

RIVER BEND NEWS

FROM TOWN HALL

www.riverbendnc.org



Realities of Median Household Income and Survival

BY MAYOR JOHN KIRKLAND

In my capacity as River Bend Mayor, I attended the March 31 Home Energy, Water, Safety and Repair Summit in the City of New Bern. The meeting was convened to discuss and share information regarding the many and varied housing and related problems confronting disadvantaged individuals in our area. The meeting was well attended by leadership from area non-profit organizations, the Craven County Department of Social Services (DSS), the County Health Department, the Agricultural Extension, Progress Energy, the City of New Bern electric utility and two of the area electric cooperatives.

Judy Hills, Eastern Carolina Council Economic and Community Development Director; Tharesa Lee, City of New Bern Non-Profit Coordinator; and Bobbie Hewlette, Religious Community Services Executive Director planned the five-hour session. Attendees discussed the various problems for which disadvantaged individuals seek help, such as assistance with heating, electric and water utilities; home repairs and home safety. In small groups, attendees discussed and shared their thoughts on the difficulties disadvantaged individuals might encounter in seeking assistance and how agencies could better assist them. Judy Hills, Tharesa Lee and Bobbie Hewlette assumed responsibility for developing a draft document to address the issues identified by the working groups.

“Attendees discussed the various problems for which disadvantaged individuals seek help, such as assistance with heating, electric and water utilities; home repairs and home safety.”

Observations made during this event:

1. The participating agencies and the individuals representing them are



HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS
SEMINAR
WEDNESDAY, MAY 11, 2010
7:00 PM — 9:00 PM
TOWN HALL
SEE PAGE 18 FOR DETAILS

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extremely diverse, but they share the common goal of wanting to help Craven County residents in need of assistance. They all demonstrated a sincere desire to perform at their best and to share information more effectively and to give better direction to individuals making inquiries.

2. Participants acknowledged that many corporate and agency web sites provide resource information, but the disadvantaged have little access to computers and many don't possess the skills to use one. Attendees

“...the disadvantaged have little access to computers and many don't possess the skills to use one.”

also agreed that this computer database development is continuing.

3. In the area of utility cost management, the disadvantaged are likely to have the least efficient appliances and heating equipment and will generally not understand the need for simple maintenance or how to perform it.
4. Better and continuing communication is needed between the non profits and the social assistance agencies in order to identify the rare cases when an individual attempts to receive identical assistance from multiple sources. All agreed that when this happens, it reflects poorly on all assistance providers and discredits the efforts of bringing assistance to deserving persons and families.
5. The agencies provided copies of material that will be of assistance to all individuals in operating a home in a safe and efficient manner.

“I also know that many River Benders generously volunteer their time and talent working with the nonprofit organizations that serve the disadvantaged in our area.”

I recognize that the River Bend community generally does not experience the concentration of need that exists within the City of New Bern; and I also know that many River Benders generously volunteer their time and talent working with the nonprofit organizations that serve the disadvantaged in our area. We should be thankful that we have been privileged to have the skills to help address the needs of the less fortunate living in our community. River Bend is, indeed, a caring community and for that I thank each resident of our Town. ●



TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

BY TOWN MANAGER DREW HAVENS

Our work on the budget is beginning to wind down as we prepare for the public hearing in May. As we predicted, this has been a challenging year as we attempt to maintain a proactive posture, while being cognizant of the state and national economic pressures. I want to take this opportunity to thank the entire staff for their hard work to present to the Town Council information on the immediate needs of the community in the coming year and long-term considerations for the financial

well-being of the Town. This was truly a team effort. Finance Administrator Margaret Marshburn put in many long hours, focused on the details that form the basis of the budget, and was a great help in keeping the process running smoothly. Superintendent Chris Massengill and Chief Duke Pratt also performed research in support of the projects being specified by their respective departments. The other members of your professional staff, even those who do not normally become involved in finance, all pulled together to support the efforts of your Town Council to produce a meaningful budget for the coming fiscal year.

