



Our River Bend Community
BY MAYOR JOHN KIRKLAND

The word, “community,” is defined as “a feeling of fellowship with others.” I witnessed that definition in action as I went about Town during the past couple weeks. I share some of the events that I observed.

My commute from my home to Town Hall covers a distance of less than a mile. On a recent morning during that commute, I saw nine elementary school children waiting for their school bus. How fortunate our Town is to be home to these young students who are a vital part of the community. At an event held out-

side River Bend, I had a discussion with a grade school student who had lived in River Bend previously. He spoke at length about how much he liked our community and the activities he enjoyed while living here, several of which he misses now.

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On May 14 the Town Council held its annual picnic to honor the volunteers who serve on the Town’s Advisory Boards as well as the volunteers who serve the River Bend Community in other capacities. Each of these individuals attending the event generously dedicates time and talent to help our Town.

I will share my observation of some events that have taken place at Town Park facilities recently which are characteristic of River Bend:

- ◆ Parks and Recreation sponsored a children’s Fishing Tournament in April which was well attended. Children, parents and grandparents clearly had an enjoyable day.
- ◆ The Dog Park has been well received. It is not uncommon to see a half dozen dogs running the length of the field while the owners assemble as a group

INSIDE THIS EDITION

MAYOR’S REPORT
PAGE 1

TOWN MANAGER’S REPORT
PAGE 3

WRD/PW REPORT
PAGE 4

COMING EVENTS
PAGE 5

COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE
PAGE 6

LEAF & LIMB SCHEDULE
PAGE 6

JULY 4TH CELEBRATION
PAGE 7

ETCETERA
PAGE 8

talking and watching their pets enjoy themselves. One morning I observed four or five dogs playing together in the park. When a car entered the parking lot, one dog walked toward the fence. Immediately, all of the other dogs ran to greet the new arrival. It is gratifying to see this facility being enjoyed by our canine and human residents.

- ◆ The basketball court in Town Commons Park is one of the most popular amenities in Town. Young people play basketball there most days of the week.
- ◆ The Red Caboose Library staff has been actively encouraging young children to read for enjoyment. This wonderful pastime will certainly serve them well in their student careers and throughout their lives.
- ◆ The Walking Trail through Town Commons and Ritter Field is also very popular. A grant from the Parks and Recreation Trust Fund (PARTF) made the walking trail possible.
- ◆ The playground equipment at Town Hall and the picnic tables nearby are in frequent use. Families with young children often enjoy picnic lunches and play time together in the playground.
- ◆ The Town has a kayak launch situated on a beautiful site on the Trent River, accessible from Gull Pointe. This amenity was made possible through a grant from the Coastal Area Management Authority (CAMA) which funded the major portion of the construction costs.

A casual observation of Town owned properties and rights-of-way will show that they are attractive and well maintained. The Town's Community Appearance Committee (CAC) works with the Council and Town Manager to

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determine current and long-range planning needs to maintain and enhance the overall appearance of these properties. The CAC provides project recommendations to the Council each year during the budget preparation work sessions.

River Bend is a COMMUNITY of which we can all be justly proud to call home. The Town is fortunate to own nearly twelve acres of land and parking space surrounding Town Hall with which to serve the recreational needs of this community. I offer my thanks to present and past members of the CAC for the positive impact contributed to River Bend and to our neighbors who volunteer time and talent to help make our Community attractive and desirable. ●



**TOWN MANAGER'S
REPORT**

BY TOWN MANAGER DELANE JACKSON

I am pleased to announce that the Town of River Bend has received the 2015 Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) award for Distinguished Budget Presentation. According to the GFOA, “ This award is the highest form of recognition in governmental budgeting. Its attainment represents a significant achievement by your organization.” It was awarded to us based on the budget process and presentation that we utilize. The budget document

is available on our web page. It is the sixth year in a row that we have earned this award.

