



Mint Hill News

Vol. I No. XXVIII

Serving the Citizens of the Town of Mint Hill

Mint Hill News

TOWN OF MINT HILL • PO BOX 23457
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UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday, May 13th
American Cancer Society
Relay For Life
Mint Hill Park on Fairview

Saturday, May 21st
Armed Forces Museum-
Armed Forces Day
Mint Hill Park on Fairview

Thursday, June 2nd
Blood Drive
Mint Hill Police Department
3:30 pm - 6:30 pm

June Tunes
Each Saturday evening in
June at 7pm on the lawn
at Town Hall. Ending with a
patriotic concert
July 3rd at 7pm

August 28
Art in the Park
At the Mint Hill Park on Fairview

For more information
visit www.minthill.com



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

News from the Mint Hill PD

The Mint Hill Police Department was awarded a "Safe Kids Utility Trailer" through a grant process from the Safe Kids Coalition. The police department will utilize the trailer to implement education and safety events in Mecklenburg County. These safety events will also be hosted in conjunction with other agencies within the county. Chief Tim Ledford stated that two of the primary events to be scheduled will be Bike Rodeos and Child Protective Seat Inspections. Please contact the Mint Hill Police Department at 704-545-9726 for scheduled dates of upcoming events.

Sadly, unintentional injuries remain the leading cause of death for children ages one to 14 in our community. Safe Kids Charlotte Mecklenburg (www.safekidscharmeck.org) is a coalition of government, health, and safety agencies along with educators, corporations, and individuals who are interested in preventing childhood injury and death in Mecklenburg County. Our coalition provides leadership to Mecklenburg County in an effort to reduce unintentional childhood injury. We identify and target the injury problems most prevalent in our community.

From Chief Tim Ledford

Then, by calling on the combined resources of our diverse membership, we plan and implement strategies to address those problems. Our primary focus is to educate children, parents, caregivers, and the public; advocate for child safety; and conduct injury prevention programs in Mecklenburg County. One of 450 worldwide coalitions dedicated to unintentional injury, Safe Kids Charlotte Mecklenburg is a proud member of Safe Kids Worldwide (www.usa.safekids.org) and was named the 2006 National Coalition of the Year.



Mayor's Message

Mayor Ted Biggers, Jr.

Spring greetings from Town Hall! We are grateful that warmer days have finally arrived, energizing us for the work that lies ahead. Several important items on the Town's immediate schedule are preparing the budget for this fiscal year, building the new Town Hall, and various community events.

Upcoming budget workshops are being scheduled for fiscal year 2011-2012. Although the economy is slowly recovering from the economic crisis, the Town's revenue budgeting philosophy has always been conservative, enabling us to weather the crisis without affecting Town services. Identifying the Town's most important long-term interests, goal-setting for the future and working toward these goals will continue to be our primary focus. Please visit our website at www.minthill.com for information on the monthly Board of Commissioners and budget workshop meetings.

We are looking forward to getting the new Town Hall building project underway, and it will take about a year to complete. The new building will be located at 4430 Mint Hill Village Lane, at the apex of the traffic circle in Mint Hill Village on Matthews-Mint Hill Road near the intersection of Cresthill Drive. The

beautiful facility will create a center for our downtown and be a source of pride for all citizens. The current Town Hall will be remodeled to meet the growing needs of the Mint Hill Police Department.

The Town always has something to offer citizens by way of social and cultural events. "Movies on the Lawn" is a month-long showing of a family-friendly movie each Friday evening in May. Please bring a lawn chair or blanket and sit back and enjoy the show on the front lawn of Town Hall. A few other events are June Tunes, Art in the Park, and the Scottish Festival. Please visit our website at www.minthill.com for more information on these and other community events.

Mint Hill citizens always take pride in their community and this quality makes our Town a special place to be. Have an enjoyable and safe spring and summer. Hope to see you around Town.

Best wishes,

Ted H. Biggers, Jr.