Your Town staff has also been quite busy with a variety of projects. I encourage your continued reading of the report prepared by Superintendent Massengill. Her staff worked on two projects for which we had contractor pricing. In one instance by using our staff we saved over \$8,000 and in another, nearly \$3,000. Allen Heath, one of your Public Works Technicians, renovated the restroom facilities in the Town Hall Park. These were—to put it mildly—unsightly, before he began this project. Using his time and talent, and a contractor to refinish the floors, we have facilities that are more usable, and more attractive. We continue to work with contractors and utilize their talents, while using our limited staff resources in the most appropriate manner.

"I am very pleased to report that the Town has been honored by receiving a North Carolina State Treasurers Award for Excellence in Accounting and Financial Management."

This month the Town Council will consider a proclamation acknowledging National Peace Officers' Memorial Day on May 15th. As I write this report in the first week of April, there have been 54 police officers lost in the line of duty so far this year, over half of which were by gunfire or other assault. I admit a certain amount of personal attachment to the law enforcement community due to the time I

served, and join in the prayers of many others for the natural and fraternal families of each fallen officer. Each one of us owes our way of life to the rule of law, and these laws are enforced by brave men and women in this Town, and throughout the world, who serve as law enforcement officers. During National Police Week (May 15—21), and throughout the year, take the time to thank them for their service.

In April, we honor the many volunteers who serve this community on various boards, commissions, and groups such as the Community Watch, CERT, and other similar organizations. In addition to these formal groups there are many other organizations and individuals who quietly and diligently volunteer their time and talent to help their neighbors and community. This town is very blessed to have caring people who give their time to make River Bend a great place to live. ●

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ZONING REPORT
BY CHRIS SANTOS
ASSISTANT ZONING ADMINISTRATOR
AND FLOOD PLAIN MANAGER

My position as Assistant Zoning Administrator and Flood Plain Administrator for River Bend involves several duties. One of my primary responsibilities includes issuing zoning permits for our residents. For the month of March, 4 permits were issued in the zoning and floodplain development department. These permits included a fence, a deck, and an accessory structure. Permit fees for March totaled \$109.60.

Even though it may not seem like it, spring is right around the corner which means hurricane season is nearly upon us. As we all know, with hurricanes comes heavy rains and winds pushing the waters inland which can cause flooding. Should you have concerns about flooding, or if you would like information on techniques to make your home more resistant to flooding, please contact me immediately to schedule an appointment. Flooding causes enormous amounts of damage each year and, while we can't always prevent floods from happening, there are many things we can do to help alleviate and mitigate damages should such

an event occur. Should you not have flood insurance on your home and personal belongings, please feel free to contact me to discuss flood insurance and your options. Please know that the sooner you do, the better as there is a 30-day waiting period after the purchase of flood insurance for it to become effective. I strongly urge everyone in our community to get flood insurance; even if you don't live in the 100-year flood zone. As we all know, flooding can happen anywhere.

For all of our residents, please know that residents or contractors must secure a permit before beginning any construction project. Our most typical projects include new construction, garages, driveways, utility buildings, porches, decks, pools, fences, and drainage structures, but these are not the only items that require a permit. Please call Town Hall before starting work on any project. The Town of River Bend works closely with the Craven County Planning and Inspections Department on all construction projects; Craven County will not issue a building permit until a contractor or resident provides a River Bend Permit. They also will not issue a Certificate of Occupancy until you present a Certificate of Zoning Compliance from River Bend for your completed project. All areas of River Bend, including our extraterritorial jurisdictions, must comply with our Land Use Ordinance. If you, or someone you know, are thinking about doing any work to your property, please contact me at 638-3870 ext. 216 so that all necessary paperwork can be completed.

"...contractors must secure a permit before beginning any construction project."

