



TownVoice

www.ci.mooresville.nc.us

Volume 8 Number 2

February 2012

Elected Officials

Miles Atkins
Mayor

Eddie Dingler
Ward I Commissioner

Thurman Houston
Ward II Commissioner

Mac Herring
Ward III Commissioner,
Mayor Pro Tem

Lisa Qualls
Ward IV Commissioner

Bobby Compton
At-Large Commissioner

Rhett Dusenbury
At-Large Commissioner

Town Officials

N. Erskine Smith Jr.
Town Manager

Stephen P. Gambill
Town Attorney

Janet Pope
Town Clerk

Learn More About Fire & Police

If you ever wanted to learn more about the services offered by Mooresville Fire & Rescue or the Mooresville Police Department, now is your chance. Beginning this spring, both public safety departments are offering free “academies” to local residents or business owners. These sessions offer live demonstrations as well as classroom learning.

Mooresville Police Department's Citizens Police Academy

The Mooresville Police Department's (MPD) Citizens Police Academy is a ten week program designed to provide Mooresville residents, business owners and the media an informative look at the operations of their local police department. Beginning Tuesday, March 6 for orientation, classes will meet consecutive Tuesday nights from 6 - 9 p.m.

Although some of the meetings will 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.

During the Academy, topics will include:

- MPD Overview & Introduction
- Patrol Operations
- Communications & Record-Keeping
- Case Preparation & Court Testimony
- Criminal Investigations & Crime Scene Searches
- Specialized Units
- Realistic Scenarios for Responding Officers

The Academy is open to Mooresville residents and business owners who are at least 18 years of age. Applications are available at MPD, 750 West Iredell Avenue. For more information, call 704-664-3311.

Mooresville Fire & Rescue's Citizens Fire Academy

Mooresville Fire & Rescue (MFR) has developed the Citizens Fire Academy to teach citizens about the many jobs MFR does on a daily basis and promote citizen interaction with the firefighters.

The Citizens Fire Academy is a dynamic, ten week program designed to provide participants an inside view of the operations of MFR. Curriculum includes live demonstrations, classroom learning and hands-on experiences - all of which are designed to give the participant a true feel for MFR. The entire program is free and open to anyone 18-years-of-age or older who lives or works in the Town of Mooresville or Iredell County.

The first session begins April 9 and continues each Monday night for ten weeks from 6 - 9 p.m. Classes will be held at Mooresville Fire Station Four, 2014 Charlotte Highway.

Topics for the Citizens Fire Academy include:

- Fire Service History
- CPR Certification
- Fire Investigations
- Emergency Apparatus & Equipment
- Fire Operations Demonstrations
- Emergency Medical Services
- Search & Rescue
- Crash Victim Extrication
- Emergency Preparedness
- Public Safety Education
- EMS Helicopter (Landing)
- Ride-Along Opportunities

For more information or to register, contact Assistant Fire Chief Shane LaCount at 704-664-1338 or slacount@ci.mooresville.nc.us.



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...

Recreation in the Community

The weather was absolutely gorgeous here for most of January. People were playing golf, enjoying the parks, walking the trails, and swinging the racquets. On January 7, we hosted ribbon cuttings at two of our newest recreation facilities - Talbert Recreation Center and Cornelius Road Park. Both are great additions to our community and provide many recreational opportunities.

The Town's recreation programs are some of the best in the community. They include options from baseball to archery, Zumba to square dancing, and afterschool programs for students to tennis for seniors. Our recreation department coordinates cultural programs as well, such as the outdoor summer concert series on the Town Hall Lawn and the indoor Mooresville Concerts at the Charles Mack Citizen Center. Also, recreation programs are available at each of our three community centers: the War Memorial Center on Maple Street; the Charles Mack Citizen Center on Main Street; and the Winnie Hooper Center on Sherrill Street.

The Town partners with many community groups for soccer, baseball, softball and lacrosse programs and tournaments. With the addition of Mazeppa and Cornelius parks, as well as our partnership with the Mooresville and Iredell-Statesville schools, the Town and its partners will be able to increase tournament offerings. These tournaments bring many visitors to our community and have an immediate economic impact for our restaurants, hotels and retailers.

If golf is your interest, Mooresville Golf Course offers programs and lessons for all ages and maintains a family-friendly atmosphere.

