



CABOOSE RESTORATION
BY MAYOR JOHN KIRKLAND

At a reception on Wednesday, December 19, the New Bern Historic Preservation Society honored River Bend with an award for the preservation of the Town's Caboose. Mrs. Phyllis Hoffman submitted the nomination. Mr. Egon Lippert, who coordinated the restoration from start to finish, attended this award ceremony with me and accepted a medallion on behalf of the Town.

This caboose is one of the later vintage and as such has an all steel "skin." This type construction makes it easy to maintain. At one time, it was a requirement that all freight trains had a caboose at the rear, but in the 1980s that requirement was eliminated. Now, nearly 40 years later there are very few cabooses remaining.

The caboose in the Town Commons Park is one of those few survivors. The Town took ownership of the caboose when it purchased four plus acres of land and several buildings as an expansion of the Town Commons Park.

Previously located behind the barn and serving as our community library, on June 26, 2006 the caboose was moved to its present location and placed on a section of rail and mounted on replacement trucks (the railroad term for the wheels).

Our caboose is believed to have belonged to the Seaboard Coastline Railroad. That railroad operated on the east coast and had tracks between Jacksonville and



Caboose on blocks and on the ground, 2005

INSIDE THIS EDITION

MAYOR'S REPORT
PAGE 1

MANAGER'S REPORT
PAGE 2

WRD/PW REPORT
PAGE 4

POLICE DEPARTMENT'S
NEW OFFICE SPACE
PAGE 4

2019 PET REGISTRATION
INFORMATION
PAGE 5

COMING EVENTS
PAGE 6

COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE
PAGE 7

LEAF & LIMB SCHEDULE
PAGE 7

ETCETERA
PAGE 8

New Bern which ran on the opposite side of Highway 17 from River Bend. For that reason, the designation and logo of the Seaboard railroad is displayed on our caboose.

During the restoration Mr. Lippert enlisted several companies to assist in providing material and expertise to support authenticity in the end product. He also spent many hours laboring in all aspects of work associated with the project. The caboose engages the imagination of young children, parents and grandparents as they get up close to transportation equipment that has disappeared from everyday use.



Caboose restored, 2009

Thank you, Mrs. Hoffman, for nominating this project for recognition. Thank you, Mr. Lippert, for your vision that this vehicle could be an element of interest in our park. Finally, thank you New Bern Historic Preservation Society, for the prestige this award adds to the Caboose and its future. ■



TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

BY TOWN MANAGER DELANE JACKSON

When a Presidential Declaration has been issued following a natural disaster, federal and state assistance options become available to towns in the declared areas. There is a formula that is used to determine if a county meets the threshold to be declared as a disaster area by the President. After Hurricane Florence, 26 counties in North Carolina were included in the Presidential Declaration. Craven County was one of those.

That opened an opportunity for River Bend to receive assistance from both FEMA and the State of North Carolina. FEMA only pays for 75% of eligible recovery costs. Typically, the State of North Carolina pays the remaining 25%. The 25% from the State is not a requirement. We are fortunate that North Carolina typically does pay the local match.

While FEMA and state funding are very much appreciated, there is a problem associated with them. That problem is that the funding is in the form of a reimburse-

ment. That means the Town must spend our own money and apply for a reimbursement from FEMA. As you can imagine, that application and reimbursement process is not simple. There is a very thorough application process and there is an additional layer of bidding that is required. As you know, the building that houses our Public Works and Police Departments was flooded with two feet of water. The Town's lab building on Shoreline was also flooded. In order to receive FEMA funding to repair these buildings, we had to follow FEMA bidding and contracting requirements. We have our own purchasing policy but FEMA requirements supersede it. The contract document for just building repairs alone was more than 20 pages long. Following is an excerpt from it:

A contract award (see CFR 180.220) must not be made to parties listed on the government wide exclusions in the System for Award Management (SAM), in accordance with the OMB guidelines at 2 CFR 180 that implement Executive Orders 12549 (3 CFR Part 1986 Comp., p. 189) and 12689 (3 CFR Part 1989 Comp., p. 235), "Debarment and Suspension." SAM exclusions contain the names of parties debarred, suspended, or otherwise excluded by agencies, as well as parties declared

