



# Clinton Connection

Citizen's Quarterly Newsletter

Winter 2013

Volume 5, Number 3

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## Community Calendar

- **Monday, January 7**  
Youth Baseball & Softball  
Registration Opens  
*Clinton Recreation*
- **Monday, January 21**  
Martin Luther King Jr. Banquet  
*Clinton-Sampson Chamber of Commerce*
- **Tuesday, January 22**  
Small Business Summit  
*Sampson County Economic Development Commission*
- **Fri. to Sun., Feb. 1-3, 8-10**  
*Hairspray*  
*Sampson Community Theater*
- **Thursday, February 21**  
District 1 Meeting  
*Beaman St. Fire Station*
- **Tuesday, February 26**  
District 4 Meeting  
*Bellamy Recreation Center*
- **Tuesday, March 12**  
District 2 Meeting  
*Beaman St. Fire Station*
- **Thursday, March 14**  
District 5 Meeting  
*Sampson Community Center*
- **Thursday, March 21**  
District 3 Meeting  
*City Hall Auditorium*
- **Saturday, March 23**  
4<sup>th</sup> Annual Super Sprint Triathlon  
*Clinton Recreation & FS Series*

## Grants Help Fire Dept. Improve Technology *by Josh Coombs, Training Captain*

The Clinton Fire Department has recently received grant funding from Factory Mutual Global (\$2,318) and Wal-Mart (\$1,000). The Fire Department plans to use the funds to purchase and install state of the art computer tablets and response system software. The tablet technology will be on all fire apparatus and command



David Barefoot, Assistant VP of Factory Mutual (left), presents Clinton Fire Chief Adon Snyder (center) and Captain Josh Coombs with a check.

vehicles, allowing firefighters to be better prepared before arriving at an emergency. The software will provide instant and continuous access to valuable information such as type of structure, type of occupancy, structure floor plans, possible hazardous materials, fire hydrant locations and pressures, and turn-by-turn directions. The tablets and software will combine to provide a cornerstone for a citywide fire prevention program. In gratitude for the grants, Fire Chief Adon Snyder commented, "Having this information available to the frontline fire suppression personnel prior to arriving on the scene is a major milestone in fire department technology. The Clinton Fire Department is very grateful for the grant opportunities that Factory Mutual and Wal-mart provide to our community. Programs like these allow us to provide high quality service to our citizens."

## City Announces Annual Main Street Champion *by Mary Rose, Planning Director*

The City of Clinton Main Street Organization has proudly nominated Vickie Crane, Director of the Sampson County Convention and Visitors Bureau, as the City of Clinton Main Street Champion for 2012. Ms. Crane is a native of Sampson County who joined the Sampson County Convention and Visitors Bureau in 2010. Some of Vickie's most recent professional positions include Program Director for the Arts Council of Topeka, Kansas, and Exhibition Manager for the Western Veterinary Conference in Las Vegas. Since her return to Sampson County, she has actively participated as a committee member for the Alive After Five concert series, Christmas in the City, and the annual Court Square Street Fair and Barbecue Cook-off. Vickie has been one of the city's most active volunteers in the Clinton Main Street Program. From helping organize Christmas in the City events to staffing the Alive After Five concert Series, she is one of the first to arrive and last to leave. Vickie is always willing to help when called upon and has a positive attitude that inspires those around her. All of these qualities make her an asset to the Clinton Main Street Program.



## Want to Help Improve Royal Lane Park? *by Shawn Purvis, Assistant City Manager*

The City is continuing its efforts to improve its recreation programs and parks. As part of these efforts, city officials are encouraging citizens to provide input about what they consider important for recreation and parks in Clinton, particularly at Royal Lane Park. Many of the facilities and amenities at Royal Lane Park are 30 to 40 years old and in need of repairs or replacement. The input the city receives from citizens is a crucial part of the grant application process for the NC Parks and Recreation Trust Fund (PARTF). The city may be eligible to receive up to \$500,000 in grant funding with a successful PARTF application. Surveys are available for completion at City Hall, the Recreation Office at Royal Lane, the Bellamy Center, and the Sampson Center. Citizens also can request a survey by calling the recreation office at 910-299-4906 or complete it [online](#). Please take a moment to complete the survey and help make Clinton an even better place to live. For additional information, please contact the Recreation & Parks Department.



### 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](http://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](mailto:spurvis@cityofclintonnc.us)

## City Sets Dates for Annual Community Meetings *by Elaine Hunt, City Clerk*

The City has set the schedule for its annual community meetings. The intent of the meetings is to open the lines of communication between citizens and City Hall. "The community meetings provide a great opportunity for citizens who do not typically come to monthly council meetings to express their concerns and provide us with feedback," says Mayor Lew Starling. The Mayor, district councilmember, and city staff will be present at each meeting to review accomplishments, answer questions, address concerns, and receive feedback from residents. The Mayor and City Council encourage citizens to come and offer ideas and express concerns. The community meetings will be in February and March at locations convenient to neighborhoods. "We look forward to these meetings each year," says City Manager John Connet. "We have seen increased participation and hope for a good turnout again this year." If you have questions about the meetings, please call City Hall at 910-592-1961.

### Community Meeting Schedule

District 1	Feb. 21 7:00 pm	Beaman St. Fire Station
District 2	Mar. 12 7:00 pm	Beaman St. Fire Station
District 3	Mar. 21 7:00 pm	City Hall Auditorium
District 4	Feb. 26 7:00 pm	Bellamy Center
District 5	Mar. 14 7:00 pm	Sampson Center

## Business ID Project to Help Emergency Responders *by Jay Tilley, Police Chief*

Access is crucial during an emergency. A blocked road or simply a locked door can cost emergency responders valuable time. More importantly, it can cost those in harm's way valuable time. To help overcome these potential obstacles, the Clinton Police and Fire Departments are partnering on a business ID project in 2013. Businesses participating in the voluntary program will receive a unique ID number to be posted on their business. The number will help police and fire officials easily identify the appropriate person to contact in case of an emergency during the night. Businesses also will have the option to install a "Knox box." This box securely stores a key and contact information, which only police and fire officials can access during an emergency. "We fully expect this program to help us communicate more quickly with businesses during after-hours emergencies," says Fire Chief Adon Snyder. Several facilities already participate in the Knox Box program but public safety officials hope for more participation to improve services for the business community.

## Employee Spotlight *by Jay Tilley, Police Chief*

After a rigorous assessment center in November, Sgt. Donald Edwards was selected as the new captain of the Clinton Police Department. Born and raised in Sampson County, Donald Edwards always had a notion that he would serve his community as a law enforcement officer. He began his career with the Clinton Police Department in 1993. In 2005, Edwards graduated summa cum laude from Mt. Olive College with a degree in Heritage Management and Organizational Development. Selected by his peers, Edwards received the Clinton Police Department's 2011 Officer of the Year award. Always looking to better himself in his career, Edwards also completed the FBI Command College in October of 2012. Captain Edwards believes in the people of the Clinton Police Department and the service they are committed to providing to the City of Clinton.