**Movies
on the Lawn**

**Showing time is
at dusk...**

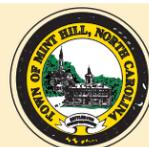
**Bring a lawn chair or
blanket**

**May 13th
Toy Story 3 G**

**May 20th
Yogi Bear PG**

**May 27th
How to Train Your
Dragon PG**

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



The Mayor, Commission, Staff and the Mecklenburg County Land Use and Environmental Service Agency contributed articles to this newsletter. The Mint Hill News is published by the Town of Mint Hill and mailed to each household in Town.

Bain School Elementary Visits Town Hall Government

It was a beautiful spring day for a field trip to Town Hall and a lesson in local government. The Bain School second grade class in Mint Hill was greeted by Town Clerk Beth Hamrick, who had the role of docent. As she led the tour she introduced the students to the various Town departments – Clerk's Office, Planning, Finance, Human Resources, and Town Manager. She also described their importance in serving the community.

"This is Margie Nichols, our code enforcement officer," Beth explained. "If a house has trash or old junk cars in the yard, you would call Margie, and she would make sure that the owner of the property cleans it up." The children continued quietly on down the hall and stopped at the Mayor's office where Mayor Ted Biggers was on hand to welcome the group. Beth reported

that the Mayor has the very important job of ensuring that the Town operates efficiently and effectively. He is elected to this position by receiving the most votes from Mint Hill citizens. In addition, the children visited the Mint Hill Police Department where Ajay, the black German Shepherd drug-sniffing dog, was available for photographs along with his handler Sergeant Thomas McKenzie. One of the Mint Hill Volunteer Fire Department trucks was parked out front at the MHPD for children to see up close and speak with firefighters and emergency medical technicians. The children also visited First Citizens Bank and the Mint Hill Public Library where one of the librarians commented that the children were so quiet and



well behaved that she hardly knew they were there. After the tour, the children were served a picnic lunch on the front lawn of Town Hall. We are sure to see future elected officials and government leaders from this class of young people.

Planning Department News Your Input Requested

A survey dealing with Future Land Use issues in the Town of Mint Hill is forth coming for residents to complete. The survey, which was created using questions from the 2000 Land Use Plan Survey and also submittals from the public, will be used by the Board of Commissioners, Town staff and other Boards and committees to better understand the desires of the community

when planning for the future. The link can be found at www.minthill.com/survey and will be open in mid May 2011. Please share this link with your neighbors so we can gather as many opinions as possible. A public terminal will be available at the Mint Hill Town Hall (7151 Matthews Mint Hill Road) for those who do not have computers or internet access.



Mint Hill Farmers Market Opens For The Season Saturday, May 7th



11 am and 12 pm, historic tours on a double decker bus will take visitors to sites where the original settlers placed their roots and eventually called the area Mint Hill. The Farmers Market is located on the grounds of the Carl J. McEwen Historic Village at 7601 Matthews Mint Hill Road. www.minthillhistory.com

Open every Saturday, May through September, from 9 am – 1 pm, the market offers a variety of produce, baked goods and handcrafts.

Activities on May 7 include a 10 am ceremony celebrating the Grand Opening of the Surface Hill Assay Office, and then at

Why Scoop The Poop?

Cleaning up pet waste is good for your health and the environment. Seriously...

It is estimated that there are over 218,000 dogs in Mecklenburg County and those dogs are producing 72,000 pounds of waste each day!

Pet waste left on the ground, especially near streets and sidewalks, gets washed into storm drains which flow to your local waterway...without being treated.

Bacteria, parasites, and viruses found in pet waste can be harmful to human health and water quality. Picking up pet waste is the responsible thing to do for you, your kids and the environment.