"As you know, the building that houses our Public Works and Police Departments was flooded with two feet of water. The Town's lab building on Shoreline was also flooded. In order to receive FEMA funding to repair these buildings, we had to follow FEMA bidding and contracting requirements. We have our own purchasing policy but FEMA requirements supersede it."

ineligible under statutory or regulatory authority other than Executive Order 12549. The Contractor shall certify compliance. This contract is a covered transaction for purposes of 2 CFR Part 180 and 2 CFR Part. 3000. As such, the Contractor is required to verify that none of the Contractor, its principals (defined at 2 CFR § 180.995), or its affiliates (defined at 2 CFR § 180.905) are excluded (defined at 2 CFR § 180.940) or disqualified (defined at 2 CFR § 180.935).

The contract is only awarded after a competitive bid process that included making sure the bid was posted on a statewide site to allow minority and historically underutilized contractors an opportunity to bid on the project. The \$42,000 contract was awarded to Tyson Construction and Restoration. It is a local firm owned by Steve Tyson. Now, the next obstacle associated with FEMA assistance is the waiting process. Once the building repairs are complete, we will submit a reimbursement request. It may be year or more before we are reimbursed for those expenses. In the

REPORTING AFTER HOURS WATER-SEWER EMERGENCIES

- ◆ Dial Town Hall at 638-3870.
- ◆ Dial "9" and follow the directions to contact the on-call duty operator.
- ◆ Enter your phone number at the sound of the tone.
- ◆ The automated system will inform you that your page has been sent.
- ◆ 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. They will get in touch with the on-call utility system operator.

past, it was 18 months before we were reimbursed by FEMA. If this \$42,000 project was our only hurricane related expenditure, there would be no issue. However, we expect to spend close to \$1,000,000 of our own money on hurricane recovery. Just the debris removal alone will cost us about \$700,000. Fortunately, over many years of conservative budgeting and spending, we have developed a very healthy fund balance (aka: savings account). This available fund balance allows us to pay for these hurricane expenses and then wait for reimbursement. While the delay in reimbursement places a strain on our fund balance, we are very fortunate to have a healthy fund balance to rely upon.

It is important to mention that the Town's recovery expenses related to natural disasters are not always and/or automatically paid for by FEMA and the State. There are many variables that could result in no federal or state funding for our recovery. That is another very good reason for us to maintain a healthy fund balance. ■



WRD/PW DECEMBER REPORT

BY BRANDON MILLS
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

I hope that everyone enjoyed the Christmas holidays. Christmas has always been one of my favorite holidays. Public Works made several small asphalt repairs on the roadways around Town. We generally are able to make small pothole repairs with the use of a cold asphalt patch and our gas powered compactor. In addition, we filled in several rutted areas along the roadway with crusher run. There are several more items on our list to do around Town. Public Works has started sealing cracks on our roadways in town. On the

warm days, we are sealing the cracks in the street to prevent water from eroding the road bedding under the asphalt. This sealing protects the road bed, which, in turn, adds to the longevity of the roadway.

Water Resources had two pumps that had to be pulled from our lift station at the Howell Center. These pumps

had become clogged with what appeared to be rags. Both pumps were pulled and unclogged by our staff. As a reminder to everyone, please be conscientious of what is flushed down the sewer system. There is a brochure at Town Hall that will tell you the materials that do not need to go into our sewer system, and gives you information on how to properly dispose of these materials. We also had a sinkhole

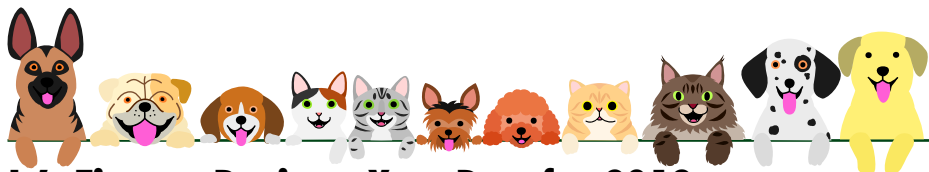
"Public Works has started sealing cracks on our roadways in town. On the warm days, we are sealing the cracks in the street to prevent water from eroding the road bedding under the asphalt."

develop over top of one of our sewer mains in the Harbour Walk area. Our team was able to make a temporary repair to the sewer line, but was not able to fix it properly due to the sewer main being too deep. We have contacted a contractor, and we are on their schedule to get it repaired.

