



Clinton Connection

Citizen's Quarterly Newsletter

Fall 2012

Volume 5, Number 2

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Community Calendar

- **Fri. to Sat., October 12-13**
26th Annual Court Square Street Fair & BBQ Cook-off

Music on the Square
Downtown Clinton
- **Ol' Lightnin' Rods Car Show**
Clinton City Market
- **Craft Demonstration Day**
Sampson County History Museum
- **Mon. to Fri., October 15-19**
Annual Fall Cleanup Week
- **Fri. to Sun., Nov. 9-11, 16-18**
Nuncrackers
Sampson Community Theater
- **Thursday, November 29**
Christmas in the City
Downtown Clinton
- **Fri. to Sun., Dec. 7-9, 14-16**
A Christmas Carol
Sampson Community Theater
- **Friday, December 7**
Youth Basketball Registration Closes
Clinton Recreation
- **Saturday, December 8**
Christmas in Clinton Parade
Clinton-Sampson Chamber of Commerce

Special Inserts

Fall Cleanup Week

Join Us In Downtown Clinton *by Mary Rose, Planning Director*

Plans are well under way for the 26th Annual Court Square Street Fair and Barbecue Cook-Off, which will be in Downtown Clinton on Friday, October 12 and Saturday, October 13. Thanks to our partnerships, this year's event will be even bigger and better. This year's partners include Sampson Regional Medical Center, Sampson Arts Council, Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program, Sampson County Convention and Visitors Bureau, Sampson County History Museum, Downtown Dash 5k Committee, and the Ol' Lightnin' Rods Car Club. Our sponsors, including our gold sponsors Murphy-Brown, Prestage Farms, and Smithfield Foods and our silver sponsors Hog Slat and Williamson Gas, have helped make this year's barbecue cook-off one of the largest ever. As the barbecue contestants are setting up, the fun begins Friday evening with live, local music on the Court Square from 6-9 pm. Beginning at 6 pm, award winning Michael Boykin and the Mighty Voices will be entertaining us. At 7:30 pm, Charles and Miranda and the Bones Fort Creek Boys will be playing bluegrass for your enjoyment. Make plans for dinner downtown and bring your lawn chairs to sit on Main Street and enjoy the music!

Saturday morning activities on the Court Square start early with Bake-Off registration on Main St. from 8-9 am. Categories include breads, cakes, pies/cobblers, and candy/brownies/cookies. The first-ever Downtown Dash 5k & Fun Run starts at 8:30 am from the new Vance Street parking lot, and the second annual Care Fair will be at the Center for Health and Wellness from 9 am – 12 pm. In addition, registration for the Volksmarch (a 10k walk brought to Clinton by a statewide organization) will be open from 8:30 am – 1 pm on Main St. The annual Breast Cancer Awareness Rally will begin on the Main Street side of the Sampson County courthouse at 9:30 am. The walk will end at the First Baptist Church, 900 College Street, where the rally will continue until 12 pm. As always, the Street Fair will feature free children's rides as well as a variety of local entertainment and handmade crafts.



After the successful sidewalk-chalk art contest last year, the Sampson Arts Council is expanding the arts section this year with a variety of arts activities in the park and parking lot by the new "Milling Around" art piece. The Street Fair will wind its way up Lisbon Street to the Clinton City Market, where you can admire the cars of the Ol' Lightnin' Rods Antique Car Show. Participants may register their cars until 12 pm at the City Market. Oldies 1170 will be there to broadcast live with Bob Stroud and the Boogie Shoes Network. Just past the City Market, the Sampson County History

Museum Craft Demonstration Day will provide fairgoers with a variety of free demonstrations and exhibits from 10 am until 3 pm. The craft demonstration is sponsored in part by the North Carolina Arts Council. Also, the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church will be hosting the first Celebrando la Raza – Festival de la Calle. We invite everyone from Clinton, Sampson County, and beyond to come enjoy Downtown Clinton. For more information, please contact the Planning Department at (910) 299-4904.

