

RIVER BEND NEWS

FROM TOWN HALL

www.riverbendnc.org



THE COMMUNITY FABRIC
BY MAYOR JOHN KIRKLAND

The analogy of fabric is a very good way to describe what shapes the character of a city or town. The term can be applied to any large metropolitan area or to a town like River Bend. Within the structure of the municipality, there are many organizations that, when woven together, form the community fabric. Some of these organizations have official ties to the local government and others have only a peripheral relationship.

The Town and its residents benefit greatly from the diversity of volunteer organizations in River Bend and the members they attract. Their dedication results in a strong community spirit as many individuals work for the collective wellbeing of their neighbors.

The following is a list of contributing River Bend non-government organizations which contribute to our community. They are not presented in order of importance:

1. The First Responders and Rhems Volunteer Fire Department

These two organizations provide a professional and rapid response to River Benders in time of health or fire emergencies. The Fire Department has a more direct relationship to the Craven County Government but its primary service area is River Bend and environs. The strength of this volunteer group of men and women represents a great example of an essential thread of our fabric.

2. The River Bend Garden Club

The Garden Club has no formal connection to Town government but has, for the entire history of the Town, contributed significantly to the beauty of River Bend. During its monthly meetings, the Club has consistently engaged informed speakers who provide expert information on plant selection, planting techniques, fertilization and seasonal care

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necessary to maintain healthy lawns and gardens. Club members are thus able to present an attractive home and community.

3. The Red Caboose Library

The Library has been a longtime “stand alone” feature of the community. As the name implies, it was originally housed in the Red Caboose located on the Town Commons. The Library moved to its present location in the barn when the Town acquired that property in 1999. The Red Caboose Library is a volunteer-staffed amenity available to all River Benders, and is a wonderful example of the commitment of citizens serving their neighbors.

4. Friends Helping Friends

Friends Helping Friends volunteers provide the following types of service to River Benders: transportation to medical appointments or to church, help with pets, caregiver respite, reading to shut-ins, and lending various health care recovery items, such as canes, wheelchairs and walkers. Friends Helping Friends is not affiliated with River Bend government, but was started by and is comprised of caring members of this community in order to be of service to their neighbors. This organization is testimony to the strong sense of community in River Bend.

5. The River Bend Community Organic Garden

The Community Garden has a tangential relationship to the Town’s Parks and Recreation Board but is administered independently from the organizational guidance of the Town Council. The members have created a remarkable garden that attracts the attention of area citizens beyond River Bend’s boundaries. The Garden partnered with the Green Team, an environmental science club at New Bern High School. Students come to the garden biweekly to get hands-on experience with best practices for sustainable gardening. The Community Garden educates and encourages residents to improve their health and wellbeing by raising sustainable organic food through best practice methods. The Garden offers members an opportunity to learn skills that they can then apply in their own gardens and home landscape.

Next month I will discuss the volunteers who serve on the several Town Advisory Boards. ●



**TOWN MANAGER'S
REPORT**
BY TOWN MANAGER DELANE JACKSON

Every two years we have a municipal election in River Bend. This year, our election will be held on November 3, 2015. Our election process is set up in a way that only half of the Council will be voted on during each election. Including the Mayor, our Council has six members. Each office has a four-year term. This year, two Council seats and the Mayor's seat will be up for election. In the election in 2017, three Council seats will be up for election. That rotation cycle will continue every two years.

In the October edition of the River Bender, you will find some information about each candidate who is seeking election.

You can also visit the Town's website at www.riverbendnc.org to view the same information about each candidate. For the last few election cycles, the Town of River Bend has hosted a "Candidates

Night." This event will be an opportunity for the citizens of River Bend to meet the candidates and hear them respond to questions. The event will be held on October 21st at 7 PM at Town Hall. The event is free and is open to the public.

"This event will be an opportunity for the citizens of River Bend to meet the candidates and hear them respond to questions."

A familiar by-product of elections are political signs. Section 15.02.098(A)(4) of the Town of River Bend's Ordinances regulates political signs, stating:

A familiar by-product of elections are political signs. I have been asked recently about our political sign regulations. Section 15.02.098(A)(4) of the Town of River Bend's Ordinances regulates political signs. It states:

(A) The following temporary signs are permitted without a zoning, special use, conditional use or sign permit. However, these signs shall conform to the requirements set forth below as well as all other applicable requirements of this subchapter except those contained in §§ 15.02.101 and 15.02.103.

