



Town Voice

Newsletter from the Town of Mooresville

Volume 5 Number 12

December 2009

Family-Friendly Festivities

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

The holiday season is officially here! For some people that means quality time with family and friends. For others it means countless trips to the stores. Regardless of your preferences, take some time to enjoy the many family-friendly holiday activities right here in Mooresville.

Day Trips

The Recreation Department is offering two day trips for adults this month. On Wednesday, December 2, catch a ride to Old Salem (Winston-Salem). The tour departs at 9 a.m. from the War Memorial Building and returns at 4 p.m. Cost is just \$3 per person (lunch on your own).

On Wednesday, December 16, enjoy a day of shopping at Hanes Mall in Winston-Salem. The tour departs at 9 a.m. from the War Memorial Building and returns at 4 p.m. Cost is just \$3 per person (lunch on your own).

Call the Recreation Department at 704-663-7026 to register.

Family Movie

Experience the magic of "The Polar Express" on Friday, December 4 at 6:30 p.m. beside Mooresville Town Hall, 413 North Main Street. Shown OUTSIDE on a 25' inflatable screen, this movie captures the imagination of young and old. Bring your family (and some blankets) to this free movie sponsored by the Town of Mooresville and MI-Connection. Concessions will be available.



For more information, call 704-662-3334.

Children's Party

Back by popular demand, the Recreation Department is proud to sponsor the Second Annual Children's Holiday Party on Saturday, December 5 from 1- 4 p.m. at the Charles Mack Citizen Center.

Visits from Santa and Rudolph are expected between 1-3 p.m. Bring the entire family for this free holiday event.

For more information, call 704-662-3334.

Celtic Music

A Celtic Christmas returns to Downtown Mooresville on Saturday, December 12 at 7:30 p.m. at the Charles Mack Citizen Center when Mooresville Concerts presents The Beggar Boys. Performing traditional and new carols and foot-stomping dance tunes from Ireland, Scotland and England, The Beggar Boys bring their energetic mix of Celtic traditional music styles to audiences young and old.

They will be joined by Irish step dancers from Charlotte's Rince na h'Eireann School of Irish Dance. Admission is \$10 for adults, \$5 for students and free for children under 10. A "Meet The Artists" reception will follow the concert. Tickets are available at the Charles Mack Citizen Center or the Town's Recreation Department.

For tickets or more information, call 704-662-3334.



DEPARTMENT PHONE NUMBERS

Engineering
704-663-4510

Employment
704-799-4070

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

War Memorial
704-663-2670

Water
704-663-3800

Zoning
704-662-3191

FROM THE TOWN MANAGER'S OFFICE...

Wheels of Government

There is an old adage that suggests “the wheels of government turn slowly.” One wheel of government that turns is the transition after an election. Following last month’s elections, the Town Board will welcome a new Mayor and a new Commissioner during our December 7 Board meeting.

If you follow the national news, elections often bring out the worst in people – both in the citizenry and the politicians. Many countries experience civil unrest, protests and even government fraud. Rarely in the United States does the transition after elections generate such a violent response. We are very fortunate.

Mooresville’s town government is a representative democracy. Individuals are elected as representatives of the people to do the best for the entire community. It is their responsibility to listen to residents, weigh facts and information, and use their judgment to make the best decisions for the entire community. This is not an easy task by any means – six people making decisions that impact more than 30,000 people! It is an awesome responsibility and honor.

As a Town, we say “thank you for your service” to Mayor Bill Thunberg and Commissioner Frank Rader, two individuals who sat through countless meetings, listened to many presentations and public comments, attended training and educational opportunities, and did their best to be good public servants for our community. They spent many hours away from their families and answered phone calls, e-mails and letters in the course of doing the work of our democracy.

On December 7, we will welcome Chris Montgomery as our new Mayor and Rhett Dusenbury as a new Commissioner. Local history indicates the transition in Town government will be amicable, stable and consistent. May this wheel of government roll smoothly!

Sincerely,

N. Erskine Smith, Jr. , AICP, ICMA-CM
Assistant Town Manager



In the October issue you listed cardboard as an item banned from landfills. That is not entirely true.

Recycled cardboard has been banned for businesses/industry from the Iredell County Landfill since July 1999. Businesses and industry are fined for disposal of cardboard that is not recycled. However, if a business brings in clean separated cardboard it will be accepted for recycling at no charge.

Homeowners are not required to recycle cardboard but are encouraged to do so and may include pasteboard boxes (cereal, shoe, gift boxes, brown paper and brown paper bags).

For more information, call the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources at 704-235-2160 or visit www.co.iredell.nc.us/Departments/Solid_Waste/Solid for Iredell County recycling information.

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

comments@ci.mooresville.nc.us

Citizens Police Academy

The Mooresville Police Department's Citizens Police Academy is an eight-week program designed to provide Mooresville residents, business owners and media an informative look at the operations of their local Police Department. Beginning December 15 for orientation, the Academy's classes will meet consecutive Tuesday nights starting January 6 from 6:30 – 9 p.m. at the police department.

Although some meetings involve classroom presentations, students can also participate in simulations and hands-on activities. It is not the mission of the Academy to train citizens to become police officers but to help raise awareness, understanding, and trust within the community.

Topics addressed will include:

- Police Department Overview & Introduction
- Patrol Operations
- Communications & Record Keeping
- Criminal Investigations & Crime Scene Searches
- Case Preparation & Court Testimony
- Introduction to Specialized Units (Traffic & Special Response Team)
- Realistic Scenarios for Responding Police Officers

The Academy is open to Mooresville residents and business owners who are at least 18 years old. Applicants must complete an application and provide a certified copy of their criminal history from the Iredell County Clerk of Court.