If you have any questions concerning the Water Resources/Public Works Department, please call us at 638-3540, Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. -4:00 p.m. After hours' water and sewer emergencies can be reported by dialing the Town Hall at 638-3870. You will be instructed to 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 systems operator will return your call. If you do not receive a call back within ten minutes, please notify the Police Department at 638-1108, and they will get in contact with the on-call utility systems operator. ■

OUR POLICE DEPARTMENT HAS A NEW TEMPORARY HOME

The River Bend Police Department has moved to its new temporary location. It is now located in unit 114 of the Business Plaza on Highway 17 just across the street from the Shell Gas Station. They will be housed there for at least six months. The Town Council approved a six-month lease for that space with an additional six-month option, if necessary. Their office on Wildwood Drive was flooded and is being repaired. The Town Council is considering options to serve as the permanent home for the Police Department. The Police Department will hold an Open House on Thursday, February 7 from 2:00 - 4:00 P.M. at the new location.



It's Time to Register Your Pets for 2019

All River Bend dogs and cats must be registered annually. The annual registration period will begin January 2 and will continue through March 31.

Town Hall 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.

COMING EVENTS

POLICE DEPARTMENT
OPEN HOUSE
Thursday, February 7
2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Unit 114
Business Plaza, Hwy 17

FREE
WORKSHOP
Valentine Mosaic
February 8
6:00 - 9:00 p.m.
Town Hall
A Parks & Rec Event

ROUNDTABLE
FOR GARDENERS
February 12
6:30 p.m.
Town Hall
Sponsored by: River Bend
Community Organic Garden

Work Session
February 14
7:00 p.m.
Town Hall

COMMUNITY WATCH
February 20
7:00 p.m.
Town Hall

Council Meeting
February 21
7:00 p.m.
Town Hall

CERT
February 27
7:00 p.m.
Town Hall



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
Bill Camp
Harry "Bud" McClard
Buddy Sheffield
Irving "Bud" Van Slyke, Jr.
Council Vacancy

TOWN MANAGER
Delane Jackson

TOWN CLERK
Ann Katsuyoshi

FINANCE ADMINISTRATOR
Margaret Theis

POLICE CHIEF
Sean Joll

DIRECTOR OF
PUBLIC WORKS
Brandon Mills

ASSISTANT
ZONING ADMINISTRATOR
Allison McCollum

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 2018-2019

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

Zone 1 Pick Up Begins

July 9, 2018
July 4, 2018
September 10, 2018
September 5, 2018
November 12, 2018
November 7, 2018
January 7, 2019
(includes Christmas trees)
January 2, 2019
March 11, 2019
March 6, 2019
May 13, 2019
May 8, 2019

Zone 2 Pick Up Begins

July 16, 2018
July 11, 2018
September 17, 2018
September 12, 2018
November 5, 2018
October 31, 2018
January 14, 2019
(includes Christmas trees)
January 9, 2019
March 18, 2019
March 13, 2019
May 20, 2019
May 15, 2019

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 2019 Meeting Dates

Work Session January 10
Regular Meeting January 17
Work Session February 14
Regular Meeting February 21
Work Session March 14
Regular Meeting March 21

Work Session April 11
Regular Meeting April 18

Work Session May 9
Regular Meeting May 16

Work Session June 13
Regular Meeting June 20

Work Session July 11
Regular Meeting July 18

Work Session August 8
Regular Meeting August 15

Work Session September 12
Regular Meeting September 19

Work Session October 10
Regular Meeting October 17

Work Session November 14
Regular Meeting November 21

Work Session December 5
Regular Meeting December 12

Budget Meetings

Budget Session March 19
Budget Session March 26
Budget Session April 2
Budget Session April 9
Budget Session April 16
Budget Session April 23

*All Council Work Sessions and Regular Council Meetings
will be held in the River Bend Town Hall beginning at
7:00 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*

etc.



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 2018 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

All River Bend dogs and cats must be registered annually. The annual registration period begins January 2 and continues through March 31.

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 Police Department 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 638-1108.



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.