(4) Signs erected in connection with elections or political campaigns. Election signs are permitted, provided that:

(A) One (1) sign shall be permitted per individual lot or parcel for each candidate for office or side of a ballot measure or issue; for a lot or parcel

with frontage on a second street, one (1) additional sign for each candidate for office or side of a ballot measure or issue shall be permitted to front the second street.

- (B) Such signs shall be located on private property and not within the public-right-of-way or affixed to any improvement within such right-of-way (median, utility pole, traffic control device, bridge, guardrail, or other safety barrier), within a required sight distance triangle, or on Town property or buildings. However, signs may be placed on designated areas of Town Hall property on Election Day under rules established by the Craven County Board of Elections, and the Town Manager not inconsistent therewith.
- (C) Such signs shall be located only on private property with the property occupant's consent (or, if unoccupied, the property owner's consent). It shall be presumed the property occupant, or property owner as the case may be, has given permission or consents to the sign's placement unless the property occupant or owner notifies the Town otherwise.
- (D) Such a sign shall not be erected more than forty-five (45) days prior to the beginning date of "one-stop" early voting in Craven County, and shall be removed within ten (10) days following the date of any election or other event to which it refers.
- (E) Such a sign shall not exceed four (4) square feet in area per sign face or forty-two (42) inches in height.
- (F) The property occupant or, in the case of an unoccupied property, the property owner, shall be responsible for violations contained therein.

I encourage everyone to vote. It would be nice if River Bend has the highest voter turnout in the State. ●



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

In August Public Works continued to address several stormwater drainage issues. We found a couple of catch basins that sink holes were forming around. The area around these basins was dug up, and the problems corrected. Also, we had a couple of drainage pipes that had to be repaired due to faulty pipe joints. We inspected a few drainage pipes with our sewer camera to determine if they were faulty. No problems were found within these pipes. The discharge on the pipes is

what is holding the water back from draining properly. The swale is higher than the invert of the pipe due to years of the swale filling back in with soil and other debris. We are planning on removing brush along the swale, and then excavating it to the proper grade to allow for proper stormwater drainage in this area.

Water Resources started smoking our sewer lines to look for possible sources of inflow/infiltration. The purpose of this is to find any broken pipes that can allow ground stormwater to enter our sanitary sewer system. This month Thomas Harper of the Water Resources Department completed proficiency testing required to keep our laboratory certification. We have to test two samples per year. I am proud to say that we passed both parameters required by our permit.

“This month Thomas Harper of the Water Resources Department completed proficiency testing required to keep our laboratory certification. We have to test two samples per year. I am proud to say that we passed both parameters required by our permit.”

I'd like to thank Thomas for a job well done. Also, we collected 10 lead/copper samples this month from customers around the system that have known copper pipe

“Also, we collected 10 lead/copper samples this month from customers around the system that have known copper pipe with lead solder. We have to do this testing every three years according to our permit.”

with lead solder. We have to do this testing every three years according to our permit.

If you have any questions concerning 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
October 8, 2015
7:00 p.m.
Town Hall

Council Meeting
October 15, 2015
7:00 p.m.
Town Hall

River Bend Night Out
Friday
October 2, 2015
6:00 p.m.
Town Commons

Flu Shot Clinic
Thursday
October 8, 2015
Town Hall
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Pumpkin Party
in the Garden
Saturday
October 17
10:00 - Noon
Community Garden
Wakefield Drive

Candidates Night
Forum
Wednesday
October 21, 2015
7:00 p.m.
Town Hall

Games Afternoon
Wednesday
October 21
1:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Community Garden
Wakefield Drive

Community Yard Sales &
Library Book Sale
Saturday
October 24
6:00 a.m. - 1:00



**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
Brenda Garvey
Barbara Maurer
Buddy Sheffield
Irving "Bud" Van Slyke, Jr.

