

Executive Summary

Introduction - "Where Boone Tells its Story"

Since the opening of the Horn in the West outdoor drama over 60 years ago, **Daniel Boone Park** has been the place where Boone tells its story. The Horn in the West outdoor drama celebrates Daniel Boone, an American patriot that serves as the town's namesake. Over the decades, additional "stories" that reflect community values and priorities have been introduced. These range from the importance of native plants (at the Daniel Boone Native Gardens) to the renewed focus on local food (with the Watauga County Farmers' Market).

Visioning Phase Focus

During January and February 2012, the Marquis Halback design team has been interviewing and surveying a variety of stakeholders throughout Boone to guide the development of the program opportunities present for Daniel Boone Park. During the visioning phase, the team has been working on developing a suggested program, based on community feedback, analysis of case studies across North Carolina and the country, and professional expertise.

Primary Stakeholder Summaries

Southern Appalachian Historical Association (SAHA) / Horn in the West

Participants: Billy Ralph Winkler, Steve Canipe, Dave Davis, Terry Hamilton, Virginia Roseman

While SAHA's main focus at Daniel Boone Park is the Horn in the West outdoor drama, it was noted that coordination with cultural events at ASU, community festivals, and the Arts Council is key. The desire is that DBP is bigger than the Horn in the West: it will be the premier outdoor venue in Boone.

Program Needs and Recommendations:

• Improved amphitheater facilities, including seating, lighting, and sound systems that can be used by a wide range or theater, musical, film, and performing arts events.

- Catering kitchen for Horn-related dinner packages.
- Potential for a visitor and community **center** to orient patrons to the greater Boone area and to have other events such as Contra dances, community meetings, lectures, and so on.
- Improving **Hickory Ridge Homestead** to better interpret the High Country life of the 1770s.

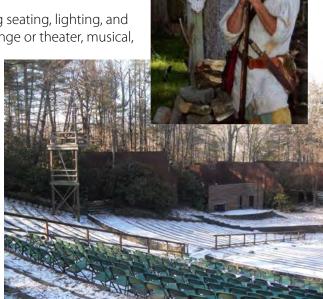


Photo from Hom in the West brochure. Postcard from Steve Canipe.





Daniel Boone Native Gardens

Participants: Rebecca Kaenzig (President), Bob Oelberg, Marilyn Wright

The Native Gardens are focused on minimizing the effects of the adjacent roadway and screening unwanted views from the garden. This will better enable the DBNG to focus limited resources on their mission: preservation, conservation, and education of native plants. The Gardens are also interested in providing improved facilities for weddings, memorial services, concerts, and children's programs. Currently, annual visitation (not including special events) is between 2,500 and 3,310.

Program Needs and Recommendations:

- **Restrooms, covered areas,** and **dressing areas** for wedding parties and special events.
- Improved garden spaces, including an area focused on homeowners and native plants.
- **Screening** (vegetation, fencing) of undesirable views.
- Although funding is limited, there is interest in connecting with the Strawberry Hill Arboretum.
- Ideally, the DBNG would like to see the **access road relocated** due to noise, visual impacts, and mud.

Watauga County Farmers' Market

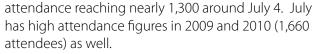
Participants: Bill Moretz (President), Susie Winters (Board Member PHARMN), Jim Hamilton (Director, Watauga Co. Extension)

The Farmers' Market has recently explored another piece of property on US321 for a permanent home, but the sale fell through, leaving Daniel Boone Park as the organization's top choice. The Saturday morning market is more highly attended than the Wednesday market. Attendance in 2011 averaged 752 (total of 18,052 in 2011), with



Image from Daniel Boone Native

Garden website.



HORN IN THE WEST DRIVE

Program Needs and Recommendations:

- Currently composed of 85 vendors, the Farmers' Market anticipates that DBP can support 105-110 vendors. Each vendor needs 12'x18'.
- Covered areas for visitors.
- A market store would allow year-round sales.
 This is a priority for the Farmers' Market and PHARMN.
- **Meeting space** for the Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) organization.
- A **commercial kitchen** would allow "value added" goods such as salsa to be prepared.



Image from Watauga County Farmer's Market





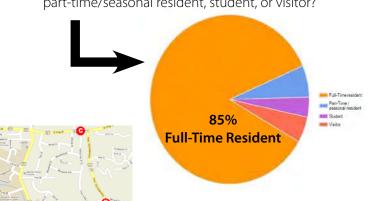


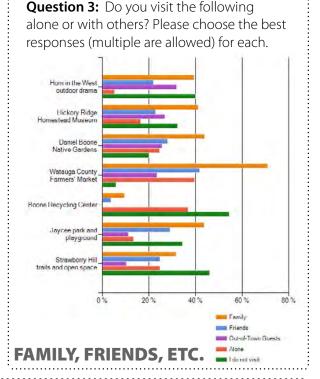
Survey Results

A web-based survey was also utilized to cast a wide net for respondents. As of noon on February 16, 2012, a total of **182 respondents** have completed the survey. Note that this is not meant to be a statistically accurate survey or sample; it only reflects the opinions of survey respondents.

RESPONDENT TYPE

Question 1: Please describe yourself: full-time resident, part-time/seasonal resident, student, or visitor?



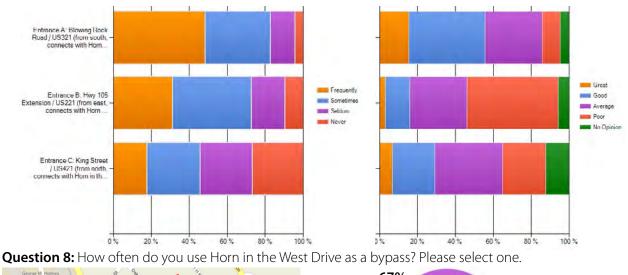


Question 6:

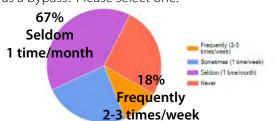
How often do you use the following entrances to Daniel Boone Park? Please select one response per entrance.

Please describe the perceived safety and visibility of the following access points (one response per entrance).

