

You Can't Keep Ellington Down

By Hannah Midkiff
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Plain and simple, Ellington is a town that comes together. Through adversity, natural disaster, or tragedy, the town and its occupants continue remain strong. This year alone, the town was struck by financial changes, damaging floods, and tragedy only a few weeks ago. Despite the bad things that have happened, the people you meet seem to use the same word over and over again, hope. After issues arose with Doe Run and funding was set askew, the school was still hopeful for a good year and wanted the best for their students. When the flooding back in the Spring damaged many homes and business, they said they were hopeful that the town would rebuild what was lost and return to normal. It was a matter of weeks and Town and Country was open, FEMA was stepping in to help rebuild, and people were out and about clearing debris and starting repairs. Almost all of the town has returned to its previous state. When a tragic shooting occurred only a few weeks ago, the Police and Sheriff's Departments remain hopeful that the criminals will be caught and hoped that residents know that their safety is their top priority. It is often easy to get caught up in all of the bad things happening in the world, so let's take

a moment to focus on the positive. Ellington is continuing to prosper. The Chamber of Commerce has many exciting plans for the remainder of this year. They are putting together their annual Christmas parade. This year's theme is Magical Christmas and is sure to feature some crowd favorites. They are also formulating plans to have a day focused entirely on shopping local. They hope to bring business and economic strength to the community. They're main concern has, and always will be, the well-being of their city. Each member brings new and exciting ideas on ways to help bring the community together.

The town is doing so well in fact that new businesses are opening their doors. As many of you know, Opy's had their grand opening a short time ago. There are even some businesses that have been around for over 100 years are still going strong. Not many small towns feature a spa, Mexican restaurant, museum, conservation area, two historical sites, and so much more! In this spotlight, we hope to shine a light on all the wonderful history, sites, and people that Ellington has. No good thing should go unnoticed. Jim Rohn once said, "Whatever good things we build end up building us." Ellington shows faith, perseverance, and a great deal of hope for the future.



THE ELLINGTON COMMUNITY came together Friday to make sure that Ellington children had a safe way to trick or treat. "Booths" were set up by community members, businesses, and other organizations in the old gym at Ellington school. The community often comes together with the school to offer these kinds of events.

What Do You Like About Ellington?

Elaine Whitchurch Keathley of West Virginia said, "It's home no matter how long it is between visits. It's just comforting."

Dianna Manetz of Piedmont said, "The historical museum and being able to do genealogy research."

Cindy King Briley of Piedmont said, "I like the park that has the baseball field, playground equipment, and walking trails." Barbara Brown Lyon said, "Me too."



THE ELLINGTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE has many exciting events coming soon. The Christmas parade is set for Friday, Dec. 8. Magical Christmas will be the theme. The Chamber is also working on plans for an event to bring business to local shops and vendors for a day. Plans aren't finalized yet but it's in the works.



THE REYNOLDS COUNTY ROTARY CLUB hosted a Parade/Craft Fair/BBA/Auction on Saturday to raise funds to purchase Christmas gifts for kids in the community who may otherwise not receive any. They had a parade in the morning, and the auction, barbecue, and craft booths afterwards. Many of the auction items were donated by local businesses as a means of contributing to a good cause.



THE ELLINGTON METHODIST CHURCH is one of the oldest buildings in the community. This fall, it celebrated 101 years. As the Ellington community grew, M.L. Copeland saw the need for more than circuit riders and deeded land on the northwest corner of Cemetery Hill for a new Methodist church on Feb. 20, 1887. The town continued to grow, and about 26 years later, leaders of the local Methodist Church decided they needed a larger building. Around 1913, the church leaders were granted a deed – to the property on which the present church stands – from M.L. Copeland's daughter, Mrs. Carrie Buford, a life-long Methodist. The cornerstone for the new church was laid in 1913. The basement was finished first and used for meetings and dinners while the sanctuary was being completed. The new church building was dedicated on Sunday, Aug. 20, 1916.



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