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, 2015
- September 14, 2015
September 3, 2015
- November 2, 2015
October 29, 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 16, 2015
- September 16, 2015
September 10, 2015
- November 9, 2015
November 4, 2015
- January 18, 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
2015 Meeting Dates**

- Work Session January 8
- Regular Meeting January 15

- Council Retreat February 3
- Work Session February 12
- Regular Meeting February 19

- Budget Meeting..... March 10
- Work Session March 12
- Budget Meeting..... March 17
- Regular Meeting March 19
- Budget Meeting..... March 24
- Budget Meeting..... March 31

- Budget Meeting..... April 7
- Work Session April 9
- Budget Meeting..... April 14
- Budget Meeting..... April 21
- Regular Meeting April 16

- Council Retreat May 5
- Work Session May 14
- Regular Meeting May 21

- Work Session June 11
- Regular Meeting June 18

- Work Session July 9
- Regular Meeting July 16

- Work Session August 13
- Regular Meeting August 20

- Work Session September 10
- Regular Meeting September 17

- Work Session October 8
- Regular Meeting October 15

- Council Retreat November 9
- Work Session November 12
- Regular Meeting November 19

- Work Session December 10
- Regular Meeting December 17

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.

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



Flu Shot Clinic

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8
9:00 A.M. TO 1:00 P.M.
TOWN HALL MEETING ROOM

The Town of River Bend, in association with REALO Discount Drugs, will host a Flu Shot Clinic on Thursday, October 8, from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Meeting Room.

- ◆ Cost: \$25–35 per injection. The injection will be free for Medicare, Tri-Care and most Blue Cross members. You must bring your insurance card.
- ◆ Must be 18 years old or older to receive the vaccine.
- ◆ Clinic will take place on Wednesday, October 8 from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Meeting Room.

Please notify your neighbors about this opportunity.

If you have any questions, please call Town Clerk Ann Katsuyoshi at 638-3870, ext. 202.



CANDIDATES NIGHT WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21ST 7:00 PM TOWN HALL

Prior to elections, the Town traditionally conducts a “Candidates Night” Forum. This year it will take place at Town Hall on Wednesday, October 21, 2015 at 7:00 PM.

There are three vacancies on the Town Council. Six candidates are running for office and are listed alphabetically as follows:

★ Bill Camp ★ Lonnie Dow ★ John Kirkland ★ Egon Lippert ★ Barbara Maurer ★ Pat Yocum ★
Council Mayor Mayor Council Council Council

As in past years, a moderator who does not reside in River Bend will lead the proceedings. There will be a drawing among the candidates for the order in which they are asked questions. Each candidate will make opening remarks followed by questions that representatives from the [Sun Journal](#) and the [River Bender](#) have prepared in advance. After a break, the moderator will ask candidates questions submitted by citizens in attendance. All remarks by the candidates will be timed so that each will have an equal opportunity to state a position on questions asked. The work of the Town Council is critical to every citizen in the community.

Please show your interest in electing the Town’s governing body by participating in this event.





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 2015 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 2015 were due by March 31, 2015. 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 www.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.

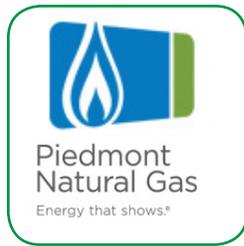


River Bend has a skateboard park to meet the needs of some of our more athletic residents.

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.



The Arbor Day Foundation awarded the Town of River Bend the Tree City USA designation for a third consecutive year. River Bend is one of only 76 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.



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.



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 solicitors 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.



Community Day

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2015
6:00 A.M. TO 1:00 P.M.
PRIVATE RESIDENCES THROUGHOUT
TOWN AND AT THE RED CABOOSE LIBRARY

RIVER BEND COMMUNITY DAY
Saturday, Oct 24th

YARD SALES
all
AROUND
the
BEND

Questions: Contact Elizabeth Brinson - 636-2038

RIVER BEND GARDEN CLUB BAKE SALE

BOOK SALE
8am - 1pm

BARGAIN PRICES
Hard Cover
Paper Back
Non-Fiction
Children's Books
& much more

at the Red Caboose Library



Shredding Event

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2015
9:00 A.M. TO 1:00 P.M.
TOWN COMMONS PARKING LOT

On Saturday, November 7, the Town of River Bend will hold a Shredding Event from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. in the Town Commons parking lot. A large shredder will be brought in on a truck. This event is open to all River Bend residents at no charge; however, there will be some rules:

- ◆ Household paper only
- ◆ Staples and paperclips allowed—remove binder clips and notebooks
- ◆ Individual CDs and DVDs can be shredded (remove jewel cases)
- ◆ Boxes must be able to be carried by hand by the individual
- ◆ Vehicles are to enter the lot from Plantation Drive and will exit to Wildwood Drive
- ◆ Town staff/volunteers will direct and assist with traffic flow and other logistics

Please notify your neighbors about this event. If you have any questions, please call Town Clerk Ann Katsuyoshi at 638-3870, ext. 202.