Question 7:







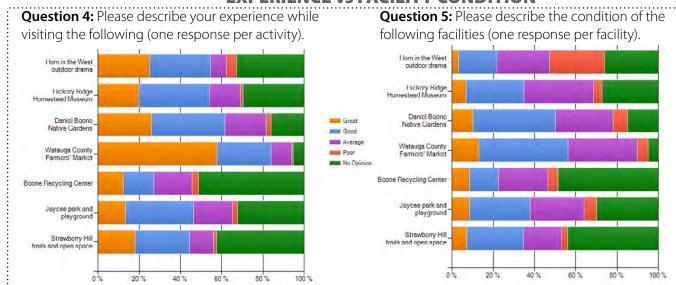


ACCESS & CIRCUL

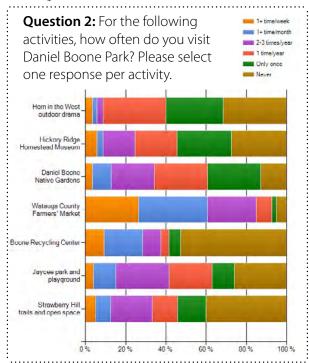




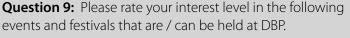
EXPERIENCE vs FACILITY CONDITION

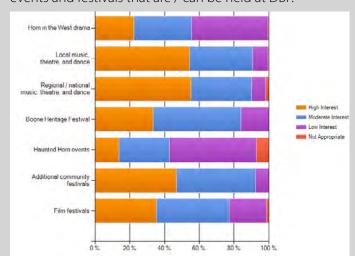


FREQUENCY OF VISITATION

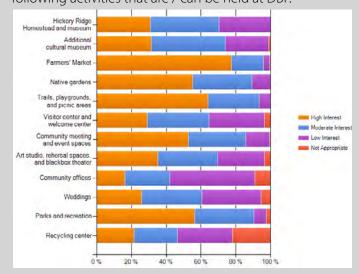


ACTIVITIES 8 **EVENTS** INTEREST IN





Question 10: Please rate your interest level in the following activities that are / can be held at DBP.



Note

Results are as of noon (12:00pm) on February 16, 2012, reflecting a total of 182 respondents have completed the survey. Note that this is not meant to be a statistically accurate survey or sample; it only reflects the opinions of survey respondents.







Survey Results: Quotations of Note

The web-based survey included a free-response section, which resulted in 85 respondents (45%) leaving their thoughts on Daniel Boone Park. The comments are wide-ranging and reflect interest in the community for the project. The quotations below are provided as a sampling of the responses.

I would love to see the Daniel Boone Gardens and Strawberry Hill enhanced...even expanded. This core green space within the center of town is a true asset. Daniel Boone Native Gardens is a regional gem and should be enhanced, publicized, and expanded if at all possible.

Would love to see area improved/expanded to allow additional space for parking and vendors for Farmers Market. Food is important for EVERYONE, which is why the market is the entity that brings the most visitors

Horn in the West/Daniel Boone Park is a central location with so much possibility. I hope any new design will focus more on year-round residents and not focus on tourists. They can join us doing our thing -- if we enjoy it, visitors probably will too...

Integrating the spaces in a more pleasing way, via trails & such is also a great idea. How about a link to the Greenway (such as a paved walk apart from the road), so that low-income families could have a safe way to walk to the farmer's market...

The recycling center needs to be moved away from the museum/arboretum/gardens, etc. **Nothing destroys the tranquility of** history, beauty, and nature as much as glass bottles repeatedly smashing into steel dumpsters with repeated shatters. Recycling should be housed down in the Boone Maintenance lots closer to 105.

I used to go to the playground a lot when my kids were young .. but they are now 27 and 29 so I don't go hardly ever, but I think **it's** real important for young families.

I think that the outdoor drama facilities should be made available for music events as it once was in the past. This would allow additional funds for the facility and could be used to upgrade the facilities. This area in the heart of Boone is an oasis and should be made available for the community.

Town maintenance Area: This area needs to go away and become a **creekside walking/children's exploration area**...Currently the public works building, planning offices, and maintenance areas are all eyesores and could be consolidated into one area that is not on a major roadway

I think the space there provides a special opportunity for the town of Boone - how many other towns are fortunate enough to have such a large greenspace right in town? Especially one with a large parking area and room to expand facilities. I agree that the space is under utilized, and would like to see it enhanced to focus on our local area - the history, the artists and craftspeople, and our current local culture.

Preliminary Conclusions of Stakeholder Meetings and Survey

There are a number of preliminary comments and conclusions that can be extracted from the survey and stakeholder meetings. The following are offered for discussion purposes:

- While a majority of respondents (57%) expressed moderate or high interest in the Horn in the West drama, it is noteworthy that 91% of respondents were moderately or highly interested in additional music, theatre, and dance events that can be held in addition to the Horn drama. SAHA expressed similar feedback during the initial stakeholder meeting.
- There is strong support for celebrating the unique Boone heritage through festivals and the Hickory Ridge Homestead. The interest in Hickory Ridge was 70%, but it is important to note 83% were interested in the Boone Heritage Festival (93% were interested in more community festivals).
- While 93% of respondents voiced moderate or high interest in trails, playgrounds, and picnic areas and 89% are interested



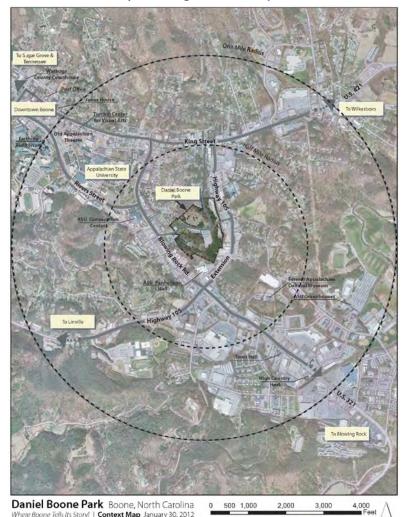
Image from www.booneheritage.blogspot.com/





in native gardens, 1 in 5 respondents (20%) do not visit the Daniel Boone Native Gardens and over 47% have never visited Strawberry Hill. The DBNG noted an interest in expanding their program and mission to include the Strawberry Hill Arboretum, which along with trails could help open this under-utilized open space at Daniel Boone Park.

