



Clinton Connection

Citizen's Quarterly Newsletter

Summer 2011

Volume 4, Number 1

In this Issue

- Alive After Five
- Downtown Public Art Project
- Online Auction
- CDBG Projects
- Employee Spotlight

Community Calendar

- **Monday, July 4**
Fireworks Celebration
Clinton Recreation
- **Mon. to Thu., July 11-14**
Summer Art Camp
Sampson Arts Council
- **Thu. to Sun., July 14-17, 21-24**
The Sound of Music
Sampson Community Theater
- **Friday, July 15**
Fall Soccer Registration Closes
Clinton Recreation, Sampson County Recreation, & SC Soccer Club
- **Saturday, July 16**
Black River Canoe & Kayak Trip
Clinton Recreation & FSCW
- **Thursday, July 21**
Live After Five Concert Series
Sampson Arts & City of Clinton
- **Saturday, August 6**
Football Registration Closes
Clinton Recreation
- **Mon. to Fri., August 8-12**
Football Camp
Clinton Recreation
- **Thursday, August 18**
Live After Five Concert Series
Sampson Arts & City of Clinton
- **Saturday, August 20**
Black River Canoe & Kayak Trip
Clinton Recreation & FSCW
- **Saturday, August 27**
Punt, Pass, Kick Competition
Clinton Recreation
- **Sat. to Sun., September 10-11**
Coharie Cultural Pow-Wow
Coharie Intra-Tribal Council
- **Saturday, September 17**
Black River Canoe & Kayak Trip
Clinton Recreation & FSCW

Downtown Clinton Comes *Alive After Five* by Brittany LeSieur, Planning Intern

Alive After Five is a Downtown Clinton summer concert series presented by the City of Clinton and the Sampson Arts Council that is free to the public. The concert series began Thursday May 19, and will continue throughout the summer every third Thursday of the month through August. The series offers live music, dancing, food, and fun at the Clinton City Market. There is plenty of free parking downtown within walking distance of the Clinton City Market. All events begin at 5:30 pm and last until 8:00 pm. While coolers are not permitted, there will be vendors selling food and drinks. Alive After Five kicked off its season with Jim Quick & The Coastline Band on May 19. Over 1,500 people came out to City Market to enjoy time with friends and family while relaxing and listening to music.



On June 16, John Brown & The Groove Shop Band performed a variety of music including funk, jazz, and rhythm and blues. Although there was a good chance of thunderstorms, the rain held off and 1,000 people came out to sing and dance along. We look forward to seeing you at the next Alive After Five concert and don't forget your lawn chairs and dancing shoes. For more information, visit the Alive After Five website at www.aliveafterfiveclintonnc.com.

UPCOMING AA5 CONCERTS

July 21st The Fantastic Shakers

Known as the "South's Finest Show Band" The Fantastic Shakers have the versatility to perform almost any style.

August 18th Too Far Gone

A country band that puts their own spin on the classics in a way that many people have never heard before.

Public Art Project Receives Final Funding by Kara Donatelli, Arts Council Director

The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) recently announced the latest round of funding for 2011. More than \$88 million was awarded through 1,145 grants to non-profit, national, regional, state, and local organizations. The NEA's "Access to Artistic Excellence" grants foster and preserve excellence in the arts and provide access to the arts for all Americans. Grants in this round focus on two primary themes: access to the arts and preservation activities. A broad range of activities is funded in the disciplines of dance, design, folk and traditional arts, literature, media arts, museums, music, musical theater, opera, presenting, theater, and visual arts. Projects include outreach, touring, artists' workshops and residencies, technology, preservation, recordings, and conferences and symposia. The Sampson Arts Council in partnership with the City of Clinton was fortunate to receive a \$30,000 grant for its "Milling Around" public art project. With the receipt of the NEA grant, the project is supported entirely through grants and private donations. The grant will be used to fund a 25' x 7' glass wall at the top of the College Street hill as the finishing piece to the city's downtown revitalization project. Artist Heidi Lippman will design, fabricate, and install a glass wall of various colors with a millstone design meant to represent Clinton's history and diversity. The glasswork in the wall will contain opaque, translucent, and transparent areas. Lippman says the work will play with light to look different with the time of day and the change of seasons, making for a new, ever-changing piece of art. The wall will integrate with a small park area and serve as a gathering place downtown. City officials and Ms. Lippman expect the wall to be installed in Spring 2012. Installation of the glass art wall will be the culmination of three years of meeting, planning, designing, and fabricating that will bring something special to Downtown Clinton.



