



**COMMUNICATION:
OPINIONS VS. FACT**
BY MAYOR JOHN KIRKLAND

Many articles have been published discussing “communication,” and in my walk through professional work assignments I have read many of those articles. They generally make the point that proper or good communication demands listening. Listening should perhaps consume more time than talking.

Listening demands discipline. Discipline seems in short supply in our society today. Many who say that they listen will do so only for what they want to hear.

Thus, they may well never grasp the true meaning of a presentation being made by a speaker. The absence of listening leads to individuals who attended a presentation to tell friends only the message received by the listener, rather than report a complete synopsis of the facts presented. They received that portion that suited their pre-forum position. The result is that further discussion will be misinformed, and this makes returning to fact nearly impossible.

The unfortunate thing is that today this isn’t just true in River Bend or Craven County but all over this Nation. This fault is further influenced by the explosion of “social media” where posts are generally accepted as fact without further research.

We should all pray for a return to a mind set where persons listen and are more able to discern fact from opinions or gossip. I am confident that material presented of the record of Town meetings and called meetings is factual and made available in absolutely transparent fashion. The Council and staff work diligently to make available to the public plans and Town governing actions in a manner that will be easily accessible for the majority of citizens.

It is only by listening to all material presented in discussions that we can make informed decisions. That informed decision cannot be made based on accepting a thirty-second sound bite. ■

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WRD/PW SEPTEMBER REPORT

BY BRANDON MILLS
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

Public Works continued replacing faded street signs around Town. We are replacing as time allows, and hope to have all that need to be replaced by November. Herbicide was applied to the walking trail in the Park surrounding Town Hall. This should be the last application we will need to apply for the year. We spray the rock walking path to keep it grass/weed free, so it will be well defined for anyone wanting to walk the path. Public Works also checked all the discharge drainage

pipes, and catch basins around town in preparation of Hurricane Dorian.

Water Resources had two-lift station pumps go down at the Quarterdeck lift station. We pulled both of these pumps, and installed back-up pumps. These pumps had to be sent off to a pump rewind shop for repair. Once they are repaired, we will install them back into the lift station. There were also two other lift station pumps that clogged up right before Hurricane Dorian hit. We did a good job pulling, and cleaning them out before we had a sanitary sewer overflow. As a reminder, there are materials that should never go down the drain and into the sewer system. We have brochures available at Town Hall, and on the Town's website, that explain how to properly dispose of material that does not need to go down the drain into our sewer system.

"We have brochures available at Town Hall, and on the Town's website, that explain how to properly dispose of material that does not need to go down the drain into our sewer system."

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. ■

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.

COMING EVENTS

Shredding Event
Saturday, November 2
9:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.
Town Commons

ELECTION DAY
November 5
6:30 A.M. – 7:30 P.M.
Town Hall

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

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

BINGO
November 20
1:00 P.M. - 4:00 p.m.
Town Hall

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

**TREE LIGHTING
CEREMONY**
Friday Evening
December 6
5:00 - 7:00
Town Commons



FAIRFIELD HARBOUR
CHORUS
CHRISTMAS CONCERT
December 8
3:00 p.m.
River Bend Baptist Church



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
Don Fogle
Harry "Bud" McClard
Buddy Sheffield
Irving "Bud" Van Slyke, Jr.

TOWN MANAGER
Delane Jackson

TOWN CLERK
Ann Katsuyoshi

FINANCE ADMINISTRATOR
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POLICE CHIEF
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GRAPHIC DESIGN &
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River Bend, NC 28562
252.638-3870
www.riverbendnc.org

Leaf & Limb Collection Schedule for 2019-2020

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

Zone 1 Pick Up Begins

July 8, 2019

July 3, 2019

September 9, 2019

September 4, 2019

November 4, 2019

October 30, 2019

January 6, 2020

(includes Christmas trees)

January 1, 2020

March 9, 2020

March 4, 2020

May 11, 2020

May 6, 2020

Zone 2 Pick Up Begins

July 15, 2019

July 10, 2019

September 16, 2019

September 11, 2019

November 11, 2019

November 6, 2019

January 13, 2020

(includes Christmas trees)

January 8, 2020

March 16, 2020

March 11, 2020

May 19, 2020

May 13, 2020

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

September 12, 2019 Work Session was rescheduled to September 19, 2019 — 5:00 PM

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~~

*April 23, 2019 Budget Session was rescheduled to the May 9, 2019
Council Work Session.*

*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 2019 registration decal. Decals for 2020 will be available beginning December 2, 2019.

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.

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

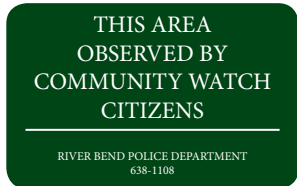
this service provided by the Town of River Bend through
**Blackboard
connect**



River Bend has a functional Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). For more information about this group, or to volunteer, please contact the 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.