Applications are available at the Mooresville Police Department (750 West Iredell Avenue) or on the Town's web site, www.ci.mooresville.nc.us.

Application deadline is December 8.

For more information, call Captain Burks at 704-658-9007 or Major Hillard at 704-658-9005.

NEWS IN BRIEF

White Oaks Road Detour Update. Construction to replace aging culverts that carry Dye Creek under White Oaks Road is "behind schedule" due to the many rainy days we have experienced lately. "For every day it rains, it puts the contractors 2-3 days behind," said Senior Engineer Allison Kraft. However, construction is scheduled for completion in December. Detours are posted directing traffic through downtown. For more information, call the Town's Engineering Department at 704-663-4510.

Help Build Hope Park. Hope Park, a planned Town of Mooresville playground located at the Lowe's YMCA, is coming this spring. We need thousands of volunteers to help build it March 10-14, 2010. No building skills are necessary!



Also, engraved bricks for the Memorial Garden and engraved pickets for the playground are on sale! Pickets are \$35. Promote your business or honor your child with this permanent display. Visit www.BuildHopePark.org for more information or to volunteer.

Mill Village Neighborhood Conservation Overlay. The November 2 hearing for the Mill Village Neighborhood Conservation Overlay was continued until the January 4, 2010 Town Board meeting. At this meeting, the Town Board will re-open the hearing and continue discussion. The meeting will begin at 6 p.m. at Town Hall, 413 North Main Street. For more information, contact Mandy Edwards at 704-799-4089.

Sidewalks for Fieldstone and Magnolia. Construction for sidewalks on Magnolia Street and Fieldstone Road are scheduled to begin in Spring 2010. Sidewalks will be added on the east side of Magnolia Street and the west side of Fieldstone Road so they create a cohesive block of sidewalks. There will be a few cross streets that will have sidewalks as well – Heatherly Road, Edgemoor Drive, and Ridgecrest Drive.

This project will be funded in part through the NC Department of Transportation's Congestion Mitigation Air Quality program. Sidewalks provide a safe location for pedestrians and increase property values as they are considered a neighborhood amenity to prospective buyers.

Holiday Sanitation Schedule. There will be NO changes in the garbage collection schedule during the Christmas or New Year's Day holidays. Residential customers with Thursday service will receive regular garbage collection on December 24.

Help Us Help You, *Holiday Fire Safety*

Each year fires occurring during the holiday season claim the lives of over 400 people, injure 1,650 more, and cause over \$990 million in damage. These simple life-saving steps can ensure a safe and happy holiday.

Selecting a Tree for the Holiday - Needles on fresh trees should be green and hard to pull back from the branches. Needles should not break if the tree is freshly cut. The trunk should be sticky to the touch. If many needles fall off, the tree has probably dried out and is a fire hazard.

Caring for Your Tree - Do not place your tree close to a heat source, including a fireplace or heat vent. The heat will dry out the tree, causing it to be more easily ignited by heat, flame or sparks. Be careful not to drop or flick cigarette ashes near a tree. Do not leave your live tree up for longer than two weeks. Keep the tree stand filled with water at all times.

Disposing of Your Tree - Never put tree branches/needles in a fireplace or wood-burning stove. When the tree becomes dry, discard it promptly by taking it to a recycling center or having it hauled away.

Maintain Your Holiday Lights - Inspect holiday lights each year for frayed wires, bare spots, gaps in the insulation, broken/cracked sockets, and excessive kinking or wear BEFORE putting them up. Use only lighting listed by an approved testing laboratory.

Do Not Overload Electrical Outlets - Do not link more than three light strands unless the directions indicate it is safe. Connect strings of lights to an extension cord before plugging the cord into the outlet. Periodically check the wires - they should not be warm to the touch.

Never Put Wrapping Paper in a Fireplace - It can cause a very large fire, throwing off dangerous sparks and embers and may result in a chimney fire.

Artificial Christmas Trees - If you are using a metallic or artificial tree, make sure it is flame retardant.

In any season, have working smoke alarms on every level of your home, test them monthly and keep them clean and equipped with fresh batteries at all times.



Mark Your Calendar

December 7
Board of Commissioners
Town Hall @ 6 p.m.

December 10
Water Bills Due

Planning Board
Town Hall @ 6 p.m.

December 24 & 25
Christmas Holidays
Town Offices Closed

December 30
Water Service Disconnected
for Non-Payment

January 1
New Years Day Holiday
Town Offices Closed

Are you a Facebook fan?

If you are a Facebook user (or deciding if you want to be one), the Town's Information Technology Division invites you to give it a try and become a "fan" of the Town.

Facebook is a free-access, social networking web site where users join networks organized by city, workplace, school and region to connect and interact with other people.

Don't know how to use Facebook? Go to www.facebook.com and sign-up for a free account. Once registered, you can search for "Town of Mooresville NC" or go to <http://facebook.mooresville.nc.us> and sign up to become a "fan" of the Town. Fans receive updates and other Town-related information such as sanitation schedule changes, holiday closings and more.

The Town's official site has 1,659 fans. The largest demographic in the Town's "fan base" is ages 35-44 and predominantly female.

Possible Addition to Glenwood Memorial Park

Columbarium: (*n*) a place designated for the inurnment of the ashes of the dead; a wall of niches for cremated remains to be placed in instead of the typical ground burial.

The Town is considering constructing a columbarium at Glenwood Memorial Park and is trying to determine the interest in this type of burial arrangement. Please send your comments/interest via postal mail or e-mail to the addresses or phone number listed below by January 1, 2010.

Cemetery Administrator
Town of Mooresville
P.O. Box 878
Mooresville, NC 28115

704-799-4074
cmasingo@ci.mooresville.nc.us