Artist's rendering of the view of the "Milling Around" wall from Main Street.



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!

You can watch City Council meetings every Thursday at 7:00 p.m. on GOAC-15. StarVision broadcasts the meetings throughout the month on cable channel 15.

Need More Information?

Visit our website 24-7 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

City Auction Now Online *by Claire Long, Management Intern*

The City of Clinton is now using the website GovDeals to sell surplus items online. Compared to a single on-site auction, this new service is more convenient for bidders and will allow the city to reach a more regional audience over a longer period. Included in the first batch of items up for bid are items ranging from working computer equipment to handmade wooden cabinets. More items from the City will be posted as they are made available. Auctions last ten to fourteen days and auction deadlines are staggered to ensure that all bidders will be able to bid right up to the deadline. To access GovDeals, all individuals need to do is create a free username and password. This allows individuals to bid, monitor, and pay for items. Individual buyers will have to pick up their items in person. According to Kristin Norris, Accounting Operations Manager, the City of Clinton decided to work with GovDeals because the site "allows the city to reach a wider range of potential bidders at a cheaper price." Unlike on-site auctions, there is no cost to the city until an item is won in an auction. The small administrative fee to GovDeals is paid for directly from the winning bidder's payment; GovDeals then sends the rest of the payment to the city. Govdeals.com runs public auctions for more than 3,800 government agencies across the United States. They opened their first live auction in April 2001 and have since auctioned more than \$430 million of surplus government property. Individuals can access GovDeals at www.GovDeals.com or by clicking the logo link (pictured above) on the City of Clinton's website. For help or additional information, please contact the City of Clinton at 910-299-4901 ext. 3007.



CDBG Past and Present *by Mary Rose, Planning & Development Director*

Since 1970, the City of Clinton has received approximately \$12 million in Community Development Block Grant funds. Grant funds have been used for residential rehabilitation, property acquisition, demolition, and infrastructure improvements. The grant money has been used to pave thousands of feet of street and upgrade owner-occupied and residential rental properties. The city has been able to install water and sewer lines to improve our neighborhoods and enhance our citizens' living conditions. Former Planning and Development Director Lucille Yancey was instrumental in making applications for millions in grant funds for the City of Clinton beginning in 1970. At that time, the Redevelopment Commission office was located in the old Rufus King Hotel building with a card table, couple of chairs, a telephone, and stacks of Federal Register publications. The beginning was so successful the City continued to apply for and receive funds throughout the 70's, 80's, and 90's. In 2009, CDBG funds helped make nearly \$1 million in improvements possible in the Russell Street neighborhood. The City's most recent awards include \$573,000 for major infrastructure improvements in the Eliza Lane neighborhood and \$536,000 for water and sewer line installation and housing rehabilitation along Pugh Road.

Employee Spotlight *by Elaine Hunt, City Clerk & Megan Mouldon, Administrative Assistant*

The City of Clinton is now a safer place to live, work, and visit. At the beginning of March 2011, the City of Clinton held CPR classes for all City of Clinton employees. Employees attended a four-hour training class led by Luther Jackson, who taught the employees how to perform the Heimlich maneuver and CPR on infants, children, and adults. Employees also learned the proper procedure for using an AED and the importance of administering CPR before emergency management services arrive at the scene. This past year the City received a grant from the NC League of Municipalities to purchase an AED for the Bellamy Center and recently, another grant was awarded to purchase CPR masks for all employees. With the City having properly trained staff and equipment readily available, anyone in Clinton is more likely to receive the assistance needed in the event of an emergency. Within the upcoming fiscal year, the city plans to hold additional training, including First Aid, for all City of Clinton employees.

