

August 2014

# MINT HILL News

## BACK TO SCHOOL

### LEARN THE NORTH CAROLINA SCHOOL BUS LAWS!

Yellow flashing lights indicate that the bus is preparing to stop to pickup or drop off children. Drivers need to slow down and prepare to stop. Red flashing lights and an extended stop arm signal indicate that the bus is stopped and that children are getting on or off. Cars must stop a safe distance away and not proceed until the red lights stop flashing, the stop sign folds back, and the bus continues on its way.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**Sunday Afternoon in the Park**  
Sunday, August 24, 1:00 – 6:00 p.m.  
Wilgrove Park, 7750 Jim Harper Lane

**Veterans Day Breakfast**  
Saturday, November 8, 2014

(Please make reservations with Town Hall after receiving an invitation or veterans may call Town Hall at (704) 545-9726 to be added to the guest list)

**Monthly Coffee with a Cop**  
Visit [www.minthill.com](http://www.minthill.com) for details

## Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony

Thursday, December 4, 2014 at 7PM  
Town Hall, 4430 Mint Hill Village Lane

The new school year is just around the corner and the Mint Hill Police Department would like to remind everyone to be extra careful. Please talk to your children about being very cautious when walking to and from the bus stop. Here are a few tips:

- Get to the bus stop at least 5 minutes before the bus is scheduled to arrive.
- If you have to cross the street in front of the bus, walk on the sidewalk or along the side of the road to a point at least 10 feet in front of the bus before you cross. Make sure the driver can see you and you can see the driver.
- Pay attention to all traffic signals. Wear reflective clothing and bright colors so drivers can see you.

Drivers also need to be aware when school is back in session. As the days get shorter, there will be less daylight and children will be out early in the morning and more difficult to see.

- Drive slowly and watch for children entering the street behind buses or running to catch the bus.
- Be aware of children playing or waiting around bus stops.

The Mayor, Commissioners and Staff contributed articles to this newsletter. The Mint Hill News is published by the Town of Mint Hill and mailed to each household in Town.

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



**MINT HILL**  
**FARMERS MARKET**  
**Saturdays**  
**May thru September**

Carl J. McEwen Historic Village  
7601 Matthews Mint Hill Road  
Mint Hill, North Carolina

Home grown, home made and hand made...that's what you'll find at the Mint Hill Farmers Market. Local vendors, bakers, crafters, and farmers offer their goods in the Carl J. McEwen Historic Village.

Shop the market, stroll through the village, visit the museums, pan for gold and then sit back and enjoy the old time music played by 'Doc's Front Porch'.

**Buy Local**

**Step Into History**  
Museums open 10-12

**PAN FOR GOLD!**  
Dare gold in the Mint Hill!

**MINT HILL News**

TOWN OF MINT HILL  
4430 MINT HILL VILLAGE LANE  
MINT HILL, NORTH CAROLINA 28227-0272  
[www.minthill.com](http://www.minthill.com)



**f Find us on Facebook**

If you're on Facebook, search for Town of Mint Hill, North Carolina and "like" our page! We post various updates and photos throughout the week, and we hope you'll join us on social media!

[www.facebook.com/minthillnc](http://www.facebook.com/minthillnc)

### Mint Hill News Goes Digital Starting January 2015!!!

In an effort to reduce our carbon footprint, starting January 2015, the Mint Hill News will no longer be delivered to your U.S. mailbox. Mint Hill citizens are encouraged to sign up to receive the newsletter and updates on key Town information. To sign up for the newsletter, go to [www.minthill.com/list.aspx](http://www.minthill.com/list.aspx) and subscribe to the Mint Hill News. If you wish to continue to receive a hard copy of the newsletter you can sign up on our website or come into Town Hall and we will add you to our list.

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## Mayor's Message

Mayor Ted H. Biggers, Jr.



It's hard to believe summer is winding down as the days are getting shorter. That only means we get to enjoy the beautiful Mint Hill sunsets a little earlier each night.

This spring the Board conducted its annual budget workshops as we reviewed the financial condition of the Town and worked on formulating a budget for Fiscal year 2015. We held our public meeting and the Board adopted the budget on June 12. We are pleased to announce the tax rate remains unchanged at \$0.27 per \$100 of valuation. We were able to develop a budget that addressed all the goals and needs as identified by the Board and maintain the same tax rate as 2014. You can see the details of the budget on our website at [www.minthill.com](http://www.minthill.com).

Many of you, myself included, were concerned about moving Mint Hill Madness to the spring and back to the park. I am pleased to report we had one of the most successful events ever. I want to thank Mint Hill Events, Inc., the Mint Hill Police Department, the Mint Hill Volunteer Fire Department and all the staff and volunteers who showcased our quintessential all-American Town that we all love.

I am so proud of our Town! If you're looking to make friends fast and immerse yourself in your hometown, I hope you will consider joining one

of Mint Hill's many civic organizations, such as the Arts and Science Council, Mint Hill Arts, or Mint Hill Historical Society. We have a lot to offer: our excellent Town services, our beautiful parks, and miles of new sidewalks.

