



# Town Voice

Newsletter from the Town of Mooresville

Volume 4 Number 10

October 2008

## October = Fire Prevention & Safety

### Elected Officials

Bill Thunberg  
Mayor

Mitchell Abraham  
Ward I Commissioner,  
Mayor Pro Tem

Thurman Houston  
Ward II Commissioner

Mac Herring  
Ward III Commissioner

Chris Carney  
Ward IV Commissioner

Miles Atkins  
At-Large Commissioner

Frank Rader  
At-Large Commissioner

### Town Officials

Steve Husemann  
Town Manager

N. Erskine Smith Jr.  
Assistant Town Manager

Stephen P. Gambill  
Town Attorney

Janet Pope  
Town Clerk

**F**ire Prevention Week is October 5-11. The Mooresville Fire Department is joining forces with the Department of Insurance, Office of State Fire Marshal and the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) to remind residents to *Practice Your Escape Plan* and *Prevent Home Fires*.

### Practice Your Escape Plan

In conjunction with NFPA's Great American Fire Drill, Insurance Commissioner Jim Long proclaimed Wednesday, October 8 as North Carolina's *Family Fire Drill Day* and encourages families to practice their home escape plans that evening.

During 2005, 3,030 people died in home fires - that's approximately eight people every day. Being alerted to a fire and knowing how to escape are extremely important, yet only 23% of households have practiced a fire escape plan.

Make a plan and practice it during Fire Prevention Week!

- Install working smoke alarms on every level of your home and inside/outside of each sleeping area.
- Identify two ways out of each room and designate a meeting place outside.
- Make sure your plan allows for any specific needs in your household. If everyone knows what to do, everyone can get out quickly.
- Practice the plan at least twice a year.
- Studies have shown that people may not awaken to the sound of a smoke alarm; they may need help waking up.
- If the smoke alarm sounds, go to the closest exit. If you see smoke, turn and use another exit. If you must exit through smoke, get low and go under the smoke to your exit.

### Prevent Home Fires

Have you considered installing a residential fire sprinkler system in your home?

- At least 80% of all fires start in the home.
- While most start during the day, most fatal fires occur at night.
- With smoke alarms and sprinklers, death and injury by fire is reduced by 82%.
- There has never been a documented fire-related death in a home that had a fully-operational and properly-installed fire sprinkler system.



Sprinklers are a way to protect families and property to the fullest. For more information, visit [www.ncsfa.com/sprinkler](http://www.ncsfa.com/sprinkler).

### Open House

On Sunday, October 5 from 1 - 5 p.m., the Mooresville Fire Department will host an "Open House" at every fire station. Visit us at:

Station One (457 N. Main Street)  
Canine Manly & Car Seat Checks

Station Two (186 Knob Hill Drive)  
Ladder Truck & Car Seat Checks

Station Three (1023 Shearers Road)  
Haz-Mat Truck, Car Seat Checks & Sparky

Station Four (2014 Charlotte Highway)  
Truck Demonstrations & Car Seat Checks

For more information about fire prevention, contact Mooresville Fire Marshal Gary Styers at [gstyers@ci.mooresville.nc.us](mailto:gstyers@ci.mooresville.nc.us) or 704-660-7110.



## DEPARTMENT PHONE NUMBERS

Engineering  
704-663-4510

Employment  
704-662-8724

Fire (Non-Emergency)  
704-664-1338

Golf Course  
704-663-2539

Winnie Hooper Center  
704-663-0033

Library  
704-664-2927

Charles Mack Citizen Center  
704-662-3334

Planning  
704-662-7040

Police (Non-Emergency)  
704-664-3311

Recreation  
704-663-7026

Sanitation  
704-664-4278

Water  
704-663-3800

Zoning  
704-662-3191

## FROM THE TOWN MANAGER...

# My Early Thoughts

In my first column as Town Manager I was asked to share more information about myself. Honestly, I would like to start focusing on the community and less on me - but I will try to provide some history in this month's column.

My most recent employment was with the Miami Valley Communications Council (MVCC), a Council of Governments originally set up to administer the cable TV franchises of eight suburban communities. Over the years, the organization shifted from franchise management to the management of public, educational and government programming. City Council meetings were broadcast on a live, recorded and streamed basis, as well as various TV magazine programs for each community. Also, MVCC worked on mutually-beneficial projects, such as joint training, web site management, joint purchasing and police interaction, for the member and affiliate cities. These activities allowed the cities to have the buying power and political clout of a city with 120,000 people.

