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Community Calendar

- **Monday, June 1, 2015**
NC Pre-K Program Registration
Partnership for Children
- **Saturday, July 4**
Fireworks Celebration
Clinton Recreation
- **Mon. to Thu., July 13-24**
Summer Art Camp
Sampson Arts Council
- **Thursday, July 16**
The Carolina Breakers
Alive After Five Concert Series
Sampson Arts Council, City of Clinton, & Sampson County
- **Thursday, August 13**
Soul Play
Alive After Five Concert Series
Sampson Arts Council, City of Clinton, & Sampson County
- **Fri. to Sun., Aug. 21-23; 28-30**
High School Musical 1
Sampson Community Theater
- **Thursday, September 10**
Band of Oz
Alive After Five Concert Series
Sampson Arts Council, City of Clinton, & Sampson County
- **Fri. to Sun., Sept. 25-27; Oct. 2-4**
Big River
Sampson Community Theater

Clinton 2035 Comprehensive Plan Approved *by Mary Rose, Planning Director*

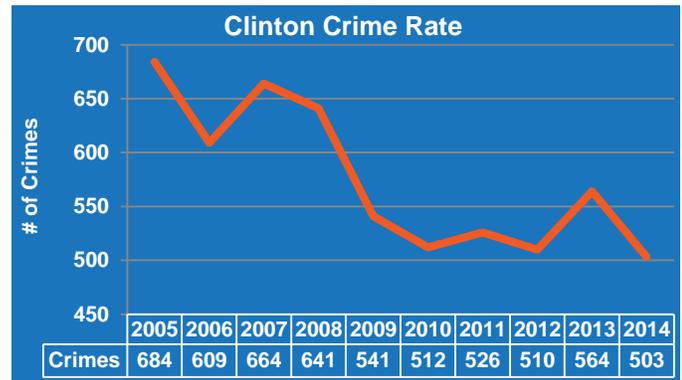


Clinton City Council formally adopted the Clinton 2035 Comprehensive Plan at their May 5, 2015 meeting. The comprehensive plan provides a creative and dynamic blueprint to guide long-term growth and development in Clinton through the next twenty (20) years. It establishes a foundation for the city’s ongoing planning efforts and serves as the city’s primary policy guide for short- and long-range planning, zoning, and land use decisions within the city-limits and extra-territorial jurisdiction. The plan also includes a community health component thanks to a partnership with the Sampson County Health Department. More than 600 citizens provided input for the plan through focus groups, surveys, public presentation, and the citizen steering committee. Dwight Horne, chair of the Clinton 2035 Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee commented, “Benjamin Franklin once noted, ‘If you fail to plan, you are planning to fail.’ Until this process,

I had never considered how much would go into the long-term planning for a city and the amount of work and variables that had to be considered.” Bill Scott, another Clinton 2035 Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee member, remarked, “I very much appreciated the opportunity to be involved in this process. I have gained a whole new respect for the time, energy, and resources that are involved in the planning process. Given the details we examined and considered, I’m convinced our plan puts Clinton and the surrounding communities in the best possible light and gives an on-going sense of direction that will be just as compelling for future generations to appreciate and enjoy.” The plan emphasizes issues facing smaller, rural North Carolina municipalities including development of various types of housing, community health, infrastructure and resource needs, and other quality of life issues. The plan is available online via the City’s website at www.cityofclintonnc.com/documents.

Clinton Crime Rates Decrease *by Jay Tilley, Police Chief*

The State Bureau of Investigation (SBI) through the Uniform Crime Reporting Program (UCR) recently published the 2014 crime rate for the City of Clinton. From 2013 to 2014, the city’s crime rate dropped from 664 to 503. Over the past ten years, the crime rate has dropped 73%, with violent crimes cut almost in half since 2005. “I am very proud of the hard work put in by the men and women of the Clinton Police Department. Their dedication and the partnerships they have formed with citizens have led to a ten-year low in reported crime,” stated Captain Donald Edwards. City of Clinton Police Officers receive an average of 120 hours of training each year, which far exceeds the 24 hours mandated by the State. The extra training, community involvement, directive patrols, and the efforts of the Neighborhood Improvement Team all contributed to the lowest crime rate in ten years. The Clinton Police Department will continue striving to provide a safe community.