- The Watauga Country Farmers' Market appears to be the most highly visited event at Daniel Boone Park, with 85% of respondents visiting at least 2-3 times per year. A full 96% of survey respondents are interested in improved farmers' market opportunities. The Farmers' Market visitation numbers are also of note: the largest ticket sale for the Horn in the West was 773 in 2010. The largest visitation that year for the Market was 1,660.
- On the opposite side, the Boone Recycling Center received strong negative reaction from a number of respondents. 54% do not use the facility, and numerous respondents noted the aesthetically displeasing appearance and noise interruptions of bottles being deposited during events in the Gardens, such as weddings, and during the Horn in the West drama. While the use may be appropriate to have on the site, relocation to another area is important to consider.
- A large majority of respondents (90%) noted moderate or high interest in parks and recreation, which shows the importance of keeping this use (and expanding it) at Daniel Boone Park. Only 63% rated the Jaycee's Park as being in good or great condition, demonstrating opportunities to improve the facilities for families and friends to enjoy.
- While largely an outdoor event area in its current state, many respondents noted an interest in building uses, such as a visitor center (65%) and community meeting and event space (85%).
- Given the central location of this park at the east entrance to Boone, there is a great opportunity to **orient visitors** to the High Country area as they are visiting the other events, such as the Farmers' Market or the Horn drama.
- Access to a site is important in any project. One of the two main entrances, the 105 Extension, is used sometime or frequently by 72% of respondents. Nearly half (47%) noted the poor safety and visibility of this access point.
- Most respondents (83%) noted that they access the site from US321 / **Blowing Rock Road. Nearly half** (48%) use this entrance frequently. Noted as a safer entrance, there may be opportunities to improve and build up this entrance as the main entry to Daniel Boone Park.
- Horn in the West Drive segments the property, as noted by the Daniel Boone Native Gardens, but **few use** this roadway as a cut-through (35% total, with only 11% using it frequently). It is important to rethink the need of this direct connection through the site.









Program Opportunities

Based on the community and stakeholder feedback, all of these program elements should ultimately relate to the central theme of the place where 'Boone Tells Its Story.' This park has three distinctive areas of focus that the consultant team recommends building a program to encompass:

- Organize: The park should serve as the central location for 'organizing the visitor experience' in the Boone area.
- Celebrate: This project can be the premier outdoor event space in Boone for celebrating the heritage, culture, and special events that make Boone unique.
- Sustain: Reflective of community priorities, this park should focus on sustainable practices.







Recommended ProgramThe recommended program for Daniel Boone Park is below for review and discussion.

Farmers' Market		
110 Vendor Stalls (12'x18') Circulation Space (20' walk / separation) Market Store & Commercial Kitchen (7,000 sf total; breakdown below)	23,760 sf 26,400 sf	
Kitchen Meeting / Classroom Space / Offices Restrooms	5,000 sf 1,200 sf 800 sf	
Visitor Orientation & Community Center		
Lobby / Orientation Space Cultural Exhibit / Gallery Rehearsal & Artisan Spaces Banquet / Event / Meeting Community Office / Administration / Mechanical, Electrical Restrooms Circulation / Miscellaneous	800 sf 1,800 sf 1,500 sf 5,000 sf 1,800 sf 1,200 sf 2,400 sf	
Hickory Ridge Homestead		1.25 acres
Tatum House (ca. 1780) Frazier Cabin (ca. 1850) WPA Cabin (ca. 1935) Coffey House (ca. 1875) Blacksmith Shop Black Horse Tavern Outdoor Classroom, Demonstration Areas, Open Space / Buffer	984 sf 1,006 sf 313 sf 623 sf 144 sf 367 sf	
Horn in the West / Amphitheater		3.2 acres
Seating Bowl (1,640 fixed seats) Circulation / Ramped Areas Restroom Buildings Ticket Office Building Concessions Building Ticket Control / Plaza Outdoor Pre-Event Space	16,000 sf 5,000 sf 1,100 sf 575 sf 800 sf	
Back of House Men's and Women's Dressing Laundry / Storage Receiving / Circulation	4,500 sf	
Stage Open Space / Buffer	4,000 sf	
Daniel Boone Native Gardens		1.6 acres
Ticket Pavilion Maintenance / Garden Shed Restroom / Dressing Restroom / Strawberry Hill Greenhouse Open Space / Buffer	200 sf 200 sf 500 sf 320 sf	
Strawberry Hill Arboretum		9.4 acres
Trails and Greenspace		
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Resources List

Visitor Orientation Centers

- 1. Blue Ridge Parkway Visitor Center. Asheville, NC. This is a LEED certified building that features a green roof, a 22-foot-high interactive map of the parkway and indoor art/craft exhibit space. http://www.blueridgeheritage.com/attractions-destinations/blue-ridge-parkway-visitor-center
- Asheville Convention and Visitors Bureau. Asheville, NC. This is the one-stop location for Asheville tourism, convention and event planning. http://www.exploreasheville.com/
- North Carolina Department of Transportation Northwest North Carolina Welcome Center. Wilkesboro, NC. This relatively new building offers traditional welcome center and a rest stop with LEED certified building and grounds. http://www.nwncvisitorcenter.com/About.html
- 4. Oconaluftee Visitor Center. Cherokee, NC. Opened in April of 2011, this newest visitor center for the Smokey Mountains National Park is a LEED certified building situated among historic cabins and mills, includes interpretive exhibits of the history and culture of the area. http://www.nps.gov/grsm/planyourvisit/visitorcenters.htm
- Johnson County Welcome Center. Mountain City, TN. This "log cabin" style visitor center includes a museum and outdoor picnic facilities. http://www.tnvacation.com/vendors/johnson_county_welcome_center_museum/

Farmer's Markets/Craft Markets

Blacksburg, VA recently upgraded its facility with a market structure that incorporates a rooftop photovoltaic system.



http://www.blacksburgfarmersmarket.com/learn/e ating-local

- 2. The French Market in New Orleans, LA. A tourist destination with historical exhibits and a permanent outdoor market structure. (Image on left.) http://www.frenchmarket.org/
- 3. Chestnut Square in McKinney, TX combines a living history museum with a farmer's market. http://www.chestnutsquare.org/







Grove Arcade Portico Market. Asheville, NC. Located in downtown Asheville, this attractive infrastructure provides a permanent outdoor market for craft and food vendors. (Image on right).

http://www.grovearcade.com/portico-market/

Green City Market. Chicago, IL. The interest here is not in the physical infrastructure as much as the programming: an active group that conducts field trips,



tastings, chef challenges and other programs to connect farmers to buyers. http://www.greencitymarket.org/programs/

Outdoor Amphitheaters

- 1. Wolf Trap in Vienna, VA is a venue for national performances and includes a 6,800-seat indoor/outdoor theater, a smaller indoor theater, a restaurant, wedding facilities and an education center. It is managed as a partnership between The National Park Service and the Wolf Trap Foundation.
 - http://www.wolftrap.org/Learn About Wolf Trap.aspx
- St. Augustine Amphitheater, St. Augustine, FL. A similar venue to the possible vision of a space that provides a



first-class amphitheater with community space and a farmer's market.

http://www.staugamphitheatre.com/

3. Uptown Amphitheater. Charlotte, NC. A new 5,000-seat outdoor amphitheater at Charlotte's Music Factory. The concession has a Bourbon Street (New Orleans) theme.

http://musicfactoryclt.wordpress.com/

4. Mud Island Park. Memphis, TN.

This park combines a visitor center, a 5,000-seat amphitheater, a river walk and indoor/outdoor exhibits

about the Mississippi River. (image on left). http://www.mudisland.com/default.aspx