"The Town of River Bend works closely with the Craven County Planning and Inspections Department on all construction projects; Craven County will not issue a building permit until a contractor or resident provides a River Bend Permit."

Please, also, share this information with your neighbors and, most especially, new residents if you should learn that they are about to begin any type of construction project.

Enforcement of the Town Code and Land Use Ordinances are essential to the well being of the Town and its residents.

If you are aware of a violation, please contact me immediately at 638-3870 ext. 216. If I am unavailable to help you, the Police Department is an essential tool in helping to enforce Town Ordinances; feel free to contact them at 638-1108. ●



**WRD/PW
MARCH REPORT**
BY CHRISTINA M. MASSENGILL
SUPERINTENDENT
WATER RESOURCES/PUBLIC WORKS

Public Works and Water Resources have been very busy this month with regular duties while trying to complete several projects. First I would like to congratulate Allen Heath, Public Works Technician. For two weeks in March he attended classes to obtain his Able Body Seaman Endorsement. This Certification has nothing to do with what we do here, but he should be congratulated for his efforts in trying to better his options for future employment on a large ocean going Tug boat or Barge.

Public Works continues the renovation of the Town Hall Park restrooms. They have been painted, the floors have been re-done, and new light fixtures installed. The only thing left to do to bring this project to completion is to install the new toilets and sinks. This project will be complete in early April. Mike and Brandon did some roadway sealing and patching in Pier Pointe. As the weather gets warmer there will be more sealing and patching duties in Lakemere

“Public Works continues the renovation of the Town Hall Park restrooms. They have been painted, the floors have been re-done, and new light fixtures installed. The only thing left to do to bring this project to completion is to install the new toilets and sinks. This project will be complete in early April.”

and on Pirates Road. They also worked on some stormwater drainage issues on Outtrigger Road. and Clipper Court. Other stormwater drainage projects will be

“Congratulations to Brandon for a job well done and for saving the Town several thousand dollars.”

done next month on Lantern Lane. and the Channel Run area. Mike and Brandon also replaced some rotten boards on the Town Hall docks. The docks will get pressure washed and a sealer applied to make them look better and hold up to

weather conditions. If you happen to see Brandon around Town, please thank him for all his hard work.

Recently, we received several quotes to replace rotten wood in Well House #3. The rotten wood was on the wall that houses all the electric and main control panel for the entire Drinking Water System. The quotes that came in were in the \$10,000 range. After Brandon saw how expensive the project would be, he did some more

investigation and found that there was not as much as originally thought that needed repair. Brandon was able to replace the rotten wood for about \$250. Congratulations to Brandon for a job well done and for saving the Town several thousand dollars. Because Allen was attending classes, Brandon assisted Public Works on some old Work Orders that needed to get done. Under Brandon's supervision, Tommy and Lamar took care of any Water or Wastewater needs this month. We have two projects coming up next month. One is to loop the waterline that serves Plantation Sq. where we have received several water quality complaints. The other project is to repair a root intrusion problem at the River Stone Retirement Village. This root intrusion has caused many sewer back-ups in the past. As a temporary fix the Water Resources Department has been pro-active by jetting the line every two months to avoid back-ups until the repairs can be made.

"Brandon will be flushing the Water System May 3 – May 8."

Brandon will be Flushing the Water System May 3 – May 8.

If you have any questions concerning the Water Resources/Public Works Department, please call us at 638-3540, 8:00 AM until 4:00 PM , Monday through Friday. After-hours water and sewer emergencies can be reported by dialing the 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 then 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. ●



**What's Happen'n
(around River Bend)**
BY COUNCILMAN PHIL SEYMOUR

IS NATURAL GAS IN RIVER BEND'S FUTURE?