Pay Your Utility Bill Online *by Shawn Purvis, Asst. City Manager-Finance Director*

Paying your water bill is about to get easier. Beginning in October, water and garbage customers will be able to visit the city's website and pay their bill. "We want to make payment as easy as possible for our customers," explained Billing & Collections Supervisor Ashley Blackmon. "We explored several different options but found the best solution was working with First Citizens Bank and Authorize.net to provide online pay services without any additional handling or transaction fees for our customers." In addition to online payment, the city is redesigning its utility bills to provide customers with more information about their usage. Blackmon said the bills will display a graph of the past years monthly usage for customers to compare. The bill also is designed for customers to identify more easily how much is owed and on what date. "We have had some confusion with our current bill design between our due date and cutoff date," said Blackmon, "The new bill should help clear up some of the confusion and in turn, save our customers time and money."



Important Numbers

Emergency.....911
City Hall.....592-1961
Water & Sewer Billing.....299-4909
Code Enforcement.....299-4904
Sanitation & Streets.....299-4905
After-hours Emergency...592-1151
NIT Tip Line.....590-3009

City Council Meetings

City Council meetings are held the first Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. in the auditorium at City Hall. Those interested in speaking at meetings should contact the City Clerk at (910) 592-1961.

Missed the City Council Meeting? Watch it on TV or Online!

You can watch City Council meetings every Thursday at 7:00 pm on StarVision GOAC-15. City Council meetings are also available on the City's You Tube channel, Clintonnc1.

Need More Information?

Visit our website 24-7, like us on Facebook, or follow us on Twitter for more information about Clinton, community events, and what the City is doing for you.



What do You Think?

We'd like to know what you think about the newsletter and how we can improve it...

Call or email us at:
910-592-1961
spurvis@cityofclintonnc.us

Fire and Police Under New Leadership *by John Connet, City Manager*

The City of Clinton is proud to introduce you to our new Fire and Police Chiefs. The Mayor swore in Chief Adon Snyder as Fire Chief on September 4 and Jay Tilley will be sworn in as Police Chief on October 2. Mayor Lew Starling stated, "I know both of these individuals will do an excellent job in managing our public safety departments. Together, they have over seventy-five years of experience in crisis management, which is important in the world we live in today. I congratulate these two men on their new positions. "

Adon holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Fire Science Administration from Waldorf College in Forest City, Iowa and is a certified Fire Officer IV, Instructor III, and Hazardous Materials Technician. He also has completed coursework at the National Fire Academy and Emergency Management Institute and has been selected to participate in the National Fire Academy's Executive Fire Officers Training Course. Adon was a member of Prince George's County, Maryland's Fire/EMS Department from 1986 to 2012, rising from the rank of Firefighter to Assistant Fire Chief of Emergency Services Command, Fire and Rescue Operations. Prince George's County Fire Department is one of the largest combination (career/volunteer) fire departments in the United States. Prior to Prince George's County, Adon served as a Fire Protection Specialist in the United States Air Force.



Jay holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology from the University of North Carolina at Pembroke and a Master's Degree in Administration of Justice from Webster University in St. Louis, Missouri. Jay has over thirty-four years of law enforcement experience and recently attended the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Virginia. He has been a member of the Clinton Police Department since 2009. Prior to joining the Clinton Police Department, he served as Deputy Director of the Wake County City/County Bureau of Investigation from 2007 to 2009. Jay retired as Assistant Special Agent in Charge from the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation in 2006. He began his law enforcement career with the Fayetteville Police Department in 1978.

Employee Spotlight *by Jeff Vreugdenhil, Public Works & Utilities Director*

Mayor Starling and the City Council recognized Public Works Manager Tony Steffen at their July meeting for receiving his Public Sector-Manager of Environmental, Safety & Health certificate. Tony completed over 100 hours of certification training designed to increase professionalism and safety within the city. His hard work and dedication has been instrumental in implementing and facilitating training for all departments. The city has already experienced an increase in health and safety awareness. North Carolina Commissioner of Labor Cherie Berry issued the statement, "We are tremendously happy to recognize Anthony as a recipient of the Public Sector-Manager of Environmental, Safety & Health certificate. This program prepares managers for keeping their worksites safe and healthy, and that preparation improves employee protection and company productivity." Tony's knowledge and efforts will help city employees stay safe while being more efficient and effective in their jobs.