The Cuthbert Amphitheater. Eugene, OR. A 5,000-seat outdoor facility that is in proximity to the University of Oregon. The theater attracts regional and national shows. http://thecuthbert.com/









6. Scott Arboretum, Swarthmore, PA. Located on the campus of Swarthmore College this theater is an example of an outdoor theater in a forest (image on left). The amphitheater is located in an arboretum owned by the college. http://www.scottarboretum.org/

Outdoor Dramas

- 1. Institute of Outdoor Dramas. Greenville, NC. Provides training, research and advisory programs to promote outdoor dramas throughout the U.S. http://outdoordrama.unc.edu/
- "Unto These Hills". Cherokee, NC. The second oldest outdoor drama in the U.S. http://www.cherokeenc.com/index.php?page=14
- "The Lost Colony". Manteo, NC. The oldest continuous outdoor drama in the U.S. This facility is paired with the Elizabethan Gardens, as sister garden to the Daniel Boone Native Gardens. http://thelostcolony.org/
- Mountain Play Association. Millville, CA. The mountain setting is comparable to Boone. The theater runs several plays throughout the year. http://new.mountainplay.org/tickets.html
- Commonwealth Shakespeare Company, Boston, MA. Each year the festival constructs a temporary stage on Boston Common for the festival. http://www.commshakes.org/

Native/Botanical Gardens

- Elizabethan Gardens in Manteo, NC. Located along the Outer Banks of North Carolina, the gardens provide several great wedding venues and are located on the same grounds as the outdoor drama "The Lost Colony". http://elizabethangardens.org/
- North Carolina Arboretum. Asheville, NC. An affiliate of the University of North Carolina, the arboretum has an extensive education and outreach program that is geared toward sustainability and statewide economic development issues. http://www.ncarboretum.org







- Garden Clubs of North Carolina. The cooperative organization to the Daniel Boone Native Gardens. http://www.gardenclubofnc.org/
- NC Botanical Gardens. Chapel Hill, NC. This garden is operated by University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. The garden combines wedding and event space with educational opportunities as well as botanical garden and grounds with native ecosystems. http://ncbg.unc.edu/
- 5. Matthaei Botanical Garden and Nichols Arboretum. Ann Arbor, MI. Two gardens operated under one umbrella through the University of Michigan. Programming includes sustainable gardening, an interpretive ethnobotanical trail, native ecosystem management as well as formal gardens and greenhouses. Shakespeare is performed each summer in the arboretum. http://www.lsa.umich.edu/mbg/

Sustainability

- LEED (US Green Building Council). The industry standard rating system for sustainable architecture. http://www.usgbc.org/
- Sustainable Sites Initiative. A program established by the American Society of Landscape Architects to provide a comprehensive rating system for sustainable land development. http://www.asla.org
- Centre for Alternative Technology in Wales. An example of a n education, information center for sustainability education combined with a visitor center. http://content.cat.org.uk/index.php/about-cat-what-do-we-do









Survey Free Responses

1	I would love to see the Daniel Boone Gardens and Strawberry Hill enhancedeven expanded. This core green space within the center of town is a true asset. Daniel Boone Native Gardens is a regional gem and should be enhanced, publicized, and expanded if at all possible. Gardens are often a tourist destination as well as being of untold value to the local community. The Gardens are in much better shape than they were in the past. I hope they will continue to be improved and maintained. I like the idea of a Visitor Center in conjunction with the facilities at the Daniel Boone Park. Thanks for giving the community an opportunity to respond to this important process.	Feb 14, 2012 9:03 PM
2	Would love to see area improved/expanded to allow additional space for parking and vendors for Farmers Market. Food is important for EVERYONE, which is why the market is the entity that brings the most visitors. I think improving the market would improve opportunities for the ENTIRE space and other activities there. Parking is a big issue and while some would object, the extremely underutilized Strawberry Hill area could be re-tasked and developed into a parking deck for use by ASU, market customers, and anyone using the area. I know, I know, parking decks are monstrous ugly things, but that's why we have creative and innovative folks involved in this process, right??!!. It can work. I look forward to seeing it happen!!!	Feb 14, 2012 2:38 PM
3	Horn in the West/Daniel Boone Park is a central location with so much possibility. I hope any new design will focus more on year-round residents and not focus on tourists. They can join us doing our thing if we enjoy it, visitors probably will too, and it will be a more "authentic" experience for them. But not vice versa. Also: please try to incorporate natural processes wherever possible (shouldn't there be a stream coming downhill somewhere on the site?) and limit the amount of wattage necessary to support the activities your design proposes.	Feb 14, 2012 12:08 PM
4	Improve the park for kids- perhaps a theme to the playground equipment, such as nature, gardening or something else environmentally minded Community garden spots	Feb 14, 2012 11:23 AM
5	Boone needs to work on the preservation of open space, so I wouldn't want to see any trees go down so that we could have community offices there. Integrating the spaces in a more pleasing way, via trails & such is also a great idea. How about a link to the Greenway (such as a paved walk apart from the road), so that low-income families could have a safe way to walk to the farmer's market (many live too far to walk, and don't get me started on the lack of pedestrian-friendly walking and biking spaces in Boone!)? The Horn in the West is outdated, and the facility looks hazardous and forgotten. What about a new drama? What about incorporating a kids' theater, too? Productions for kids that don't have guns would be an asset. Look at the Barter Theater offerings, for example. There needs to be more stuff for kids to do. I think the idea of an outdoor drama space is fantastic and should be preserved, but let's add some class. All the tourist attractions around here are stuck in another era. Why reinforce the western narrative of frontier nationalism/ individualism at a time when we need to be working toward supporting communities and taking care of one another? Making a left turn from Hwy 105 is too dangerous. I say close roads and give people more outdoor spaces to walk and play and be. Why not a parking deck somewhere close by, and then let this whole space be a walking green space with lots of trees and trails. The town is losing so much green space	Feb 14, 2012 8:36 AM