Prior to MVCC, I served the City of Kettering, Ohio as City Manager for 16 years. Kettering is a city of 55,000 people located south of Dayton, Ohio. Historically an automotive-based community, Kettering is an economically-diverse community with a nationally-known recreation department operating an \$11 million Recreation Center and the largest senior citizens program in the state. The City of Kettering is known for an extremely high level of customer service and aggressive economic and redevelopment programs.

Prior to serving as City Manager in Kettering, I served as City Manager of Sidney, Ohio, a heavily industrial community north of Dayton, and Tipp City, a fast growing community north of Dayton.

Since arriving in Mooresville, I have found the people extremely helpful and friendly. I have noticed that Town facilities are generally in good shape - with the exception of the public works facilities.

At this time I am trying to get a better perspective of the big picture. Obviously, there are some issues that need to be addressed immediately but I want to start chipping away at the less urgent matters as well.

Thank you for welcoming me to Mooresville.

Steve Husemann  
Town Manager



## Newsletter Costs

### How much does it cost to print this newsletter?

The printing cost of this newsletter is only 11 cents per copy. It is distributed in more than 12,000 water/sewer bills each month. While some costs associated with the publication (editing/layout, insertion, additions, etc.) vary each month, these costs typically add a few cents per copy.

The cost of producing the August issue was \$2,057 or 17 cents per copy.

Town Voice  
c/o Town Manager's Office  
Post Office Box 878  
Mooresville, NC 28115  
704-663-3800

[comments@ci.mooresville.nc.us](mailto:comments@ci.mooresville.nc.us)

# Halloween Safety

Halloween will be celebrated on Friday, October 31 and the Mooresville Police Department has a few suggestions for a safe and enjoyable trick-or-treating experience.

If you are at home and want to participate in trick-or-treat activities, you should:

- Turn on your exterior lights.
- Remove objects or obstacles from your yard that may cause trick-or-treaters to fall or injure themselves.
- Ask your community watch group or civic-minded neighbors to form a citizens' patrol and walk around your neighborhood during Halloween.
- If you must leave home and drive, please use extreme caution and drive slowly. Stay alert for children crossing streets and highways.

If children are going to participate in trick-or-treat activities, please remember the following:

- Make sure costumes are flame retardant since they may walk near candles or lit jack-o-lanterns.
- Keep costumes short to avoid trips and falls.
- When possible, children should substitute make-up for masks. Many masks are hot and uncomfortable but even more importantly, they may obstruct the child's field of vision.
- Children and adults should wear light-colored clothing and attach reflective material for better visibility. Provide flashlights for safety.
- Remind children that entering a strange home or car to receive candy or treats is never a good idea.

If you observe suspicious activity, please report it to the Mooresville Police Department at 704-664-3311 or call 911. For more Halloween safety tips and other crime prevention tips, you can visit the National Crime Prevention Council web site at [www.ncpc.org](http://www.ncpc.org).

## NEWS IN BRIEF

**New Zoning Feature.** Neighborhood Conservation Overlays (NCOs) are a new feature of the Mooresville Zoning Ordinance adopted in March, 2008. An overlay is a commonly used planning tool to help address areas that have distinct characteristics, settings or other features that make them unique. The intent of the overlay is to ensure the continuation of these desirable qualities and to guide revitalization of specific areas. Mooresville currently has three NCO districts in the Zoning Ordinance. These districts include the generalized areas that comprise Academy Street, Cascade Mill Village and the Mooresville Mill Village.

A zoning permit is required for most construction within these overlay districts to determine compliance with the overlay district provisions. Call the Planning Department at 704-662-7040 to learn about the NCO requirements for your neighborhood.

**Pumpkin Run.** Mooresville's Recreation Department will host the Pumpkin Run 8K Road Race and 2K Fun Run/Walk on Saturday, October 25. Registration forms are available at the Recreation Office at 418 Carpenter Avenue or on the Town's web site at [www.ci.mooresville.nc.us/recreation](http://www.ci.mooresville.nc.us/recreation) under "Documents." For more information, call the Recreation Department at 704-663-7026.

**Bellingham Park Expansion.** The Town invites residents to come enjoy the expanded park amenities at Bellingham Park during the grand opening on Saturday, October 4 from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. The Recreation Department will be offering free youth tennis clinics on the new tennis courts and other activities throughout the park. Refreshments will be served. For more information, call the Recreation Department at 704-663-7026.