In 2005, voters approved \$25 million dollars in bonds to improve recreation in our community. The Board spent that money over the past seven years to make investments in existing parks, build new parks on Mazeppa and Cornelius roads, partner with local schools, and purchase a recreation center on Talbert Pointe Drive. These expenditures were made within the budget and using the existing tax rate to retire the debt.

Recreation is a small portion of the Town's "cultural" budget - representing only 12% (including library) of the \$43 million General Fund budget. Many of the cultural programs are revenue generating and we have a partnership with Iredell County for the operation of the Mooresville Public Library. If we eliminated the recreation and public library programs from our budget, there would be a net reduction of approximately \$750,000 - but our community would experience a greater loss.

Soon, the Town Board will begin the annual budget process. At their February retreat, the Board will review our community vision for the next twenty years and begin making decisions on recreation and other programs that impact our community. Contact your elected officials (listed below) and let them know what programs are important to you. I hope you will consider the impact that cultural programs have on a community and its residents.

Shake off the cold and visit the Town's web site (www.ci.mooresville.nc.us) for recreational opportunities. Attend a concert. Watch a free movie. Hit the links. Get active in the programs offered by the Town of Mooresville!

Sincerely,

Erskine Smith, ICMA-CM, AICP
Town Manager

Mayor - Miles Atkins

matkins@ci.mooresville.nc.us

Commissioner Ward 1 - Eddie Dingler

edingler@ci.mooresville.nc.us

Commissioner Ward 2 - Thurman Houston

thouston@ci.mooresville.nc.us

Commissioner Ward 3 - Mac Herring

mherring@ci.mooresville.nc.us

Commissioner Ward 4 - Lisa Qualls

lqualls@ci.mooresville.nc.us

Commissioner At Large - Bobby Compton

bcompton@ci.mooresville.nc.us

Commissioner At Large - Rhett Dusenbury

rdusenbury@ci.mooresville.nc.us

Traffic Signal Changes



The Town changed the traffic signal at the intersection of Wilson Avenue and Church Street to a flashing only signal for a period of 90 days beginning January 13. The signal light is flashing red on Wilson Avenue and flashing yellow on Church Street. A “New Traffic Pattern Ahead” sign was placed before the signal.

“As part of the Downtown Signal Study, a signal warrant analysis was conducted for the intersection of Church Street and Wilson Avenue to determine if the traffic volumes warrant a traffic signal control based upon guidance specified in the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD),” said Neil Burke, Transportation Planner for the Town.

The MUTCD specifies that an intersection meet the following minimum criteria to be considered for traffic signal control:

- Warrant 1, Eight-Hour Vehicular Volume
- Warrant 2, Four-Hour Vehicular Volume
- Warrant 3, Peak Hour
- Warrant 4, Pedestrian Volume
- Warrant 5, School Crossing
- Warrant 6, Coordinated Signal System
- Warrant 7, Crash Experience
- Warrant 8, Roadway Network
- Warrant 9, Intersection Near a Grade Crossing

“Based upon the turning movement counts collected, the intersection does not meet the minimum criteria for signalization as none of the nine warrants were satisfied,” said Burke.

After the 90 day trial flash period if no significant issues are reported and it is determined that the intersection can function safely as a stop-controlled intersection, the traffic signal will be removed and STOP and CROSS TRAFFIC DOES NOT STOP signs will be installed on the Wilson Avenue approaches of the intersection.

For more information or to share your comments, contact Neil Burke, Transportation Planner, at (704) 663-2891 or nburke@ci.moorestville.nc.us.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Moorestville Concerts Moorestville Concerts presents the Thistledown Tinkers on Saturday, February 4 at 7:30 p.m. in the Joe Knox Auditorium of the Charles Mack Citizen Center. This popular Celtic group has performed at many regional festivals and were featured in the July issue of *Our State* magazine.

A “Meet The Artists” reception will follow the concert. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 for students, and free for children under 10. Season passes are \$45. Tickets may be purchased two weeks prior to each performance at the Recreation Department office (418 Carpenter Avenue), by calling 704-663-7026, or online at www.MoorestvilleRecreation.org.

Movies on Main On Saturday, February 11, “Movies on Main” presents



“Princess Bride” (Rated PG) at the Charles Mack Citizen Center. Movie starts at 7 p.m. For more information, call 704-662-3334. To view the movie trailer, visit the Town’s web site at www.ci.moorestville.nc.us.

Moorestville Fire & Rescue According to the Iredell County Department of Emergency Communications, Operations & Management, Moorestville Fire & Rescue responded to 3,397 calls for service in 2011.