	every day.	
6	improve the bathrooms for the market etc. Keep all the trees for the great bird watching and picnicing. Perfect for the market.	Feb 13, 2012 11:32
7	The recycling center needs to be moved away from the museum/arboretum/gardens, etc. Nothing destroys the tranquility of history, beauty, and nature as much as glass bottles repeatedly smashing into steel dumpsters with repeated shatters. Receycling should be housed down in the Boone Maintenance lots closer to 105. The Farmers Market is an excellent additional part of the Horn/DB Park property.	Feb 13, 2012 10:32
8	This could be a great community facility with the proper design. The gardens could be beautiful, if cleaned up and improved. The layout is good, but needs more maintenance.	Feb 13, 2012 6:04 A
9	I used to go tot he playground a lot when my kids were young but they are now 27 adn 29 so I don't go hardly ever, but I think its real important for young families. Please kep the Farmers market and recycling there I love the gardens adn should go more often.	Feb 13, 2012 5:01 A
10	I have been involved with Horn in the West and especially Hickory Ridge Living History museum for over 20 years. I think that the out door drama facilities should be made available for music events as it once was in the past. This would allow additional funds for the facility and could be used to upgrade the facilities. This area in the heart of Boone is an oasis and should be made available for the community.	Feb 11, 2012 4:38 F
11	The "recycling center" is a total DISASTER! The ugly bins are always overflowing. Even if they were emptied frequently, the row of bins is very unsightly. WHY would anyone choose to locate this mess on the very doorstep of our beautiful Daniel Boone Native Gardens?? The noise of crashing glass and cans can be heard throughout the Gardens. People choose (and PAY) to have their weddings at the Gardens. When the guests arrive, the first thing they see is the unsightly row of overflowing bins. During the ceremony the sound of breaking beer bottles drowns out the vows. Or suppose you just want to go for a peaceful walk in a beautiful place? The local Audubon chapter is planning a series of bird walks there, which could attract people from outside the immediate area (tourists, in other words). Once they see and hear the "recycling," will they want to return? And what about the people who come to see the Gardens for their own beauty, and to study the native plants? The "recycling center" is a big turnoff. Plus, since people often disregard the guidelines for recycling materials, there is often stuff thrown into or next to the bins which could only be described as garbage. This in turn attracts scavengers such as feral cats, which prey on birds and other native wildlife. PLEASE relocate or get rid of the dreadful recycling center!! I would also suggest some kind of attractive privacy fencing for the Town of Boone maintenance yards	Feb 11, 2012 4:21 F
12	I think the space there provides a special opportunity for the town of Boone - how many other towns are fortunate enough to have such a large greenspace right in town? Especially one with a large parking area and room to expand facilities. I agree that the space is underutilized, and would like to see it	Feb 11, 2012 3:12 F





Page 1	2, Q11. Please provide any additional comments. Please press DONE to submit the put.	e survey. Thank you for
	enhanced to focus on our local area - the history, the artists and craftspeople, and our current local culture. I am reminded of the possibilities presented NY the Museum of the Adirondacks in Blue Mtn Lake, NY - it is a fabulous center that really shows the best of the region, it's cultural and natural history, and the current lifestyle and culture of the area. We have nothing like it anywhere close to Boone, but we could truly use something like that here. Thank you for taking time to gather local opinions as you proceed with this plan.	
13	As a member of the Blue Ridge Garden Club I am most supportive of anything, anything that can be done to help the Daniel Boone Native Gardens. It is the loveliest sight in Boone and yet it has fallen in disrepair over the years. Please, please support the garden with any help in any way you can. It is an oasis of calm in an increasingly busy town. Our club is very active in the garden but we cannot do it alone.	Feb 10, 2012 1:02 PM
14	The town of Boone needs to realize that with all of the regulations that have been set into motion there is very little that can be done to improve on economic development in any of the areas on this survey. No one is interested in trying to create jobs, investing or expanding in such an unfriendly business environment like has been created over the last few years. Everything withing the corporate city limits will cease to exist or fail to grow any at all.	Feb 10, 2012 11:55 AM
15	I love the infrastructure present for the Farmer's Market. It is shaded and appropriate for selling produce that should not be in direct sunlight, like lettuces. I am a student but also worked at the market as a farm intern. The Market was my FAVORITE part of the job. It established my position in the community and the committment I have to the Boone area. I would love to see the ampitheatre used more often and for more events not centered around tourism. Rather, it could be a place where the community meets for collaborative projects and events to share wih each other what we care about and enojy for recreation.	Feb 9, 2012 7:26 PM
16	this is a great space in the center of Boone without any commercial aspect. I'd like to see it kept that way. It certainly should not be just an ASU parking spot.	Feb 9, 2012 7:10 PM
17	Daniel Boone Native Gardens and Strawberry Hill are a great asset to have in the midst of the Town of Boone. It's too bad Boone doesn't have more 'green' spaces. The recycling area near the Daniel Boone Native Gardens is totally inappropriate for the park-like atmosphere of the area.	Feb 9, 2012 2:26 PM
18	Access is the biggest problem. The way it is set up, makes it appear as an entrance to a neighborhood from the Highways, instead of a park/public area. Mind you, it is a neighborhood, but regardless, it should not feel like one from the highway until you actually enter the neighborhood. This park feels more like an neighborhood park instead of a city meeting area / touristy place. A park that would function more like that would be situated better in downtown Boone.	Feb 9, 2012 1:18 PM
19	I love the Farmer's Market, and the gardens are nice when I can get there during operating hours. I'd love to see some events and facilities at this park that actually appeal to locals rather than tourists! Music, dance, art and craft classes/fairs would be grand. Boone also really needs a free/low-cost, mid-sized public meeting space other than the community room at the library which is great but always booked. This park is centrally-located with ample parking, so if	Feb 9, 2012 1:02 PM





	put.	
	building a meeting facility somewhere on this property is an option, that would be wonderful. It would be nice if this area was a little safer for bicycles (add speed humps, bike lanes, etc.). It's bikeable from downtown, which is awesome, but the through-traffic goes too fast for it too be safe).	
20	I like the green space these areas provide and the activities they do provide. Thank you.	Feb 9, 2012 12:46 Pl
21	This area is about the only Green space left in Boone and needs to be utilized for all cultural and Heritage events. A community place to be used all seasons.	Feb 9, 2012 12:13 P
22	To me, it is absolutely crazy that the gorgeous outdoor theater space is not used more for local, regional, national musical acts. It could be tied to ASU Student Programs, An Appalachian Summer, etc., etc. It is a great location that in my mind is completely under-utilized. The fact that Horn in the West has that facility completely booked all summer does not work in my mind. It does not seem like Horn in The West is drawing that many people in every single night to warrant almost a compete monopoly on that space. If they had it for fewer nights a week, it would benefit them, in my opinion, by channeling more people on fewer dates. I think Strawberry Hill is also completely under-utilized. Trails, park, picnic shelters, etc. would add a lot to that space. A Farmer's Market on the strip on 321 in front of K Mart is an absolute joke in my opinion. I would much rather just shop at Earth Fare instead. I won't spend my precious Sat. mornings in the K Mart parking lot. Part of the beauty of the Farmer's Market is the quite setting, a place to stroll (gardens, Hickory Ridge, etc.) It is a part of the overall experience. The play ground equipment at the Jaycee playground is actually dangerous in my opinion. How about something really cool like a Beanstalk Journey oriented playground structure instead I am glad you are doing this work. Thanks for your effort.	Feb 9, 2012 11:10 A
23	As State Bird & Butterfly Chairman for the Garden Club of N.C., I find this area, especially the gardens as such a wonderful place to view birds & butterflies. This would be a great location (Daniel Boone Native Gardens) to develop a learning center for children to learn about all the wildlife and the wildflowers here in Boone. A great place for bird walks for people of all ages. This area should be improved to meet the standards of the treasure that we have here in this specific place for residents and visitors alike to enjoy.	Feb 9, 2012 11:06 A
24	I DO NOT want Strawberry Hill to be used for anything other than leaving it alone as a place to go birding right in the middle of Boone. The High Country Audubon Society has just discovered that it was a great place to bird in cooperation with the Daniel Boone Gardens and I do not want that to be taken away, just as we are finding out what great birds can be seen there, to help bring awareness of birds and preserving bird habitat! Please do not change Strawberry Hill!!!	Feb 9, 2012 11:03 A
		Ech 0, 2012 10:10 A
25	Thank you for taking the time to ask and review the responses.	Feb 9, 2012 10:10 A
25 26	Thank you for taking the time to ask and review the responses. This is a great opportunity, there's a lot of space and probably too many ides, and not enough money. But this space needs to be a community space, not just an ASU parking lot. Please go forward with improving this area. Boone needs it.	Feb 9, 2012 9:51 AM