What Can You Do? Pick up after your pet every single time. Throw away pet waste in the garbage; never wash it into the gutter or storm drain. Never dispose of waste in or leave it near creeks and lakes. Carry extra bags in your car so you are prepared when you travel with your pet. Educate neighbors. Visit <http://stormwater.charmeck.org> and click Pollution Prevention for more information



ATTENTION! Solid Waste Services

Provided By: The Town Of Mint Hill

What Do I Do With Yard Waste?

Place rubbish and yard waste at the curb by 7:00 a.m. the morning of your pickup. Weight should not exceed more than 75 lbs. per pickup.

Items contracted for pickup at the curb are: Grass clippings and leaves are to be placed in bags/cans (10 bag limit). Limbs and brush should be separated from other waste. These should be left no more than 5 ft. 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.

If yard debris exceeds these specifications, no service will be provided. **Absolutely NO** building materials, wood blocks, tree stumps or logs are to be placed by the curb. If you have questions about having something picked up, please contact the Town of Mint Hill, 704-545-9726 or that of our contractor, R.C.S., Inc. 704-376-9359.

Town Trash Schedule for 2011

July 4, 2011 (Independence Day)
Monday- All households will receive services one day delayed.

September 5, 2011 (Labor Day)
Monday - All households will receive services one day delayed.

November 24, 2011 (Thanksgiving)
Thursday -Households will receive services one day delayed.

December 25, 2011 (Christmas)
Sunday - RCS will take Monday as the holiday. All households will receive services one day delayed. No yard debris that week.

January 1, 2012 (New Year's Day)
Sunday - RCS will take Monday as the holiday. All households will receive services one day delayed.

Volunteer Fire Department NEWS

from Fire Chief Jeremy Russell

Spring has finally arrived, and it's time to prepare for your favorite spring activities like barbecuing on the grill, outdoor sporting events, yard work and everyone's favorite - spring cleaning. While clearing out the unwanted items, it is a good time to check your homes for unsafe conditions and to ensure your families are safe from potential fire hazards. Here are a few fire safety tips to help you perform your annual spring cleaning tasks and ensure that your family is safe throughout the spring and summer seasons.

Check for and correct frayed or damaged extension cords and wiring on all appliances.

Clean and vacuum behind large furniture and appliances.

Clean smoke detectors. Lightly run a vacuum over your smoke detectors and change the batteries to ensure proper operation in the event of an emergency.

Place grills at least 15 feet from buildings and overhangs. Store your charcoal in a dry, cool location. Be sure to thoroughly inspect your grill before use. Grills are a favorite winter hiding place for critters.

Get rid of old newspapers, magazines and junk mail. These items tend to pile up and can greatly contribute to the severity and spread of fire.

Remove leaves and trash from carports and garages. Combustible materials are dangerous if they are exposed to heated automobile components, especially under the vehicle.

Store flammable liquids and home chemicals properly. Make sure that gasoline and home chemicals are well marked and out of the reach of children and pets. All flammables, i.e., gasoline,

should be stored in a cool dry place outside the house or work area.

Plan your escape. This is a good time to sit down with your family or co-workers and discuss what to do in the event of a fire and identify your meeting place outside the house/work area.

Spring cleanup should also apply to the kitchens. Unattended cooking fires are still the most common cause of home/residential fires across the United States.

Clean your oven and the cooking surface area of your stove. Oven fires occur when oil/grease deposits are overheated and ignite. Keep combustible items i.e. oven mitts, towels, wooden utensils, paper towels, etc. off the top of the stove.

Plug cooking appliances directly into wall outlets. Do not use extension cords or surge protectors with cooking appliances.

Ensure a safety area for children and pets around the stove or areas where hot food is prepared or served - a rule of thumb is a 3' clearance

Do not leave kitchen when you are frying, boiling or when cooking anything on cooking surface (stove top). Even if you leave the kitchen for a short period of time, turn off the stove.

When baking, roasting or boiling check the oven regularly; remain in the home while food is cooking and use a timer to remind you to check the oven while cooking.

Please contact the MHVFD - 704-545-4866 if you are in need of a smoke alarm.