

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## ARTS AND SCIENCE COUNCIL CHILI COOK-OFF

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 11:30am - 1:30pm  
Spotlight Performing Arts Academy  
7714 Matthews-Mint Hill Road

## BIZ EXPO EVENT

THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 4 - 7pm  
Blair Road Methodist Church  
9135 Blair Road, Mint Hill

## DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SEMINAR

TUESDAY, APRIL 8, 6 - 8pm  
Town Hall Assembly Room

## RELAY FOR LIFE

FRIDAY, MAY 16, 6pm  
Mint Hill Veterans Park on Fairview Road



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

*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.*

# MINT HILL NEWS

February 2014



Serving the Citizens of the Town of Mint Hill



## MAYOR'S MESSAGE

Mayor Ted Biggers, Jr.

The safety of our citizens is the Town's number one priority, and the Town of Mint Hill is a participant in the new CharMeck Alerts Notification System. If you have not registered, visit [www.minthill.com](http://www.minthill.com) and click on CharMeck Alerts to complete your notification information. You may elect to receive updates on Important Community Alerts, Transportation Alerts, information on Towns within Mecklenburg County, and Solid Waste Services.

The Town of Mint Hill is proud of its excellent quality of life. Please take advantage of all that our community has to offer. My best wishes for a safe and prosperous New Year. I hope to see you around Town.

Warm regards,

*Ted Biggers*

*New Year's Greetings* from Town Hall!

As we begin 2014, the following quote by English writer G. K. Chesterton rings true, **"Unless a man starts afresh about things, he will certainly do nothing effective."** The start of this new year brings fresh opportunities to become more involved in our thriving community. The newsletter highlights a number of events that you will not want to miss.

It has become an annual tradition - the **Arts & Science Council Chili Cook-off Fundraiser**. Spotlight Performing Arts Academy, located at 7714 Matthews-Mint Hill Road, will host the event again this year. What better place to have a fundraiser for the arts than Mint Hill's new teaching center for singers, dancers, musicians, actors, and writers of all ages. The cook-off's theme is **Wanted, the Best Chili in Town**. If you make a mean pot of chili and would like to participate, please contact Margie Nichols at 704-545-9726 or [mnichols@admin.minthill.com](mailto:mnichols@admin.minthill.com). The cook-off is scheduled Thursday, February 27, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Whether you are a chef or a connoisseur, please come out and help raise money for the arts in our community.

Another Mint Hill tradition is **Mint Hill Madness**. The festival is scheduled for Memorial Day weekend, the last weekend in May, and will be held at Veterans Memorial Park on Fairview Road. More information is forthcoming on the schedule of events. Please stay tuned to the Town's website, Facebook page and local media.

TOWN OF MINT HILL • PO BOX 23457  
MINT HILL, NORTH CAROLINA 28227-0272  
[www.minthill.com](http://www.minthill.com)

MINT HILL NEWS



## PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Don't be a **LitterBug!**

### IT'S THE LAW!!!

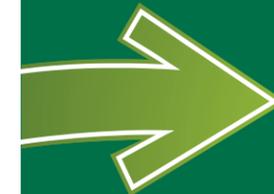
Littering is against the law and carries a sizable fine. The minimum fine for a first offense of littering is \$250 with maximum fines going as high as \$1000. Subsequent offenses can bring community service requirements and fines of up to \$2000. If you see someone littering on the highway, you can call \*HP and you will be connected to the nearest Highway Patrol dispatch center. **You can also report litterbugs through the Dept. of Transportations' Swat-A-Litterbug Program. Call our Customer Service Office at 311 or 1-877-DOT-4YOU (1-877-368-4968.)**



*Your Town Hall  
- a Winter Wonderland*

US POSTAGE  
PAID  
CHARLOTTE, NC  
PERMIT NO. 1833

## TOWN OF MINT HILL IS NOW ON FACEBOOK



## ALERT NOTIFICATION SYSTEM

The Town of Mint Hill is a participant in the new CharMeck Alerts Notification System. REGISTER TODAY at [www.minthill.com](http://www.minthill.com)

## BE A WATER WATCHER

Download the new **WATER WATCHERS APP** to report pollution in creeks and lakes.



# 8th Annual Chili Cook-off

February 27, 2014

11:30am-1:30pm

Spotlight Performing Arts Academy  
7714 Matthews-Mint Hill Road

The Town of Mint Hill will be sponsoring its **Eighth Annual Arts & Science Council Chili Cook-Off Fundraiser** on Thursday, February 27. The location is Spotlight Performing Arts Academy. Promoting a western flavor, **"Wanted, the Best Chili in Town"** is the theme of this year's cook-off. The ASC provides direct investments and services to arts, science and history/heritage organizations in Mint Hill and throughout Mecklenburg County.

Each chili entry will be judged by a special guest chef, and participants may cast their ballot in the Wild West Crowd Pleaser category to vote for their favorite chili. The cost to sample the chili is \$5.00.

There is no fee to enter your chili, but please complete the participant registration form found on the Town's website [www.minthill.com](http://www.minthill.com) under Calendar, or contact **Margie Nichols 704-545-9726, e-mail - mnichols@admin.minthill.com** by February 21.

Entries: Chili entries may be by an individual or an organization. Each entry should include a pot/crock pot of chili, large serving spoon, cheese (or appropriate topping), and the crackers or chips that best compliment the dish. Cooks may create a descriptive name for their chili entry.