	be a huge resource to Boone and the mountains.	
28	Thank you for this survey. I would like to see the town of Boone maintenance areas relocated to elsewhere. They are not appropriate in this area. I also think a skateboard park would be a great addition. I love the Native Gardensit's one of two in the whole state! I would like to see "Horn in the West" area re-vamped into a more state-of-the-art outdoor arena to be used for concerts, etc.	Feb 9, 2012 7:31 AM
29	the native gardens are a good spot for birding and other wildlife veiwing. i would like to this area protected and even expanded/enhanced to make the spot more wildlife-friendly. thanks.	Feb 9, 2012 6:30 AM
30	having a true cultural museum and vistors center would further expand the life of this area before app state can take it over.	Feb 9, 2012 3:33 AM
31	Keeping and expanding the gardens and trails are important to the environmental health of Boone and the surrounding area.	Feb 9, 2012 3:16 AM
32	Please protect the Native Gardens (and maybe even expand it), protect the existing woods around Hickory Ridge and Horn in the West, and make Strawberry Hill more wildlife friendly (it's a fairly sterile open park right now).	Feb 9, 2012 3:08 AM
33	I didn't know about strawberry hill and the trails there. There needs to be better information available. I live in the county but, not in Boone and I value the multipurpose use for the community, especially the cultural. I'll have to check out the trails.	Feb 8, 2012 11:49 P
34	I think this area is a highly under utilized area. I look forward to seeing what is implemented in the area.	Feb 8, 2012 8:30 PM
35	Until last year I lived only two miles from the area. Then moved out into the county. Have not been as involved in city often, except for the Farmers Market.	Feb 8, 2012 8:29 PM
36	The gardens, woods surrounding Horn in the West, and Strawberry Hill are great places for observing wildlife, particularly birds, butterflies, dragonflies. My interests lie in protecting the Native Gardens and the woods around Hickory Ridge and Horn in the West. Birding is good on Strawberry Hill but could be better if it got a little more attention i.e. plantings, trails, trees.	Feb 8, 2012 7:59 PM
37	Would like to see the native gardens expanded and improved for wildlife and birding	Feb 8, 2012 7:43 PM
38	The Native Gardens are a great place to take a quiet walk and a very good birding site. I volunteer with the local Audubon chapter (High Country Audubon Society) and we are planning monthly guided bird walks at the Garden this spring, summer and fall. I'm concerned that development of Boone Park could impact the trees and other natural resources found on site. It would be great if the redevelopment plan took bird and wildlife habitat into consideration. If that Native Gardens could be expanded, or Strawberry Hill made more wildlife friendly, that would be terrific. I never knew there were trails on Strawberry Hill.	Feb 8, 2012 7:09 PM





39	I feel the "Farmer's Market" should be spending some of their own money at this facility or they should move; as they have been threatening to for several years. Otherwise, they should show a little gratitude for the facility and people that have bent over backwards for them for years! I also feel this survey is a great idea and opportunity. I feel this facility has long been ignored and is just now getting some very well deserved attention. There should be an apartment building above the lower parking lot for Horn in the West employees during the summer and students during the school year. The SAHA offices should be taken down and ASU should split the cost of building a new office/Cultural Museum with SAHA. The old Powderhorn theater should be taken down and a new building built with a basement. Thank you	Feb 8, 2012 6:33 PM
40	The farmers market is by far the biggest draw to this site & should be developed & enhanced, Local foods & sustainability issues are more important to our community than an outdated 50's-style drama in my opinion with absolutely no offense intended- it is simply more important to both tourists & locals.	Feb 8, 2012 4:45 PM
41	Why are the, restrooms so bad, they are not useable sometimes. Also move the recycling center. it looks bad. We love thtr the Farmers' Market is staying. The Horn is a great green area in Boone.	Feb 8, 2012 2:38 PM
42	My parents have been instrunmental in the building and developent on the Horn and the Garden. Their efforts and those of countless others have provided something for all of Boone to be proud of. I'm interested in any futher plans to develope and improve upon these properties. Thank you, Nancy G. Williams	Feb 8, 2012 12:37 P
43	The idea of a location to view outside movies with friends is exciting and will benefit our community immensely. It is very needed for a community with very limited options for entertainment. We wish this would happen. The recycling center needs to be removed. It is not an appropriate site and significantly undermines the cultural potential of this resource. Thanks for everyone who is working to make this happen!	Feb 8, 2012 9:26 AM
44	I have lived here since 2002 and I honestly did not realize there was a "strawberry hill" area with trails and pincnic-ing. I guess that I was I am looking at before I turn right at the jaycee park to head towards the farmers market parking lot. I would love to see this all more developed and become more popular and well known.	Feb 8, 2012 6:42 AM
45	This is my second favorite playground in town - there's absolutely nothing I'd change about it.	Feb 8, 2012 6:34 Al
46	it will ruin the park if you try to clutter it up with too many things. Boone should not enter into long term leases with others. That just prevents town officials from responding to changing interests in the community.	Feb 8, 2012 5:12 AM
47	I think more creative use can be made of the Strawberry Hill area.	Feb 7, 2012 2:36 PM
48	I would like to see the recycling center moved somewhere else as it is a eye sore for the park/Horn/weddings/and Farmers Market. The recycling center doesn't fit in at all and takes up valuable parking and adds alot of trash and noise polution. Also, if the TOB has already used the parking lot for revenue from ASU	Feb 7, 2012 1:00 PM