Most of us have seen recent new programs concerning the excessively high and widely varying cost for propane. Most of us have propane cylinders to fuel our logs and possibly our stoves and ovens as well. Some may use propane to heat their homes or their household water. Most of us have received invoices for refueling these propane tanks in the \$400 to \$500 range as well. The frequency that we receive these bills and

their amounts obviously both depend on how much propane each of us uses. The question arises: is there any alternative to propane?

The answer is “possibly.” On March 28th, Dan Voliva, a representative of Piedmont Natural Gas participated in a question and answer session with interested River Bend residents. He was asked to give this presentation by Town officials following a request by the folks at the R.H.A. Howell Center who would like to reduce the excessive propane costs they are experiencing. As such, Town officials felt that other residents of our Town might benefit from the information he had to share.

What did we discover? Simply put, the amount of savings (as well as the associated costs for conversion) depends on what energy source one presently uses and to what degree they rely on their energy source. I’ll elaborate.

Dan addressed several issues raised by the attendees; these include:

HOW SAFE IS NATURAL GAS?

Use of any energy product, whether it be propane, natural gas, coal, kerosene, electricity, wood, etc. has some inherent risk attached. Nothing is perfectly safe. Natural gas is no exception, although Piedmont Natural Gas employs all currently available safety measures in order to reduce the risk to an absolute minimum. As such, the risk is statistically insignificant and certainly no greater than that of electricity or propane.

HOW DOES THE COST OF PROPANE COMPARE TO THAT OF NATURAL GAS?

As you may have gathered from those recent news reports on irate propane customers, the cost of propane gas varies widely among providers, largely because it’s “unregulated.” That means that the market, rather than the Utilities Commission, determines the price that each propane provider may charge. Though prices vary widely, the average is about \$2.80 per thermal unit. Natural gas, on the other hand, is in fact regulated by the Utilities Commission and, as such, its cost does not vary from distributor to distributor. Nor may the natural gas provider arbitrarily raise the price; it may do so only if the Utilities Commission approves such an increase. The current price of a thermal unit is about \$1.00. For example, one hundred units of Natural gas would cost you about \$100.00, while the same amount of propane would cost you about \$280.00, a good deal more. Again, because propane is unregulated, the actual amount you might pay could be higher or lower, depending on your particular provider. And, the price one pays for propane today is not necessarily the price one would pay the following week because, as discussed about, this is an unregulated commodity and subject to the whims of the distributor/industry.

HOW DOES PROPANE COMPARE TO NATURAL GAS WITH REGARD TO ITS ABILITY TO HEAT WATER, A HOUSE, ETC.?

They both compare quite closely as a matter of fact. Natural gas is just a bit more energy efficient than propane—propane has 91.6% of energy potential as compared to natural gas.

I HAVE ELECTRICITY POWERING MY WATER HEATER, HEAT PUMP, STOVE AND RANGE, ETC. HOW DOES THE COST OF ELECTRICITY COMPARE TO THAT OF NATURAL GAS?

In River Bend, Progress Energy provides our electricity and our cost is 10.2 cents per kilowatt hour (quite reasonable when compared to Electric Cities charge of 14.7 per kilowatt hour for some other cities). Progress Energy's cost compares rather favorably to that of natural gas, i.e., the cost for equivalent thermal units is very close. The real issue for those who might consider natural gas as an alternative to electricity is the degree to which the former can heat one's house. We all are familiar with the heating capability (my wife would probably say "the non-heating capability") of electric heat pumps. When heat is required from an electric powered heat pump, it either provides a small amount of warm air gradually, or if the thermostat is pushed up or the temperature outside is particularly low, the "heat strip" will kick in to provide additional "heat," and the electric meter then also kicks into overdrive. Conversely, heat powered by natural gas is "warm" or "hot" heat by comparison. It actually "heats"! Is one system better than the other? That depends on how pleased a homeowner is with the performances of their electric powered heat pump, but natural gas definitely has the ability to provide more heat for fewer dollars.

IF I CHOOSE TO SWITCH TO NATURAL GAS, WHAT WOULD I HAVE TO PAY FOR THE CONVERSION PROCESS?