We have also been awarded the 2015 GFOA Certificate of Recognition for Excellence in Financial Reporting. According to GFOA, “This award represents the highest form of recognition in governmental accounting and financial reporting. Its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management.” It was

awarded to us based on our Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR). The CAFR is available on our web page. It is the fifth year in a row that we have earned

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this award. Both the budget document and the CAFR are produced by our Town staff.

This year’s budget process is nearly complete. The Town Council has conducted one budget retreat, six budget work sessions and has held a public

hearing on the proposed Fiscal Year 2016-17 budget. On June 16, 2016, the Council will take final action on the proposal and the budget will become effective on July 1st. ●



WRD/PW
APRIL REPORT
BY BRANDON MILLS
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

With the warmer weather in April, Public Works started sealing cracks in our roadways. The purpose of sealing cracks is to prevent rainwater from undermining the roadbed which will lead to asphalt failure. We always use the necessary safety precautions when our team is sealing the streets; but, if you are driving down the road and see the guys sealing, please wait until they motion for you to pass! We also repaired a couple of stormwater catch basins. Both basins had

broken areas around the pipe joint that connects to the catch basin. These areas were repaired with hydraulic cement.

Utility Services completed the interior and exterior painting on the water tower located on Plantation Drive. Our other water tower on Shoreline Drive is scheduled to have an interior coating sometime in May. This work is necessary to

keep both tanks in good working condition. I would like to thank Utility Services for a job well done. We have, however, postponed our water system flushing schedule to after all work is completed on the water towers because we need both towers

“We have, however, postponed our water system flushing schedule to after all work is completed on the water towers because we need both towers operating to maintain system pressure during the flushing process.”

“We always use the necessary safety precautions when our team is sealing the streets; but, if you are driving down the road and see the guys sealing, please wait until they motion for you to pass!”

operating to maintain system pressure during the flushing process.

If you have any questions about the Water Resources/Public Works Department, please call us at 638-3540, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. After-hours water and sewer emergencies can be reported by dialing Town Hall at 638-3870. You will be instructed to then dial “9” and follow the

directions to contact the on-call duty operator. You will be asked to enter your phone number at the sound of the tone. After entering your phone number, the automated system will inform you that your page has been sent. Please, be patient and our utility operator will return your call. If you do not receive a call back within ten minutes, please notify the Police Department at 638-1108. ●

COMING EVENTS

Council Work Session
June 9
7:00 p.m.
Town Hall

Council Meeting
June 16
7:00 p.m.
Town Hall

Family Fun Day
June 12
3:00 – 5:00 p.m.
Town Hall

**Small Space Gardening
Free Workshop**
June 14
6:30 p.m.
Town Hall
presented by
Community Organic Garden &
Education Center



Severe Weather Fair
Saturday, June 18
10:00 – 2:00
Town Hall

**July 4th Parade &
Celebration**
Monday, July 4th
10:30 a.m. – Parade
11:30 a.m. – Picnic
Town Park & Commons
sponsored by
Parks & Recreation



**RIVER BEND
NEWS**

FROM TOWN HALL
is published monthly by the
River Bend Town Council for
the residents of the Town of
River Bend.

MAYOR
John Kirkland

TOWN COUNCIL
Luci Avery
Bill Camp
Buddy Sheffield
Irving "Bud" Van Slyke, Jr.
Pat Yocum

TOWN MANAGER
Delane Jackson

TOWN CLERK
Ann Katsuyoshi

FINANCE ADMINISTRATOR
Margaret Theis

POLICE CHIEF
Ryland E. Matthews

**DIRECTOR OF
PUBLIC WORKS**
Brandon Mills

**ASSISTANT
ZONING ADMINISTRATOR**
Chris Harmon

**GRAPHIC DESIGN &
TYPOGRAPHY**
Kathleen De Young

Contact Us:
45 Shoreline Drive
River Bend, NC 28562
252.638-3870
www.riverbendnc.org

**Leaf & Limb
Collection
Schedule for
2015-2016**

Residents may begin
placing their yard debris
street side on the dates
indicated in parentheses

