



Mint Hill News

VOL. 1 NO. 10 XVI

Serving the Citizens of the Town of Mint Hill



Mayor's Message

Mayor Ted Biggers, Jr.

Let me begin by wishing every Mint Hill citizen a happy holiday season. This past year has been an eventful one, but the Town weathered the economic storm without having to decrease or eliminate services. We were also able to hold on to our beloved library and appreciate the many volunteers that helped with staffing needs. We truly have much for which to be thankful this holiday season.

The holidays would not seem complete without the tree lighting ceremony. The annual event is scheduled for Thursday, December 2, at 7 p.m. at Town Hall. I don't think any town can boast of a more beautiful Christmas tree. The frazier fir stands about 23 feet tall and is decorated with 4,350 multi-colored lights. Please come out and join us as we usher in the holidays with beautiful choral music presented by local school children, hot chocolate, apple cider, and an assortment of cookies...some even homemade. In addition, a special guest will be visiting – Santa Claus – for photo opportunities with the children. So, bring your cameras.

When doing your holiday shopping, please don't forget our local businesses. For a listing, visit the Mint Hill Chamber of Commerce website at <http://www.minthillchamberofcommerce.com/>. Supporting our community throughout the year is a gift to your community.

Stay safe during the holidays. Hope to see you around Town.

Ted H. Biggers, Jr.



Please stop by to experience delicious holiday treats and beautiful choral music.



Volunteer Fire Department NEWS



With the recent time change back to standard time, Mint Hill Volunteer Fire Department urges you to remember to change your batteries in your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. The IAFC (International Association of Fire Chiefs) estimate that some 890 lives could be saved each year if they had a working smoke or carbon monoxide detector present at time of emergency. If you need a smoke or carbon monoxide detector, we will provide you one at no charge. Recently Mint Hill Volunteer Fire Department sent out our second notice of request for annual dues. Dues are not mandatory for service; however, these dollars are a large part of our operational expenses. While we partner with the Town of Mint Hill, please remember that the Mint Hill volunteer fire service is not supported by a tax or service district. We greatly appreciate your support, and please call on your Fire Department anytime.

Holiday Schedule Reminder



Garbage Pickup

Schedule

Christmas and New Year's: Regular schedule

Yard waste and Christmas trees (no ornaments or icicles) collected the week after Christmas.

Town Hall

Town Hall will be closed:

Friday, December 24, 2010

Monday, December 27, 2010

New Year's Day

Friday, December 31, 2010

FOCUS

Town of Mint Hill Employees – Service to Their Country



Mayor Ted Biggers and Sergeant Michael Gainey

The Veterans Day Breakfast was held on Saturday, November 13, 2010 at Philadelphia Presbyterian Church. The fellowship hall was seated to capacity with men and women from all branches of the armed forces. The program was an inspirational tribute to those who have served or who are currently serving in the military.

Several Town of Mint Hill employees who are veterans were also present at the breakfast. The Town of Mint Hill is proud to recognize their service to our country.

Mint Hill Volunteer Fire Department

Fred Klotzer, Firefighter/Paramedic
U.S. Army

Ryan Massey, Firefighter
U.S. Army National Guard

Don Petersen, Firefighter
U.S. Marine Corps

Police Department

Tim Ledford, Chief
U.S. Army and N.C. National Guard

Michael Gainey, Sergeant
U.S. Army/U.S. Air Force Reserves

John Hathcock, Sergeant
N.C. Air National Guard

Billy Gilman, Officer
U.S. Navy Officer

Keith Mickovic
U.S. Army Police Corps

Adam Speaks, Officer
U.S. Army - Military Police

Public Works

Dwayne Dorton, Public Works Director
U.S. Army

Tim Garner, Streets Supervisor
N.C. Air National Guard



Chief Tim Ledford and Public Works Director Dwayne Dorton

Korean War Memorial Update

The building of the North Carolina Korean War Memorial is underway at Fairview Park. The ground breaking was June 14, 2010, and Phase I of the project began November 17. The initial construction began at the entrance with erecting an impressive 15,000 pound granite sign – 12 feet long and 1 foot thick in diameter - with the site to be beautifully landscaped and lighted.



The total cost has been estimated at \$450,000, and \$200,000 has been raised to date. The South Korean government has committed to giving \$50,000 with the remainder of the funds coming from the sale of memorials and honor pavers,

local businesses, and Korean American Associations. The Town has provided the land and financial support for the project. A number of businesses in Mint Hill have offered their services, but the project still needs additional funding. Contributions are welcomed and are tax deductible to

Planning Department News

The Town of Mint Hill, along with consultants HNTB, will be conducting a Pedestrian Plan Public Workshop on December 7, 2010 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The purpose of this workshop is to gather public input on the current status of the Pedestrian Plan. Results from the last public workshop held in August, input received through the online survey, guidance from the Pedestrian Plan Steering Committee, and the development of Project Rating Criteria led to the creation of a list of potential sidewalk, greenway and intersection projects throughout Town.