That really depends on your current energy source. If you presently use propane to fuel your hot water heater, heat pump, stove, gas logs, etc., the cost for conversion is relatively slight, possibly in the two to three hundred dollar range, depending on how many items you have that require this conversion. The cost to convert the same electric appliances, etc., is considerably higher due to the need to add components that would allow natural gas to work with your present electric heat pump, water heater, etc. For example, the conversion kit, with labor, for a water heater might run in the vicinity of \$1,000, while the conversion of an electric heat pump may range between \$3,000 and \$4,500. A total conversion to natural gas may ultimately approach the \$10,000 mark, depending again on which appliances would actually require conversion. As these two items, the water heater and the heat pump, ac-

count for that major part of your heating bill, whether you're using electricity or propane, it might make sense to focus on these two items for such conversion and leave your electric range and propane fired gas logs just as they are. If, on the other hand, you are approaching the dreaded "replacement time" for your heat pump or water heater, it just might be worth considering switching to natural gas for those two particular items when you purchase replacements.

WHAT WOULD THE "PAYBACK" PERIOD BE IF I WERE TO CONVERT?

If you're currently heating your home and/or water with propane, the pay back period would be almost immediate, as you may anticipate natural gas costs to be in the \$200 range per year (depending on usage). On the other hand, if you're currently using an electric heat pump and/or water heater, that payback period would be a lot longer (as in "years") if at all. Again, the benefit here would be in the quality of heat provided, rather than the cost benefit.

IF I CHOOSE TO CONVERT TO NATURAL GAS, WHAT WOULD I HAVE TO PAY TO HAVE THE GAS PIPE RUN TO MY HOUSE?

Possibly nothing at all - providing there is sufficient interest in River Bend to make it cost effective for Piedmont Natural Gas to run the lines the distance (from the Rhems - Tuscarora Road junction area) to the 150 or 200 homes necessary for this project to take place. If service were provided to a sufficient "cluster" of homes in one area and a resident in a more remote area also wishes to receive natural gas, there could be a cost for running the gas lines to that more remote location for only one or two hook-ups.

IS THERE ENOUGH NATURAL GAS AVAILABLE TO SERVE US?

Yes, estimates based on known deposits of natural gas still in the ground confirm that there is sufficient to last at least another hundred years or more.

HAVE ANY OTHER COMMUNITIES IN THE AREA CONVERTED TO NATURAL GAS?

Yes, Greenbrier recently went through the conversion process and residents with whom I have discussed this move appear to be quite satisfied with their decision to convert. Also, Taberna is considering such a move.

WHY HAVE YOU ONLY DISCUSSED PIEDMONT NATURAL GAS AND NOT ANY OF ITS COMPETITORS?

There are no competitors in this area; Piedmont is the sole source supplier. Again, their pricing is regulated so there would be no "price war" were another natural gas supplier to come into our area.

I WOULD LIKE TO LEARN MORE, WHO DO I TALK WITH AND WHERE DO I START?

Dan Voliva is the Piedmont representative serving the New Bern District. He may be contacted directly using the form provided below, included within your next water bill, or from the brochures that are available at the Town Hall. Additionally, if there is sufficient interest in him returning to speak to our residents and answer any questions you may have, give me a call at 634-2882 and I'll see whether we can get him back for a return engagement. I would emphasize that we had Dan appear solely for the benefit of our residents and this is not an endeavor that we, as Town officials, are pushing in any way. But, if this initiative benefits some of our residents, we have done our job by providing information and alternatives. You, however, are the only one who can make that determination, based on the information Dan has provided. ●

YES! I am interested in using natural gas!

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Phone: _____

Best Time to Call: _____ am pm

Approximate Square Footage of Your Home: _____

Do You Own or Rent? Own Rent

How do you heat your home?

