



Clinton Connection

Citizen's Quarterly Newsletter

Spring 2012

Volume 4, Number 4

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Community Calendar

- **Saturday, April 7**
Fun Day in the Park
Newkirk Park Committee
- **Mon. to Fri., April 16-20**
Spring Cleanup Week
City of Clinton
- **Fri. to Sun., Apr. 20-22, 27-29**
25th Annual Putnam County
Spelling Bee
Sampson Community Theater
- **Saturday, April 14**
Black River Canoe & Kayak Trip
Clinton Recreation & FSCW
- **Friday, April 27**
Drive In to Drive Out Drugs
City of Clinton & Sampson County
- **Saturday, May 5**
Pitch, Hit, and Run Competition
Clinton Recreation
- **Thursday, May 17**
Craig Woolard Band
Alive After Five Concert Series
Sampson Arts & City of Clinton
- **Saturday, May 19**
Six Run Cr. Canoe & Kayak Trip
Clinton Recreation & FSCW
- **Fri. to Sat., June 1-2**
Sampson County Relay for Life
Clinton High School Track
- **Saturday, June 23**
Fort Fisher Canoe & Kayak Trip
Clinton Recreation & FSCW
- **Thu. to Sun., Jun. 28- Jul 1**
Hairspray
Sampson Community Theater

Special Insert

Spring Cleanup Week

Downtown Heating Up for the Summer *by Audrey Whetten, Planner*

The Planning Department is busy preparing for several exciting upcoming events in Downtown Clinton! The first-ever DRIVE IN to Sampson County to DRIVE OUT DRUGS event will be held on Friday, April 27th from 5:30 to 8 pm around the Courthouse Square. The City is partnering with the Sampson County Meth Task Force on this motorcycle and classic car drive-in to raise money for their efforts to educate middle school students about the dangers of drugs and addictions. Anyone interested in registering their motorcycle, classic car, or truck can do so for \$20 beginning at 5:30 pm the evening of the event (no pre-registration).



The Craig Woolard Band
Thursday, May 17

Ricochet

Liquid Pleasure

Band of Oz

All shows 5:45 to 8:30 at City Market

Mark your calendars to come out and join the fun at Alive After Five's second summer concert series. The first concert will be Thursday, May 17 with the Craig Woolard Band at the Clinton City Market on Lisbon Street. The Craig Woolard Band wows their audience with one of the most diverse repertoires and original crowd participation shows in the industry. The band is always energetic, spontaneous, and fresh with arrangements of soul, Motown, and beach music. Last year was a great success and the committee is working to make this year even better. Along with The Craig Woolard Band, performances this summer include Ricochet, one of Country Music's hardest working groups; Liquid Pleasure, the South's premiere show and dance band; and Band of Oz, one of the most recognizable beach music groups in the Southeast. For more information, visit the Alive After Five website at www.aliveafterfiveclintonnc.com. We look forward to seeing you at the next Alive After Five concert and don't forget your lawn chairs and dancing shoes.

Downtown Façade Grant Program Established *by Audrey Whetten, Planner*

On February 23, several dozen people gathered for the grand opening of Tickled Pink Consignment Shop at 311 Vance Street in Downtown Clinton. Tickled Pink's owners were the first to take advantage of the City's Downtown Façade Grant Program. "We hope this program will help keep our downtown attractive and encourage investment," said Planning Director Mary Rose. City Council approved and funded the program in December. To date, Tickled Pink Consignment Shop and Sessoms Jewelry have received grant funding for storefront improvements. The goals of the façade grant program are:

- to prevent further deterioration of downtown commercial properties;
- to restore and preserve properties that are valuable for historical, architectural, and aesthetic reasons; and
- to provide a comfortable and attractive place to shop, work, and be entertained.



Tickled Pink Consignment at 311 Vance St.

Any owner or tenant of a commercial building located within the Special Downtown Tax District may apply for a grant. For more information about the façade grant program and program guidelines, please contact the Planning Department at (910) 299-4904 or visit www.cityofclintonnc.com/planning-Downtown-Facade-Grant-Program.html.



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, [Clintonnnc1](#).

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

www.cityofclintonnc.us

Pedestrian Plan Receives Council Approval

by Audrey Whetten, Planner



Planning Director Mary Rose discusses the pedestrian plan with a citizen during one of several public meetings.

After nearly a year of receiving public input, conducting surveys, and evaluating options, the City's Planning Department with Benchmark CMR, Inc. presented the Clinton Pedestrian Plan to City Council for approval in March. The plan provides a comprehensive approach and long-term vision for Clinton's pedestrian network. The plan identifies 36 projects that include pedestrian network and connectivity projects, such as sidewalks and greenways. "We were very excited to receive the NCDOT grant to help develop the plan," said Planning Director Mary Rose. "Now our goal will be to use this plan to secure more grants to construct greenways and sidewalks for our citizens." Planning staff are available to give presentations about the plan to interested civic or church groups. Please contact the Planning Department at 910-299-4904 with any questions. More information about the plan is available at www.clintonwalks.org.

Looking for a New Home?

by Shawn Purvis, Assistant City Manager

If you are in the market for a new home, maybe this is the one for you. The City partnered with Sampson Community College to construct this brand new home at 115 W. Lee Street. It is the first house of a program the City and Sampson Community College hope will be a success and provide the residents of Clinton with affordable housing options. City Manager John Connet said, "The ultimate goal is to continue providing safe, affordable homes for low to moderate- income families." The house is 1,200 square feet with three bedrooms and two baths and all new appliances, including a washer and dryer. Applications are available at City Hall for all who are interested in purchasing the house. For more information about the house or to schedule a showing, please contact the City Manager's office at 592-1961 or jconnet@cityofclintonnc.us.



Employee Spotlight

by Mike Brim, Police Chief & Todd Solice, Deputy Fire Chief

At the March City Council Meeting, Police Chief Mike Brim presented Sergeant Donald Edwards with the 2011 Police Officer of the Year award. Sergeant Edwards is a 19-year veteran with the Clinton Police Department and is currently the supervisor of investigations and evidence management. Fellow officers nominated Sergeant Edwards because of his mentoring efforts with younger officers and for his work on the Department's effort to receive national accreditation. Police Chief Mike Brim commented, "Donald is well deserving of this award. He is an exceptional employee who always leads by example."



In February, Deputy Fire Chief Todd Solice awarded the 2011 Firefighter of the Year award to Chris Norris. Clinton firefighters vote annually to recognize one of their own with this award based on commitment to the department and service to the public. Deputy Chief Solice commented, "Firefighter Norris has done an outstanding job this year. He served as a part-time firefighter that we counted on a lot, and then transitioned into a fulltime role." Norris has been with the Clinton Fire Department since 2008. He began his career as a part-time firefighter and joined the department in fulltime capacity in August of 2011.