At this public workshop, there will be a short presentation on the steps that have been taken throughout the Pedestrian Plan process. After the presentation, participants will be given an opportunity to review the list of projects and to vote for their favorites..

Please call Town Hall for more information or visit our webpage at www.minthill.com/PedPlan.



Dispose of Leaves Properly and Not in the Creek

N.C. Land Use & Environmental Service Agency

It's the time of year when the leaves fall and homeowners are outside raking them into piles. However, most homeowners don't realize that what you do with that pile of leaves could harm the environment.

In the Town of Mint Hill it is against the Storm Water Quality Ordinance to dispose of large volumes of yard waste down storm drains or in creeks. It is also recommended that homeowners do not leave them to decompose on creek banks.

The storm drainage system flows directly to our creeks and lakes without any treatment. That means when leaves are blown into the streets or piled on stream banks, yard waste becomes a storm water pollutant.

Yard waste - when left to decompose in our surface waters - super-fertilizes the water and becomes toxic to the aquatic community. When left to decompose on stream banks, yard wastes contributes to stream blockages and smothers

vegetation stabilizing the banks.

- Please do not use the storm drainage system as a trash bin.
- Use a compost bin to turn yard waste into a practical gardening product;
- Take yard waste to the curb for collection;

Never dump yard waste down storm drains or in creeks.

For more information on pollution prevention, visit us on the web at <http://stormwater.charmeck.org> or call 311.

Fairview Park

the extent provided by law. There will be no charge to visit the memorial, and it will be open all year round and thousands of visitors are expected.

The Korean War Memorial when completed will belong to the Town of Mint Hill. We are proud to have the only Korean War Veterans' Memorial in the State to honor the 789 North Carolinians killed or missing in action during the Korean War fought from 1950 to 1953. The memorial will also honor all Korean War Veterans who have served in the defense of South Korea's freedom as well as Veterans of all wars. To learn more about the memorial, visit www.koreanwarmemorialnc.com.

The Town of Mint Hill has the following regulations for leaf pick-up:

Leaves in bags/cans (10 bag limit) may be put at your curb for pick up on your regular garbage pick-up day. Limbs and brush should be separated from other waste. These should be left not more than 5 feet in length and not over 6 inches in diameter. Never place more than one (1) pile of limbs or brush, approximately 4 feet high by 4 feet wide and 5 feet in length, at the curb each week.



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 MINT HILL, NORTH CAROLINA 28227-0272
www.minthill.com

Mint Hill News



UPCOMING EVENTS

Did You Know?

The Mint Hill Public Library Hours of Operation are as follows:

Monday: Closed
 Tuesday: 10am - 7pm
 Wednesday: 10am - 7pm
 Thursday: 1pm - 7pm
 Friday: 10am - 5pm
 Saturday: 10am - 5pm
 Sunday: Closed

Their holiday schedule is:

Closed December 24, 25, and 26.

The library will close early at 4 PM on December 31 and be closed New Year's Day January 1, 2011.

December 2nd
Tree Lighting Ceremony
 7:00pm Town Hall
 7151 Matthews-Mint Hill Rd.

December 7th
Pedestrian Plan Public Workshop
 6:00pm-8:00pm

March 2nd, 2012
Blood Drive
 3:30pm-6:30pm
 Mint Hill Police Department

News from the Mint Hill PD

Top Shopping Safety Tips:

- Shop during daylight hours whenever possible. If you must shop at night, park in a well lighted area, go with a friend or family member. Tell someone where you are going and when you intend to return.
- Try to shop when it is less crowded.
- Dress casually and comfortably. Reducing stress during shopping can increase your awareness and safety.
- Avoid wearing expensive jewelry if possible. Save it for your family gathering.
- Don't carry a purse or wallet if possible.
- Always carry your Drivers License or an Identification Card.
- Stay alert to your surroundings and always be ready to provide your location.
- Always carry a cell phone and have local emergency numbers available.
- Avoid carrying large amounts of cash.
- Avoid carrying large or bulky items. Ask for help from a trusted source.
- Pay for purchases with a check, credit or debit card when possible.
- Keep cash or wallets in your front pocket.
- Keep you credit account information and phone numbers in a safe place and immediately report any lost, stolen or misused cards.
- Make sure you keep an eye on your credit card when it is being processed and make sure you get it back after the transaction.
- ALWAYS keep an eye on your children or if possible leave them at home with a responsible adult. If you must bring them, have another adult with you who can watch them while you are conducting a transaction.
- Teach children to stay by you and what to do if they lose site of you.
- Be prepared to provide complete information about your children to law enforcement in the event of an emergency. Immediately report any suspicious activity.

Have Questions?
Call Town Hall at 704-545-9726



The Mayor, Commisioners, and Staff contribute articles to the Town's newsletter. The Mint Hill News is published by the Town of Mint Hill and mailed to each household in Town.