Electricity/Heat Pump Electricity/Resistance
 Fuel Oil Propane Other _____

What appliances would you consider converting to or replacing with natural gas?

Water Heater Heating System Range/Oven
 Clothes Dryer Other _____



Questions/Answers
BY MAYOR JOHN KIRKLAND

WHAT IMPACT DO TOWN ORDINANCES AND MAINTENANCE OF PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE HAVE ON PROPERTY VALUES?

The answer to this question crosses many aspects of Town operations and the following will not be a total listing.

TOWN ZONING:

The zoning ordinances of municipalities endeavor to impose a reasonable definition of what level of maintenance is expected from individual homeowners and what location and building standards will be mandated for new construction. These mandates are particularly important in a town like River Bend where much of the property is located in the floodplain and where ordinances mandated by the Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) must be enforced by the Town. The ordinances are important but equally important is their enforcement in an “even handed” way. The proof of this fact can be witnessed by traveling certain roadways in Craven County which generally has very few land use ordinances.

TOWN INFRASTRUCTURE MAINTENANCE:

Town assets include real estate, roads and utilities. The governing body and Town staff are responsible for maintaining public property and facilities. Maintenance of all these assets requires funding which necessarily must come either from ad valorem taxes and other revenues or utility rates. A number of years ago, the Town Council created a Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) which is a series of accounts used to address those projects that are identified as requiring significant funding. Generally, those are projects that will occur in future years and the CIP allows contributions through the annual budget to have funds on hand when the project needs to be executed.

WATER AND WASTEWATER UTILITIES:

Water and wastewater utilities are perhaps the utilities most important to the public health of any municipality. They provide reliable and safe drinking water and collection and treatment of wastewater in compliance with a number of federal and state regulatory mandates. Increasingly, buyers and lending institutions look to the availability of these utilities—properly maintained and compliant to regulations—in the purchase and funding of homes. These utilities are expensive to operate and failure to comply with the regulatory mandates previously mentioned will result in financial penalties being assessed against the municipality.

TOWN STREETS:

Roadways are viewed by every visitor to the Town and the impression they make may be subtle but will definitely influence potential home and land buyers. Street maintenance is critical and expensive. Funding for roadway maintenance comes from the general fund (Powell Bill) which is paid from taxes.

The Town follows a street paving plan that includes all the Town maintained streets and assigns the repaving order of each street. The Town's engineer prepared the paving plan and he reviews the streets annually to determine if conditions warrant a re-ordering of the rank of any street. This process leads to the effective maintenance of the street infrastructure and is not subject to whim.

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT:

The management of stormwater is becoming increasingly a utility type issue for which both state and federal regulatory agencies are expressing concern. The Town is fortunate that stormwater was never introduced into the wastewater collection system of pipes which would overload the wastewater treatment plant. The Town has, for the most part, relied on grassy swales to move stormwater to the receiving stream or canal in lieu of piped curb and gutter system. Several years ago, the Public Works Advisory Board conducted a survey and prioritized places around Town that need work to improve drainage during storms. The Council designated \$30,000 annually for the past several years to address these needs, and the prioritized list is being reduced year by year.

PARKS AND RECREATION:

The Town owns three park areas:

1. Town Hall Park
2. Channel Run Park
3. Springdale Park

Parks are another feature of the Town that—while unnoticed by many—will also be seen as attractive to individuals considering River Bend as a possible location to purchase a home.