Environmental Tips The Town’s Environmental Protection Commission will provide tips each month to help us all be better stewards of the environment. February’s tips from the “Green Team” include:

- Turn off lights and electronics when you leave the room.
- Unplug your cell phone charger from the wall when not using it.
- Turn off energy strips and surge protectors when not in use (especially overnight).



Scan the QR code at the right for more information.

Connect-CTY Is your emergency contact information registered with the Town’s Connect-CTY system? Can the Town call, e-mail or text you in case of a local emergency? If you can answer “no” to these questions, please visit the Town’s web site at www.ci.moorestville.nc.us and click the Connect-CTY button on the home page. Follow the directions to register or update your information.

The Town uses the Connect-CTY system to notify residents or businesses of an emergency, change/interruption of a Town-provided service, or special work being done in your area. For more information, call Fire Marshal Gary Styers at 704-660-7110.

Help Us Help You, *FOG*

Last month, we included an article about FOG and how dangerous it is to your pipes and the public sewer system. Many of you asked “So what do I do with the oils from my kitchen?” Since this was intended to be a short series of articles, we are glad you asked!

Let’s Review

FOG is an industry term for Fats, Oils & Greases. It includes animal fats, vegetable fats and oils used to cook and prepare food. When grease is washed down the drain, it sticks to the inside of sewer pipes. Over time, it builds up and can cause serious damage to the sewer system. Also, cleanup can be very costly.

Do Not Do This:

- Do not pour FOG down the sink drain or toilet.
- Do not use hot water to wash the grease down the drain. When the water cools in the sewer, FOG will solidify and clog the pipes.
- Do not rely on additives or detergents to dissolve grease. They only disperse it down the line to recollect and cause more problems.

- Do not put grease or greasy food into the garbage disposal.
- Do not ever pour grease or used oil into the storm drains or on the ground.

Do This:

- Scrape all food and left over grease into the trash, never the sink.
- Recycle large amounts of used cooking oil. The Iredell County Transfer Station will recycle used cooking oil.
- Wipe pots, pans and dishes with dry paper towels before rinsing/washing them.
- Pour cooled oil, fats and grease into a can with a tight lid (coffee can) and dispose of it in the garbage.
- Talk to your friends and family about the problem with grease in the sewer system and help them become proactive in preventing sewer blockages.

For more information, contact FOG Compliance Officer Jamie Levis at 704-662-8341 or jlevis@ci.mooreville.nc.us.



February 6
Board of Commissioners
Town Hall @ 6 p.m.

February 9
Planning Board
Town Hall @ 6 p.m.

February 10
Water Bills Due

February 16-18
Town Board Retreat
Town Hall

February 20
Board of Commissioners
Town Hall @ 6 p.m.

February 28
Water Service Disconnected
for Non-Payment

Recycling Update

Since the Town’s recycling program began in November, the numbers have been impressive:

- **6,500 households** are currently enrolled in the Town’s recycling program. That is **65%** of all homes and approximately **72%** of all occupied homes.
- The Town receives **6-7 new requests** daily.
- Town residents have recycled **368 tons** of material since November 7. This is approximately **17% of total waste by weight** and **40% of total waste by volume** generated by Mooresville residents.
- *“Mooresville is recycling at a rate of about **547 pounds per household served**, which is excellent and certainly puts the town on the top shelf of curbside programs in the state.”*
~Scott Mouw, NC Department of Environmental Assistance and Outreach

Town residents living in single family homes, townhomes and duplexes who wish to participate in the Town’s Recycling Program may register by calling 704-664-4278 or visiting the Town’s website at www.ci.mooreville.nc.us.

ABC Board

In 1965, the NC General Assembly ratified a bill allowing the Town to establish its first ABC store. An ABC Board was created under state regulations to provide independent oversight and distribution of the proceeds of alcohol sales.

Distribution of ABC Store profits are made according to requirements in the Town Charter:

- 12.5% to Iredell County for school purposes;
- 25% to the Town for parks & recreation;
- 27.5% to the Mooresville Graded School District (MGSD); and
- 35% to the Town’s General Fund for specific purposes.

The ABC Board has three members who serve three-year terms and are appointed by the Mayor and Town Board. The ABC Board meets the third Thursday of each month at 1 p.m. in the Board Room at ABC Store #1, 436 East Plaza Drive. Meetings are open to the public.

ABC Board members are Mitchell Mack (Chair), Bob Amon and Ben Goins.