Zone 1 Pick Up Begins

- July 13, 2015
July 8, 2014
- September 8, 2015
September 3, 2015
- November 2, 2015
October 28, 2015
- January 11, 2016
(includes Christmas trees)
January 6, 2016
- March 14, 2016
March 9, 2016
- May 9, 2016
May 4, 2016

Zone 2 Pick Up Begins

- July 20, 2015
July 15, 2015
- September 21, 2015
September 16, 2015
- November 9, 2015
November 4, 2015
- January 19, 2016
(includes Christmas trees)
January 13, 2016
- March 21, 2016
March 16, 2016
- May 16, 2016
May 11, 2016

Pinecones, pine straw and
leaves must be bagged. For
additional important informa-
tion about River Bend's Leaf
& Limb collection program,
please see our Ordinance online
at www.riverbendnc.org. ●

**Town Council
2016 Meeting Dates**

- Work Session January 14
- Council Retreat January 21**
- Regular Meeting January 21
- Work Session February 11
- Regular Meeting February 18

- Budget Meeting..... March 8
- Work Session March 10
- ~~Budget Meeting..... March 15~~ Canceled due to
Election Primary
- Regular Meeting March 17
- Budget Meeting..... March 22
- Budget Meeting..... March 29

- Budget Meeting..... April 5
- Budget Meeting..... April 12
- Work Session April 14
- ~~Budget Meeting..... April 19~~ Canceled
- Regular Meeting April 21
- Budget Meeting April 26

- Council Retreat May 12
- Work Session May 12
- Regular Meeting May 19

- Work Session June 9
- Regular Meeting June 16

- Work Session July 14
- Regular Meeting July 24

- Work Session August 11
- Regular Meeting August 18

- Work Session September 8
- Regular Meeting September 15

- Work Session October 13
- Regular Meeting October 20

- Work Session November 10
- Regular Meeting November 17

- Work Session December 8
- Regular Meeting December 15

*All Council Work Sessions and Regular Meetings will be held in the River Bend Town Hall beginning at 7:00 p.m. All Council Retreats will be held at the Offices of Sumrell, Sugg, Carmichael, Hicks and Hart, PA, 416 Pollock Street, New Bern, NC beginning at 5:00 p.m. All Council Budget Sessions will be held in the River Bend Town Hall beginning at 4:00 p.m. **3:00 PM at Town Hall.*

**Green type indicates a completed leaf & limb collection*

FOURTH OF JULY
RIVER BEND TOWN COMMONS

8:45am Food delivery to Town Hall
 10:00am Parade Line-up
 10:30am **PARADE**
 11:00am National Anthem & Intro of Dignitaries
 11:15am Activities begin* see below
 11:30am **FOOD LINE OPENS**
 12:00am Cake Walk

Donation \$3.00 per meal
 Hot Dogs, Potato Salad, Coleslaw, Baked Beans & Soda

ACTIVITIES:
 Children's Games, Moonwalk Bounce House, Kayaks, Antique Vehicles, Horses, Motorcycles, Volleyball, Live Music (the BEARS), and more...

River Bend Parks & Rec Needs Your Help

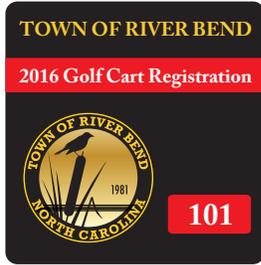
FOR THE
FOURTH of JULY
 CELEBRATION

to donate food: (if your last name starts with)
 A to K - salads without mayo or eggs
 L to S - Cupcakes, Brownies or Cookies
 T to Z - cut up Fruit

to help with the Children's Games :
 Contact Ellen Serra 571-4817

to donate cakes for the Cake Walk:
 Contact Gail Lehman 288-6872

to help serve food (11:30 - 12:30)
 or to clean up after lunch (1:00 - 1:30)
 Contact Barbara Maurer 670-0757



Golf Cart Registration

Town ordinances allow for residents to drive their properly equipped golf carts on River Bend streets provided that they are inspected by and registered with our Police Department. If you plan to drive your golf cart on the roadways, you must display the 2016 registration decal.