Mint Hill's civic oriented citizens may be one reason why crime is kept to a minimum. Mint Hill was ranked 13th in the 50 Safest Cities in North Carolina. Thank you to our outstanding Mint Hill Police Department. I assure you we are striving to become number one on that list.

We are fortunate to have such caring citizens within our community which makes Mint Hill "one of a kind" within Mecklenburg County. We encourage our residents to join our Board of Commissioners at our public meetings the second and fourth Thursdays of each month at Town Hall to listen or participate in matters of local importance.

Mint Hill is my home. Liz and I raised our children here. Thank you for the opportunity to serve you and help to build something wonderful that we will all leave for our children and grandchildren. I hope to see you around Town.

Warm regards,

*Ted H. Biggers, Jr.*

## Two New Grocery Stores Coming to Mint Hill

Mint Hill residents will soon have a plethora of options when it comes to grocery shopping. In addition to Harris Teeter and Food Lion, residents can now add ALDI and Publix to their options. Both stores plan to open by the end of the year. Competition makes everyone step up their game and in the end, it's the residents of Mint Hill who win.



Publix

## Available Soon... Online Park Reservations



We are pleased to announce that soon you will be able to complete an online form for all park reservations including major and minor event applications. Payment and proof of residency must be submitted to Town Hall within 24 hours of making the reservation. Your reservation will not be confirmed until payment is received at Town Hall. More information will be available in the Parks and Recreation section of the Town website.

[www.minthill.com](http://www.minthill.com)

Special thanks to our

# Summer INTERNS



Casey Taylor is a senior at Independence High School who interned with us this summer. He started behind the scenes as the Marketing Director for Mint Hill Madness. The Town was fortunate to be able to utilize Casey's graphic design skills, which captured the essence of Mint Hill. Casey is responsible for the redesign of the Mint Hill Newsletter. Thanks Casey for your service to the Town of Mint Hill.



Cassandra Khan is a junior at North Carolina State University and this is her second summer interning with the Mint Hill Police Department. This summer she has been tasked with gathering stats for the last three years of crime trends. Thanks again Cassandra for your service to the Mint Hill Police Department.

## New, Free Standing Emergency Department Opens!



Mint Hill residents now have another option for emergency care. Carolina's Health Care System has built a free standing emergency facility on Rocky River Rd. The facility will offer full service emergency care with doctors and nurses who have received specialized emergency care training. The facility is designed to offer the same level of care as a traditional emergency room, treating a wide variety of conditions including chest pains, stroke, orthopedic injuries and many other medical emergencies. Carolina's Health Care claims it can save a patient more than an hour of time from a traditional emergency room.

## Mint Hill Becomes Even More Walkable

Over the past several months you will notice an increase in the miles of sidewalks in Mint Hill. We are fortunate to have sidewalks and beautiful weather in which to enjoy the healthy benefits of walking. Studies have shown that walking can reduce risk of coronary heart disease and stroke, reduce high cholesterol, help control body weight and increase mental well being. In a nutshell, you can increase your chances of living longer by the simple act of walking 30 minutes per day. So take advantage of your Town's sidewalks and the beautiful North Carolina weather and do something positive for yourself.

## Budget Adopted

In June, the Town of Mint Hill Board of Commissioners adopted the Budget for Fiscal year 2014-2015 continuing the same tax rate of \$0.27 cents per \$100 valuation. Due to the judicious planning and conservative spending philosophy of the Town's elected officials and Town Manager, the tax rate has not changed since 2011 when it went down from \$0.275 cents per \$100 valuation. Our citizens and Board have much to be proud of with a tax rate of \$0.27 cents. Our tax rate is one of the lowest in the State for a municipality of our size. A copy of the adopted budget is available on our website.

## 2014 Holiday Collection Schedule

### Labor Day - Monday September 1

All households will receive trash and recycling services one day delayed.

### Thanksgiving - Thursday, November 27

Thursday households will receive trash and recycling one day delayed.

### Christmas Day - Thursday, December 25

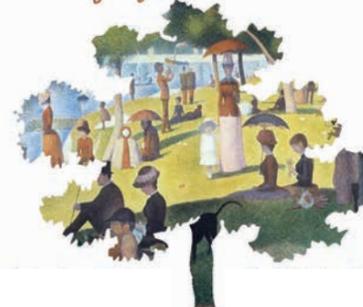
Thursday households will receive trash and recycling services one day delayed.

### New Years Day - Thursday, January 1, 2015

Thursday households will receive trash and recycling services one day delayed.

Note: Yard debris pickup will vary during the week of a holiday. Please have your yard debris to the curb by 7:00 AM on Monday. No yard debris pickup December 29-January 2.

## Sunday Afternoon in the Park



Local artists and community members will gather in Mint Hill for the annual Sunday Afternoon in the Park on August 24. The free event runs from 1 to 6 p.m. at the Wilgrove Park located at 7750 Jim Harper Lane. The festival is an opportunity for local artists of all kinds - potters, painters, sculptors, musicians and more - to showcase their work and give community members the chance to meet artists and purchase their work. An average of 40 to 50 artists will be stationed throughout Wilgrove Park with displays of their artwork.

