Steering Committee member will be glad to return your call, or write to us at Strategic Planning Steering Committee, c/o Town of Troutville, P.O. Box 276, Troutville, VA 24175, or email us at [Tville@rbnet.com](mailto:Tville@rbnet.com), and reference "SPS Committee" in the email subject line.

**Reminder:** The Troutville Town Council meets on the third Wednesday of every month in the Town Hall at 7:00pm. Meetings are open to the Public.

## Grandmother Beemer's Rosebush

*By Carol Scaggs Waddell*

Troutville Cemetery is a pretty place. Looking out from the top of the hill, the mountains are beautiful. It's quiet and peaceful here. You can see the church steeple and sometimes hear a train whistle. This place is dear to my heart because so many of my family and friends are buried here. My wonderful parents, Oakley and Grace Scaggs, and my beloved sister, Joyce Crawford, are buried here. My grandparents, Emmett and Ettie Beemer, are also here along with many aunts, uncles and cousins.

But my story is really about a special little pink rosebush. It is planted at my grandparents' grave. My mother and I walked to the cemetery many times when I was young. She would take flowers from her beautiful yard and always, lovingly and tenderly, cared for the rosebush. It was special because Grandmother planted it there in 1934 – a year after my Granddaddy passed away. It has been mowed down several times, but it always comes back. The blooms were very pretty this past year. It seems to know how much I love it, and it makes my heart happy to see how faithful and strong it is. My burial plots are below it, and after blooming faithfully for 75 years, the little rosebush may last forever.



### ***"SAVE OUR LANDS, SAVE OUR TOWNS"***

...is the title of a one-hour video that will be shown at the Town Hall in Troutville on February 7, 2010 at 2:00 pm. Snow date is February 21, 2010 - same time and place. The Strategic Planning Steering Committee asked Genevieve Goss, who serves as a conservation steward on the Valley Conservation Council, to make this viewing possible in support of building the strategic plan for our town.

In summary, this video follows the quest of small town newsman Tom Hylton to discover why America's towns have declined and what we can do to revive them. Hylton concludes by listing logical, practical ways America can rebuild its towns, preserve its countryside, and provide more secure, neighborly communities for people of all ages and incomes.

At the end of the viewing you will have an opportunity to submit your thoughts and ideas of actions we should consider in the strategic plan for Troutville. **Please join us...together we can make a positive difference for our community!**

**For more information on the "Friends of the Park", contact -**

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