Inspection and registration are required annually. The registration fee for each golf cart is \$10.

For additional information and to make your inspection reservation, please call the River Bend Police Department at 638-1108.



Registration is Required for all Dogs and Cats

River Bend Animal Registrations for 2016 were due by March 31, 2016. All River Bend dogs and cats must be registered annually.

Office hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. through 4:00 p.m. Registration is \$10.00 per pet.

Owners must present proof of rabies vaccination at the time of registration.



Pet I. D. Photos Now Available

The Town of River Bend is now offering residents the opportunity to link a digital photo of their registered pets to our Animal Registration database. When you register your pet this year, you may submit a photo by e-mail, or staff can scan a photo for you if you prefer. This photo database will help reunite lost pets with their owners more quickly in the event a pet becomes lost.

The service is voluntary and free of charge.

DOG PARK AT RIVER BEND



River Bend dogs have their own exercise area where they can play with other canines. Situated between the Town Park and Ritter Field, the dog park gives dogs a chance to run while their owners socialize.

The park is open from sunrise to sunset for dogs with proof of current vaccinations. Separate exercise areas accommodate large and small dogs.

For complete list of rules applicable to dog park use, please visit Town Hall for a brochure or view details on our web site at www.riverbendnc.org. Dog park rules are also posted at the entrance to the park.



Sign up for our
Emergency Notification System
and receive timely notifications by phone, e-mail, text messages and more.

SIGN UP NOW
at riverbendnc.org

this service provided by the Town of River Bend through
**Blackboard
connect**



River Bend has a functional Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). For more information about this group, or to volunteer, please contact the CERT liaison, Police Officer Brandon Rohrs and/or visit our web site.



If you have a medical condition for which you require any type of special medical care during a disaster or if your medical condition requires assistance to evacuate during a disaster, you may wish to apply to Craven County for their Special Needs Registry. The River Bend Police Department can provide you with the appropriate form and provide some basic information about the County's program.



River Bend has a very active Community Watch program, supported by our Police Department. If you are interested in volunteering, call the River Bend Police Department at 638-3870.



River Bend has a skateboard park to meet the needs of some of our more athletic residents.

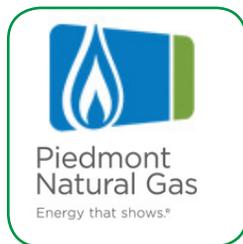
A signed parental approval form is required and helmet use is strictly enforced. For more information about the skateboard park, visit our web site or call the River Bend Police Department at 638-1108.



Our Wildwood Storage Facility offers a variety of indoor and outdoor storage areas to meet all of your storage needs, including parking spaces for RVs and boats. For more information, call 638-3870, ext 216.



The Arbor Day Foundation awarded the Town of River Bend the Tree City USA designation for a seventh consecutive year. River Bend is one of only 86 communities in North Carolina to achieve this designation. To learn more about Tree City USA, visit our web site.



INTERESTED IN NATURAL GAS?

As Piedmont Natural Gas plans expansion of their system, they take into account requests for new customer service. If you are interested in Natural Gas Service, let them know you want their service. Like any other business, they need to invest where there is a higher likelihood of some return on the investment. You can express your interest by calling Piedmont's customer service number and telling them your address and telling them that you would like Piedmont Natural Gas to serve River Bend. The number to call is: 1-800-752-7504.



Solicitation List Update

In accordance with the Town of River Bend Code of Ordinances, § 13.01.006, "Regulation of Solicitors," the Town is currently updating its lists of residents who would like to receive solicitations at their door.

Door-to-door solicitation will be permitted only at those addresses on the list. To add your name to the list of those wishing to receive solicitations please call the Town Clerk at 638-3870, ext. 202 or e-mail her at townclerk@riverbendnc.org. Residents who do not wish to receive solicitors need do nothing.