Page 12 your in	2, Q11. Please provide any additional comments. Please press DONE to submit the out.	survey. Thank you for
	againgood job, if not, this should take place instead of letting the parking spaces go to waste during the school year. Boone's revenue source is shrinking as it is and giving up the lease to satisy the Market was not a smart move.	
49	I could envision this area as a showcase for how the High Country is leading the way in the local food movement, the push for native landscaping and use of native plants in our everyday lives. It could be a learning center, teaching folks how to live sustainably on this unbelieveably rich land we're fortunate to live on. It could be the centerpiece of the entire sustainable living movement in the western mountains.	Feb 7, 2012 12:36 PM
50	Town of Boone and Watauga County should each submit 1 million dollar challenge grants. Boone TDA should do likewise to jump start the fund raising, once a comprehensive plan is in place. This could become the "Central Park" of Boone if done right. Use by locals and tourists would be overwhelming. If we want the drama to be better attended, sponsor a monetary contest for playwrights nationally to write a new play. The old one is boooorrrrrrrinng!	Feb 7, 2012 12:14 PM
51	Revitalization of the DB Park is essential to all the organizations that use the facility. The park is a underutilized gem in the heart of Boone. I think the pipe yard and the recycling facility should be moved someplace else.	Feb 7, 2012 10:48 AM
52	Would love to see some updated/more modern playground equipment at Jaycee park and would like to learn more about the trailsalways looking for good safe trails to walk with family. HITW theater is desperate for repairsa valuable attractionhope that the money allotted for this project will be generous and plenty.	Feb 7, 2012 10:20 AM
53	I finally attended the "Horn" production and was very disappointed at most of the performances and our lack of ability to hear much of the dialogue. It seems that the only thing easy to hear was all the shooting that tended to completely drown out the voices so that even straining to hear and understand didn't help. Surely with all the high tech available, something could be done to amplify the voices!	Feb 7, 2012 10:06 AM
54	I think the community needs to get behind this project and support it fully.	Feb 7, 2012 9:28 AM
55	This would be a great location to consolidate various activities like Parks and Rec, Visitors Center etc. I had no idea there were any trails located currently and I also had no idea that there was a playground there. There should be a centralized web-based listing of all city/county recreational areas. There just seems to be too many disassociated avenues to get information needed and nothing is linked to the other.	Feb 7, 2012 9:04 AM
56	Daniel Boone Native Gardens - a unique display of mountain plants. Always take my visitors to the gardens. Could use a privacy wall to block the sound from streets. The recycle noise is really bad. Recently attended bird walk on Strawberry Hill - wow - what a treasure!	Feb 7, 2012 8:34 AM
57	thanks for taking the time to look at options for this area. It is great land, and very convenient - there is a lot more that could be done with it than what is done currently. It would be great to add to the playground area for local children - there is really nowhere to go for that type of activity other than Valle Crucis park	Feb 7, 2012 8:31 AM





	or Blowing Rock park. And it would be nice to have an alternative to King St for community events.	
58	I live on Blanwood Dr. I would like for Blanwood Dr. to have speed bumps to reduce traffic speed as a cut-through. I would also like better permanant facilities for the Farmer's Market. Losing the recycling center would not be a tragic loss although it is nice to have one so close. I would prefer if the city invested some resources into figuring out the best traffic flow for the neighborhood. The ornithologist at ASU has on several occassions been impressed with the diversity of species located in this small area within the city. The town should do more to protect this forest, including protecting from development the rest of the forested area on Strawberry Hill. I also believe that Traffic should not be allowed to pass through the area Horn In The West. It should stop at the corner by the native plant garden and stop at Horn Dr. That would allow for greater area for the Farmer's Market to expand and for the area to have both ample parking and open space for structures associated with the Market. The Winkler's have provided an incredible resource for the community and it needs to be conserved. The Farmer's Market will likely continue to expand and draw interest and the location is ideal as being close to town, campus and in a central location. The quality and strength of the local food economy in our area should be supported. Thanks for taking my comments into consideration.	Feb 7, 2012 7:35 AM
59	Would love to see additional exhibits and entertainment at this beautiful space- would like to see expanded garbage dumpster at the recycling center	Feb 7, 2012 7:01 AM
60	A sledding hill would be a great community asset	Feb 7, 2012 7:00 AM
61	I was very disappointed when the Watauga County Farmers Market met such resistance to the continued use of the park. It really dampened my enthusiasm for the area, and once the Farmer's Market moves to its new location, I doubt I'll be back. I liked the tradition of the Market being held there, but it became embarrasingly obvious that those in control were less interested in supporting local farmers/shoppers and more interested in making as much money as possible. I understand the need to fund your business, but I also feel there is no need for a community to support a business entity that feels no need to support its community.	Feb 7, 2012 6:58 AM
62	I would love to see the park and playground expanded. I think it is essential that we keep some kind of theatre in Boone and help it grow!!!	Feb 7, 2012 6:57 AM
63	I would take my children to the playground more if the equipment was better and there was more to do. the picnic tables are great and the field is nice to throw a ball or frisbee in. love that there are bathrooms also. horn in the west is a great space and we always go to the fall festival there. please keep it around and have more music festivals, family-type events there.	Feb 7, 2012 6:56 AM
64	I am confused. Is the Watauga Farmer's Market going to be at Daniel Boone Park or KMart's parking lot for 2012's season? This survey makes it seem like the market will remain at Daniel Boone Park, but the last news article I read stated that it has moved to KMart's parking lot.	Feb 7, 2012 6:34 AM