Recreation Online Registration *by Jonathan Allen, Recreation & Parks Director*

Clinton Recreation & Parks is pleased to announce that we now offer online registration for youth sports. In order to sign up for online registration, parents and guardians will need to create a free online account. Once you create an account, you can register your child(ren) for youth sports at www.clintonrecreationandparks.com. The online system also accepts payments for registration for a minimal service charge. If you need assistance in setting up an account or making a payment, please contact Clinton Recreation at 910-299-4906. This is another way we are working to make registration more convenient and Clinton Recreation the perfect place to play.



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 YouTube channel, Clintonnc1.

Need More Information?

Visit our website 24-7 or like us on Facebook 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

Clinton Earns High Marks *by Shawn Purvis, City Manager*

It seems the rest of the country may finally be finding out what we already know about Clinton - it is the perfect place to call home. Recent online rankings by NerdWallet and Niche highlighted our city as one of the [best towns in North Carolina](#) as well as a [top place to start a business](#) and [to raise a family](#). The NerdWallet rankings used business climate and local economy attributes such as average business revenues, number of local businesses, median annual income, and unemployment rate. With the number of successful businesses calling Clinton home, it is no wonder the city scored in the top 20. The Niche rankings placed Clinton at the #23 best town in North Carolina while ranking the city at #13 for best places to raise a family. These rankings included scores based on education, healthcare, safety, and other community factors. We already know that our location, strong schools, regional healthcare, increasingly vibrant downtown, and recreational opportunities provide our community with a high quality of life. These ranking give our community positive exposure and provide us with an opportunity to share our city with others. To view the rankings, visit NerdWallet at www.nerdwallet.com/blog and Niche at local.niche.com. Readers can link directly to the rankings pages from the online newsletter version found on the city's website at www.cityofclintonnc.us/newsletters.

Library Summer Reading Program *by Addie Hodges, JC Holliday Library*

The Sampson County Public Libraries are gearing up for a fun-filled summer with the kids! Children ages 5 to 12 are welcome to attend the Summer Reading Program at the JC Holliday Library in Downtown Clinton. From June 22 through July 27, the program will be every Monday starting at 3:00 pm. Parents can begin registering their children for the Summer Reading Program on Monday, June 15. Each week the children will partake in different activities including watching books come to life, playing games, show and tell, learning about the environment, meeting local heroes of the community, and dressing up as their favorite superhero. Join us for fun and excitement at your Sampson County Public Library. For more information, please email Ms. Addie at ahodges@sampsonnc.com or call her at 910-592-4153 ext. 28.

June 22nd
"Books Are Heroes Too"
(Watch books come alive and have some fun!)

June 29th
"The Amazing Race"
(Tug-O-War, Paper Airplanes, Egg Race, & lots of fun!)

July 6th
"Family Heroes"
(Present your hero. Kids bring your parent or favorite hero!)

July 13th
"Nature Good vs. Bad"
(Good elements in nature vs. bad! Kids will do a fun science experiment!)

July 20th
"Community Hero Festival"
(Local heroes such as police officers, firefighters, nurses, and teachers will join us. The Dairy Queen truck will also be here. Please bring \$1.25 for a treat.)

July 27th
"Superhero Walk"
(Held at Royal Lane Park, kids may dress as their favorite superhero! Be sure to bring your favorite hero with you to walk around the park.)

Firefighter of the Year *by Austin Tew, Interim Fire Chief*



At the April City Council Meeting, the Clinton Fire Department recognized Robby Owen as the 2014 Firefighter of the Year. Owen began working part-time at the Clinton Fire Department in February 2008 and became a fulltime firefighter in August 2010. "It is a privilege and an honor to be recognized as the 2014 Firefighter of the Year. What we do is not a one-person operation. It takes every member to do the day-to-day and scene operations," commented Owen. "This is my second time being recognized by my peers and I am extremely grateful that they see me as an example for the Clinton Fire Department." Owen was previously Firefighter of the Year in 2012. His hard work, devotion, and training exemplify what it means to be not only Firefighter of the Year but also a firefighter with the Clinton Fire Department.