**Mooresville's Last Volunteer Fireman Retires.** Mike Holcomb retired in August with over two decades of volunteer fire service to the Town of Mooresville. Mike began his service with the Town on July 21, 1988.

**Free Family Movie.** On Saturday, October 25 at 2 p.m., the Town of Mooresville will present "Movies on Main," a free monthly movie event for families in the auditorium of the Charles Mack Citizen Center. This month's movie is "Nim's Island." For more information, visit [www.ci.mooresville.nc.us](http://www.ci.mooresville.nc.us) or call 704-662-3334.

**Mooresville Concerts.** Produced with the Town of Mooresville Recreation Department, Mooresville Concerts opened its second season in September and offers a variety of musical experiences for all ages. Tickets can be purchased two weeks in advance through the Charles Mack Citizen Center or the Mooresville Recreation Department. Advanced purchase is recommended due to limited seating. October's concert features the Noel Freidline (Jazz) Quartet on Saturday, October 18 at 7:30 p.m.

## profile

### Convention & Visitors Bureau

The Mooresville Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB) promotes Mooresville and its hotels and attractions through print and online media, billboards, sponsorship and radio spots. Funded by the hotel occupancy tax, the CVB prints a "Guide to Race Shops" and "Visitors Guide" that is distributed to North Carolina Welcome Centers and mailed to visitors requesting information on Mooresville. A DVD highlighting the Mooresville area is also part of the visitor's packet.

This year, the CVB produced a detailed map of Mooresville and the surrounding area, as well as a restaurant guide and wedding brochure.

The North Carolina Auto Racing Hall of Fame is the official visitors' center of Mooresville and is located at 119 Knob Hill Road.

The CVB sponsors the Fall Classic Soccer Tournament, Twister's Shag Club Fall Cyclone, NASCAR All-Star Race Local Organizing Committee, and the Charlotte Antique and Classic Boat Show.

The Mooresville CVB is located at 265 North Main Street. For more information, contact Leah Mitcham at leah@racecityusa.org or 704-799-2400.

### Iredell County One-Stop (Early) Voting Locations

The registration deadline for the November 4 election is October 10. This is the last day to register, change your party affiliation or change your address. Registered voters in Iredell County can take advantage of the Early Voting Sites listed below. Note the different dates and hours of operation for the one-stop sites.

#### Iredell County Board of Elections

203 Stockton Street, Statesville  
October 16 - November 1  
Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Saturday, November 1, 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

#### Union Grove Fire Department

1869 W. Memorial Highway, Union Grove  
October 27 - 31  
Monday - Friday 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

#### Mooresville Town Library

304 S. Main Street, Mooresville  
October 20 - November 1  
Monday - Friday 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.  
Saturday, November 1, 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

#### Lake Norman Fire Department

1518 Brawley School Road, Mooresville  
October 27 - 31  
Monday - Friday 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

To check your voter registration or find local election information, contact the Iredell County Board of Elections at [www.co.iredell.nc.us](http://www.co.iredell.nc.us) or 704-878-3140.

### Volunteers Wanted for SPIRIT Committee

*SPIRIT: Service, Pride, Integrity, Responsibility, Innovation & Teamwork*

Do you have SPIRIT? Do you want to be more involved in the community where you live? The Town of Mooresville is seeking applications from Town residents interested in serving on a new citizen input committee to discuss the Town budget, town-provided services and citizen satisfaction. The SPIRIT Committee is a great opportunity to have your voice heard and make a difference in your community.

The committee is open to Mooresville residents who are at least 18 years old. Meetings will be held on the third Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m. at Town Hall beginning in November. There is no fee but committee size is limited to 20 participants.

Applications are available at Town Hall or on-line at [www.ci.mooresville.nc.us](http://www.ci.mooresville.nc.us). For more information, contact Brian Barnett at 704-799-4047 or [bbarnett@ci.mooresville.nc.us](mailto:bbarnett@ci.mooresville.nc.us).



#### October 2

Historic Preservation Commission  
Public Library @ 6 p.m.

#### October 6

Board of Commissioners  
Town Hall @ 6 p.m.

#### October 8

Environmental Protection Commission  
Town Hall @ 7 p.m.

#### October 9

Planning Board  
Town Hall @ 7 p.m.

#### October 10

Water Bills Due

#### October 28

Water Service Disconnected for Non-Payment