Page 13	2, Q11. Please provide any additional comments. Please press DONE to submit the	survey. Thank you for
your in		survey. Thank you for
65	I feel the DBP has extreme potential! The Farmer's Market is absolutely GREAT. The Native Gardens are a growing treasure and the Strawberry Hill trail(s) is the BEST dog-walking/exercise loop in Boone. I think Horn in the West is a hoot and bring and/or direct visitors there. The kids park and shelter have been used by me and my family a lot over the years. The recycling center is an unsightly mess sometimes - can it be relocated? Re-establishing the Cultural Museum in the vicinity sounds terrific, but somehow without disturbing everything else.	Feb 7, 2012 6:05 AM
66	A disc golf course would be a great addition to the park or somewhere else in Boone.	Feb 6, 2012 9:14 AM
67	Playground area: This is my family's main use. The park is accessible for those who live in town and encouraging family usage of this park would help alleviate the overcrowded and poorly drained Tot-Lot and the additional 321 traffic at the Tot-Lot location. The Daniel Boone park, picnic shelter, and playground features could easily be adjusted to make it a stronger feature. One simple idea would be to consolidate the existing equipment into one area with a more organic layout (as opposed to linear or grid like) above the shelter. (Where the swings and sandbox are now.) This would provide a central hub for parents to watch their kids without chasing them all over the park. The space freed up by moving the monkey bars, balance beam, and slide could be regraded into a small field for pickup soccer, football, etc games. Town maintenance Area: This area needs to go away and become a creekside walking/ children's exploration area. This is part of my overall desire to see the town's maintenance areas hidden from view. Currently the public works building, planning offices, and maintenance areas are all eyesores and could be consolidated into one area that is not on a major roadway. (TT electronics would be an example of a location that would have room for a consolidated public works facility.) Funds could be raised by selling the current public works site and planning and inspections. Surrounding hillsides and pedestrian access: Along with the creek side walking and children's exploration area I would like to see numerous pedestrian access trails ring the Daniel Boone site. Trails could be brought in from the 105/321 intersection and other directions to promote pedestrian access and walking. Glad to see that we are taking a proactive approach. This piece of property is such an asset but it underutilized. Good luck and thanks for all your workAdrian	Feb 6, 2012 8:51 AM
68	The recycling center detracts from the area. Boone residents have other options. Town of Boone is wasting money on this. Since it is unmanned, people can throw anything in the dumpsters, and put stuff on the ground when dumpsters are full. Development at the site should not result in increased cost to the Town (capital expense, maintenance, staffing).	Feb 6, 2012 6:51 AM
69	My family and I have been a resident of the Horn in the West neighborhood for five years, residing on Blanwood Dr. We enjoy the neighborhood VERY much, especially having the ability to walk to the park, the gardens, and the farmer's market. We use these facilities almost every single day on warm days. I think that the amphitheater is so nice and has so much potential for outdoor shows besides just the Horn in the West drama, which is fun for residents to do once but not much more. During the summer I think it would be nice to have something like "Concerts on the Lawn" at the amphitheater, where community members could bring a picnic or snacks and hear a variety of music, similar to what happens at the Jones House or Valle Crucis Park. Thank you for the	Feb 6, 2012 5:52 AM





	opportunity to contribute to the planning of this treasured park!	
70	Horn in the west is a high country treasure that should never be allowed to close. The daniel Boone native gardens is a waste of space that could be used in a more friendly manner.	Feb 5, 2012 1:54 PM
71	I love the Gardens! It's a truly beautiful place!	Feb 5, 2012 11:35 A
72	My visit was long, long ago.	Feb 4, 2012 9:11 PM
73	Parking is very difficult! Especially on Market days.	Feb 4, 2012 2:49 PM
74	I believe the cultural arts committee suggested by Rennie Brantz in the Watauga Democrat is a time that has come. Executive leadership of an umbrella agency will ensure more collaboration within the community. Visitors are always surprised with the jewel under the stars, the ability to step back in time at Hickory Ridge. Though I answered I have not been to the Jaycee Park I marvel each time I pass the park and see young families taking full advantage of its facilities. Signage is desperately needed on the main roads and on the grounds of Horn in the West and Hickory Ridge. There is great potential for craft persons to sell their goods year round in a central building. The Powderhorn Productions are a great opportunity for students who come from across the country during the Horn season to utilize their directing, producing, and acting skills. Greater awareness of these free, late evening performances Kudos to DB Gardens to host the Saturday morning Children's Theatre. HITW is a tourist destination, for many multiple years, a tradition. Think of the possibilites with a grand dame of an amphitheatre.	Feb 4, 2012 2:29 PM
75	Thanks for taking community input through this survey!	Feb 4, 2012 7:13 AM
76	Thanks for all the work you're doing on this!	Feb 4, 2012 6:22 AM
77	The web site is terrible. To dark, can not read the lettering., poor lay out	Feb 3, 2012 3:11 PM
78	The bathroom facilities at Horn in the West/Farmer's Market are terrible!!!!!	Feb 3, 2012 1:59 PM
79	The town simply does not provide enough (any?) large-scale events, and the Horn in the West amphitheater needs to be used more frequently, including music events with controlled sales of beer and wine. The Horn in the West drama is valuable and should be continued but frankly does not appeal to all audiences. Parking is a major issue for the farmers' market and potential large-scale events; some kind of satellite parking and shuttle system should be developed.	Feb 3, 2012 9:49 Al
80	This is Sam Calhoun, local journalist and creator of Daniel Boone Days. The arrival of this survey was a welcome surprise, especially because my former festival was meant to celebrate and spotlight Daniel Boone Park/Horn in the West, a venue that I believe is under appreciated and utilized. I would be more than happy to embark on more events at Daniel Boone Park and help in any way toward its resurgence as a community cornerstone. Please feel free to contact me: sam.calhoun@averyjournal.com, mountainfountain@gmail.com, 828-773-4911, 828-733-2448.	Feb 3, 2012 6:38 AM





81	I was not really sure how to answer the baseline questions as I spent over 20	
01	years of my life working at the Horn and Hickory Ridge but have not been in over 6 years. I love the space, the location, and the community aspects of the facility as well as the Town's interest in seeing it improve. Please do not take my low interest responses as indicative of apathy. I want it to thrive and do well as I poured a lot of my life into it. But I really have moved on to other endeavors and so just do not participate but wish everyone the best on this effort. It is long overdue and needed. Anything that can keep multiple users using the park and facilities is better in my opinion.	Feb 3, 2012 3:18 AM
82	I hope that in developing a vision for the future of the Daniel Boone Park, the committee will also coordinate its activities with other cultural facilities in the Town of Boone. There needs to be a Cultural Resources Board that can serve as a clearing house for information, programs, and resource allocation; establish consistent policies for all Town cultural facilities; and publicize an arts calendar for the community.	Feb 2, 2012 2:02 PM
83	Please note the only resource in Daniel Boone Park eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places is the amiptheater, one of less than a dozen properties eligible in the whole county. Given local government ownership of the site, consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office is required, and with the Historic Preservation Commission is preferred.	Feb 2, 2012 9:16 AM
84	Horn really still needs a plan to upgrade all of the facility. It has tone of potential that is obscured by decrepit walls and no long term vision. I do not say the to be offensive it is just the reality as I observe it. To develop that plan a consultant that understands THIS outdoor drama that also has an insight into modern technology to incorporate it into the space avoiding the pizzaz of today and demanding lasting improvement. It is going to take loads of money and heart. But we already knew that.	Feb 1, 2012 5:46 PM
85	Positive survey and website. What's next?	Feb 1, 2012 4:41 PM