## JUDGING CATEGORIES

*Lone Star*

*Judges Choice - First prize over all*

*Muy Caliente*

*The hottest/spiciest*

*The Good, the Bad, the Most Original*

*Perhaps your secret recipe*

*Local Flavor Award*

*Town of Mint Hill restaurant participants*

*Most D 'electable*

*Best chili submitted by Mint Hill's Mayor and Commissioners*

*Big Circle Riders Chili*

*Best chili by Mint Hill Department*

*Wild West Crowd Pleaser*

*Chili with the most votes*

The chili cook (or an appropriate designee) must be present for the duration of the event. This individual should bring the chili in a crock pot along with a large dipping spoon, cheese (or appropriate topping), and crackers or chips to Spotlight Performing Arts Academy no later than 11 a.m., on February 27. We will have tables set up and extension cords and multi plugs available for plugging in the crock pots.

Please come and support this worthwhile endeavor to promote the arts in our community. Individual donations may be made to the Arts and Science Council. For more information, visit [www.artsandscience.org](http://www.artsandscience.org) or contact **704.333.2272**.



## MINT HILL Fire NEWS

### Heating Safety

Use Kerosene Heaters and Space Heaters according to the manufacturer's instructions.

Alternative heaters need their space. Keep anything combustible at least three (3) feet away.

Make sure your alternative heaters have 'tip switches.' These 'tip switches' are designed to automatically turn off the heater in the event they tip over.

to heat your home. In addition to being a fire hazard, it can be a source of toxic fumes. Never refill a space heater while it is operating or still hot.

Refuel heaters only outdoors.

Make sure wood stoves are properly installed, and at least three feet away from combustible materials. Ensure they have the proper floor support and adequate ventilation.

Do not use the kitchen oven range



## MINT HILL Police NEWS

CHARLOTTE TO WASHINGTON

MAY 9 - 13, 2014

Sgt. Thomas McKenzie of the Mint Hill Police Department will join other area officers this spring in the 500-mile, four-day "Bike to D.C." bicycle ride from Charlotte to Washington, D.C. in time for the annual candlelight vigil at the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial. Money is being raised to help the families of local fallen officers. If you are interested in donating, please visit <http://www.biketodc.com/>.

### WHO'S NEW AT THE MHPD?

The Mint Hill Police Department welcomed a few new employees in 2013. Below is a listing of their names and titles. The department has grown to a total of 37 employees.

- Zaida Agudo – Evidence Technician
- Michael Austin – Police Officer
- Tara Gibson – Records Clerk
- Joshua Kelly – Police Officer
- Amy Stamper-Hartsell – Police Officer
- Michael Maness – Police Officer
- Mitchell Queen – Police Officer



## MINT HILL

*focus*

Sheryl Smith

New Town Citizen & Employee

One of the Town's newest citizens is also the Town's newest employee. Sheryl Smith and her family arrived in Mint Hill August 2013 from Ann Arbor, Michigan as a result of her husband Todd's job transfer. Fortunately for the Town, Sheryl applied for the new Board approved position and had the experience required. The position manages the administrative work of the town manager's office.

Sheryl has 26 years experience as an executive assistant with the University of Michigan, Stephen M. Ross School of Business in Ann Arbor and has a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration.

She and her husband have two children, Alexis, 19, and Hunter, 20. We are pleased to have Sheryl as our new Town employee and Mint Hill citizen.

## RAIN BARRELS

A rain barrel is a device that collects and stores rainwater from your roof that would otherwise run off your property and flow to local lakes and streams. Usually a rain barrel is made of a 55 gallon or larger drum, overflow valves, a screen grate to keep debris and insects out, and a faucet to allow water to run out when needed.

According to the EPA, of the 29 billion gallons of water used daily by households in the U.S., 30 percent is used for outdoor uses. That percentage goes up in the summer. A rain barrel collects water and stores it for when you need it most - during periods of drought - to water plants - wash your car - or to top a swimming pool. In fact, one inch of rain falling on a 1,000 square-foot roof has the potential to harvest 600 gallons of rainwater. That is more than an ample supply of free "soft water", containing no chlorine, lime or calcium making it ideal for gardens, flower pots, and car and window washing.

Diverting water from storm drains also decreases the impact of runoff to streams. Therefore, a rain barrel is an easy way for you to have a consistent supply of clean, fresh water for outdoor use... **FREE**.

Rain barrels are available locally from the Mecklenburg Soil & Water Conservation District year round. **You can get more information on pricing and ordering information at 704-336-2455 or [www.mecklenburgconservation.com](http://www.mecklenburgconservation.com)**

# Mint Hill Chamber BIZ EXPO

Network. Expand. Generate.



The Mint Hill Chamber of Commerce is hosting its **2nd Annual BIZ EXPO** event on Thursday, March 13th from 4 to 7 pm at Blair Road Methodist Church (9135 Blair Rd).

This event will feature approximately 50 local businesses showcasing their products and services, with prizes & drawings available to the public.

Title sponsor for 2014 is **Messer Financial Group**, a Mint Hill based insurance/financial agency. Messer currently works with over 12,000 independent insurance agents nationwide, and was ranked the Carolina's #1 largest agency by the Charlotte Business Journal in 2013.

**Sam's Club** of Matthews will represent 1 of the 3 area sponsorships available.

This event is **FREE** and **OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**. Contact the chamber office for more info 704-573-8282.

**MESSER**  
Financial Group



STRICK  
TREE SERVICES



Savings Made Simple

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