THE BOTTOM LINE:

The value of a home isn't just how well it has been maintained but also what do neighboring homes and the entire community appear to the prospective buyer. The positive presentation of individual homes will depend on all of the issues mentioned above. The positive presentation will depend on the owner but in equal part on how the Town has and will conduct planning and maintenance of community assets. ●

COMING EVENTS

*Council Retreat
May 10, 2011
5:00 P.M.
Law Offices of Sumrell Sugg
Carmichael Hicks & Hart P.A.
New Bern*

*Work Session
May 12, 2011
7:00 P.M.
Town Hall*

*Council Meeting
May 19, 2011
7:00 P.M.
Town Hall*

*Hurricane Preparedness
Seminar
presented by
CERT
May 11, 2011
7:00 P.M.—9:00 P.M.
Town Hall*

*Zone 1
Leaf & Limb Pick Up
Begins
May 16
begin placing debris at street on
May 11*

*Zone 2
Leaf & Limb Pick Up
Begins
May 23
begin placing debris at street on
May 18*



**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
Bert Linkonis
Phil Seymour
Charlie Sharpe
Irving "Bud" Van Slyke, Jr.
Karl Wolfer

TOWN MANAGER
Drew Havens

TOWN CLERK
Ann Katsuyoshi

FINANCE ADMINISTRATOR
Margaret Marshburn

POLICE CHIEF
Earl "Duke" Pratt

**WATER RESOURCES/
PUBLIC WORKS
SUPERINTENDENT**
Christina Massengill

**ASSISTANT
ZONING ADMINISTRATOR**
Chris Santos

**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
2010-2011**

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

Zone 1 Pick Up Begins

March 21, 2011
(March 16)

May 16, 2011
(May 11)

Zone 2 Pick Up Begins

March 28, 2011
(March 22)

May 23, 2011
(May 18)

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

NOTICE

CHANGE OF MEETING DATE

The Town Council of the Town of River
Bend has changed its scheduled Retreat
from Tuesday, May 3, 2011 to Tuesday,
May 10, 2011 beginning at 5:00 p.m. in
the Offices of Sumrell, Sugg, Carmichael,
Hicks and Hart, P.A., New Bern, NC.

**Town Council
2011 Meeting Dates**

Work Session January 13
Regular Meeting January 20

Council Retreat February 1
Work Session February 10
Regular Meeting February 17

Budget Meeting..... March 8
Work Session March 10
Budget Meeting..... March 15
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
Regular Meeting April 21

Council Retreat May 10
Work Session May 12
Regular Meeting May 19

Work Session June 9
Regular Meeting June 16

Work Session July 14
Regular Meeting July 21

Council Retreat August 2
Work Session August 11
Regular Meeting August 18

Work Session September 8
Regular Meeting September 15

Work Session October 13
Regular Meeting October 20

Council Retreat November 1
Work Session November 10
Regular Meeting November 17

Work Session December 8
Regular Meeting December 15

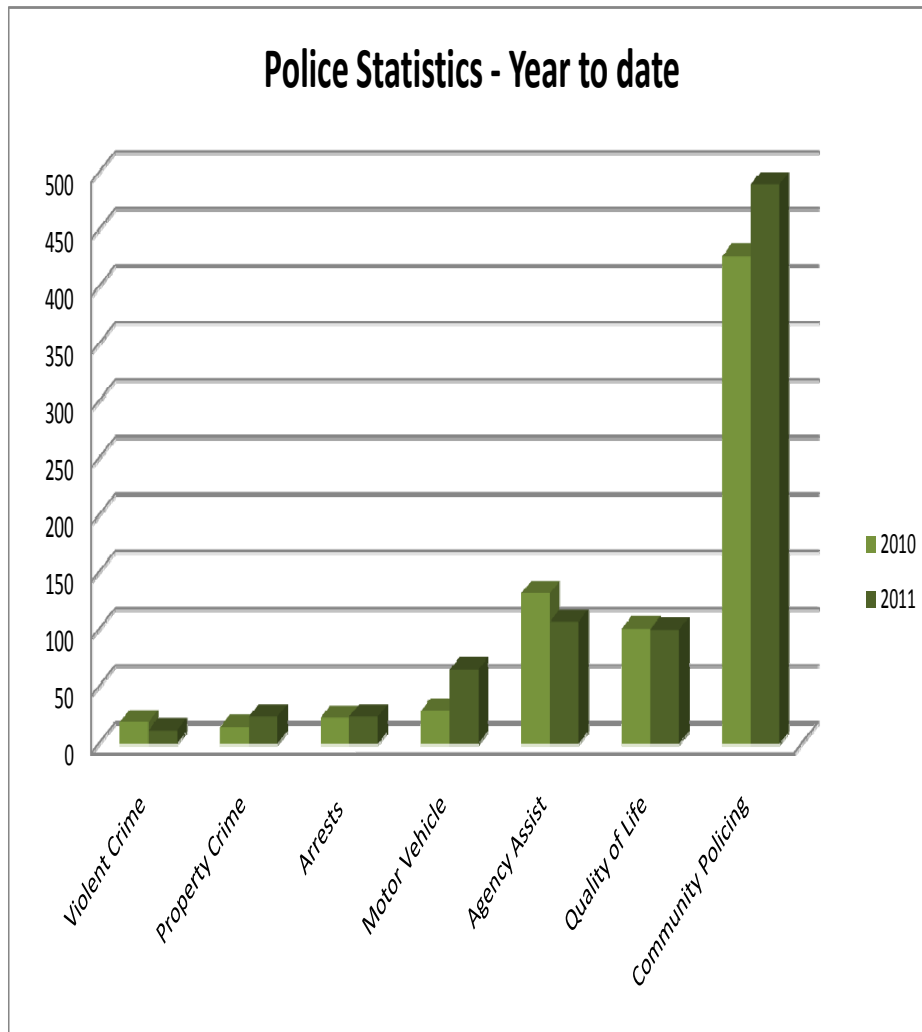


POLICE REPORT

EARL "DUKE" PRATT
CHIEF OF POLICE

CYTD REPORT as of March 2011

	2010	2011
Violent Crime	19	12
Property Crime	15	24
Arrests	23	24
Motor Vehicle	29	65
Agency Assist	132	107
Quality of Life	101	100
Community Policing	427	490
Total Activity	746	822



- Violent Crime: Includes Assault, Robbery, and Domestic
- Property Crime: Includes B&E, Identity Theft, Larcenies, Property Damage
- Arrests: Includes Summonses, Subpoena, and Involuntary Commitments
- Motor Vehicle: Includes Crashes, Warnings, Citations, and Complaints
- Agency Assist: Includes other Law Enforcement, EMS/First Responders, and Fire
- Quality of Life: Animal Complaints, Littering, Loud Music/Noise, Soliciting, Town Ordinance Citations and Warnings
- Community Policing: Includes Alarms, Assist Citizens, Assist Motorists, Juvenile Complaints, Missing Persons, Residential Checks, Roadway Debris, Suspicious Persons, Trespassing, Weapons & Hunting Violations, Welfare Checks



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.

Inspection and registration are required annually. Registration for 2011 will begin in December. 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.



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.

Morning Call in River Bend

an important new service for our residents



Morning Call is an automated telephone calling service provided by the River Bend Police Department in its mission to ensure the safety and well being of all town residents. Please call 638-3870 for details.



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.

Sign up for our
Emergency Notification System
and receive timely emergency notifications by telephone, cell phone and e-mail.

SIGN UP NOW
at riverbendnc.org

this service provided by the Town of River Bend through
Connect-CTY



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.

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.



HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS SEMINAR

The River Bend Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) will sponsor a Hurricane Preparedness Seminar for our residents on Wednesday, May 11. The event will take place at Town Hall from 7:00 PM until 9:00 PM.

This informative two-hour workshop will feature discussions and useful information concerning steps River Bend residents can take to better prepare for—and survive—a hurricane or other natural disaster that might disrupt life in our small community.

Speakers from Craven County Emergency Services, The Red Cross and NOAA will be on hand to speak on various topics and answer questions.

All River Benders are encouraged to attend. Early planning for storm events is essential for safety, and this event will assist you in formulating your family's emergency plan. ●