

# “THE RIGHT TRACK”



Volume 16 Issue 1

<http://ci.spencer.nc.us>

August 2010

“Home of the North Carolina Transportation Museum”

## RECYCLING PUBLIC FORUM

At their planning retreat in February, the Board of Aldermen discussed the issue of recycling, and included a recycling program as one of their goals. How do you, as a citizen, feel about recycling, and what type of program would you like to see established? Now is the time to voice your opinion and concerns.

A courtesy hearing on the subject of recycling will be held at the regular monthly Board of Aldermen meeting on September 14 at 7:00 p.m. Board members would like to hear from as many of the citizens as possible to help them plan for the future of Spencer. So please make it a point to join us on Tuesday, September 14 for a public forum on recycling.



## FROM THE MAYOR

I'd like to remind everyone that Spencer still offers recycling at no cost. You may take your glass, aluminum cans, newspapers, etc., to the Town's Public Works Department at the end of Sowers Ferry Road. The drop off site is open Monday through Friday, from 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. (except holidays) and from 9:00 a.m. until 12 noon on the first and third

Saturdays of every month.

The Town Board will be considering the future of Spencer recycling programs at the September 14th meeting but if you would prefer to have curbside recycling pickup, you can already contact the following companies: Matangira at 704-603-4355 or email [matangiracurb-side@bellsouth.net](mailto:matangiracurb-side@bellsouth.net) or Shark Recycling at 704-239-4697. There are fees involved for their services.

Spencer has a new Police Chief. We would like to welcome Michael James to our town. We look forward to having Michael and his family being a part of our community.

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Read to Your Child program which was held at the Library Park on July 28th. This is a joint effort between the City of Salisbury, Rowan County and the Rowan Public Library and the Town of Spencer. This is the second annual event to be held. New library cards were issued and free books are given to each child that attends. Approximately 400 people attended this year's event.

Improvements to the Spencer Library continue and the project is coming along well. Thanksgiving is the expected construction completion date. Spencer will then have a Library to be proud of. We were glad that a Spencer resident, Archie Jarrell, of Jarrell's Construction was awarded the bid.

The 2010/2011 Fiscal Year Budget was approved by the Board of Aldermen. Again, we were able to keep a consistent tax rate without discontinuing any services.

Please continue to support our local schools and remember they will be opening at the end of Au-

gust. Let's be aware of our children and school buses as we get readjusted to watching out for them. Thank you to our teachers and staff for their dedication to education.

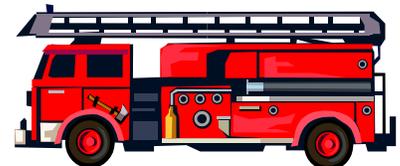
Thank you,  
Jody Everhart  
Mayor



## SPENCER FIRE DEPARTMENT AUXILIARY

The Spencer Fire Department Auxiliary invites you to our Second Annual Fire Apparatus Show on August 28th starting with a parade at 10 am of fire trucks through downtown Spencer. Then the trucks will proceed to the North Carolina Transportation Museum and will remain there during the day for exhibition, with the award ceremony at 4 pm. Bring your family and friends and join us for a day full of fire trucks, food and fun. There will be plenty of things to see and do, plus plenty of food and fire service vendors. Come out and support the firefighters that are coming from all over North Carolina. Admission is free to the public.

Janice Sells  
Spencer Fire Department Auxiliary



**FROM THE TOWN MANAGER**

The Library Repair Project has continued ahead of schedule so far this summer. Early on, a specialist with the Division of Urban Forestry conducted a hazard survey on the large oak tree on the north side of the building. The assessment found that the tree unfortunately rated a 10 out of 12 (12 is the highest hazard rating). The conclusion was that the tree's condition and location made it an "imminent threat" to both persons and property, and that it thus had to be removed. Though the trunk still appeared healthy once the tree was felled, grinders confirmed the specialists' assessment: that the base was not much more than "mush"; meaning that the tree was indeed likely to break off at its roots before long—an occurrence we've seen with several such healthy-looking oaks recently. There were some erroneous reports that the town had disposed of the wood from the tree, but rest assured that Public Works salvaged as much healthy wood as possible, and several volunteers are currently making some furniture and keepsakes for the Town out of it. As always, if you ever have any questions as these projects are going on, please don't hesitate to call town hall for information.

I'm extremely pleased to introduce Michael James as the Town's new Police Chief. Chief James comes to us with a very distinguished 30-year record in law enforcement. His qualifications and philosophy toward public service have proved throughout the entire search and assessment processes to be very well-suited to what Spencer was both looking for and needing. Please join me in welcoming him on board for the start of a very promising continuation and future of the Spencer PD. A special thanks goes out to Sergeant Eric Ennis, who filled in as Interim Chief since Chief Bennett's retirement this year—as well as to ALL of our officers, who have kept things safe and steady along the way.

Kudos to Land Management Director Dustin Wilson for his willingness to multi-task beyond the call of duty! On top of all the Land Management duties, Dustin has been keeping up with our website basically since he arrived. While it's saved the town a great deal of money, it's obviously been hard at times for him to keep up with all the updates for the site that everyone's thrown at him. This year, we've switched over to a new type of software that will allow department heads the ability to update their own webpages in the site. This will serve to keep costs down by still keeping the site management in-house, and hopefully make the site more dynamic as department heads find time to update their information.

Larry Smith  
Town Manager



**CODE ENFORCEMENT**

Hello, this is the Code Enforcement Corner. I hope everyone is having a safe and fun-filled summer.

Please make sure all garbage is in plastic bags, placed inside of a proper trash container with a lid. Spencer Code 50.06 requires that your trash containers have tight fitting lids, can't be more than 30 gallons in capacity and the trash in them must be in plastic bags. The Town does not remove bulky items such as couches, refrigerators, sofas, mattresses etc...from the road or alley. It is the responsibility of the resident to dispose of these items. The Town will provide a cost estimate for removing these items upon request. A request can be made by calling the Town office at 704-633-2231.

Nathan Ross  
Code Enforcement Officer

**CAC AWARD WINNERS**

The Community Appearance Commission is completing another season of appearance awards. The winners for 2010 are:

- Shiver McGraw, 214 Eleventh St
- Phillip Sparger, 608 Seventh St
- Jody & Melinda Everhart, 525 Steeplechase Trail
- David Adams, 508 Fifth Street
- Franklin & Kathleen Pifferetti, 106 Seventeenth Street
- David & April Lamanno, 210 S Rowan Ave
- Magnolia Gardens, 1404 S Salisbury Ave
- Katherine Clark, 917 Second St
- Packaging Corporation of America, 1302 N Salisbury Ave
- Gentian Hill Farm, 130 Steeplechase Trail
- Nancy Blackwell, 324 S Whitehead Ave
- Catherine Harrison, 310 Harrison St
- Harold & Gayle Rabon, 510 Charles Street
- Craig & Sarah Powers, 3 Beauregard Dr
- William & Brenda Bost (owners), 200 S Rowan Ave
- Tracy Aitken, 401 Eighth Street

When you see these home and business owners, thank them for their efforts to make Spencer a more beautiful place. The winners will be presented with framed certificates at the annual CAC awards banquet on April 7, 2011.

Ed Robinette, Chair  
Community Appearance Commission



**NORTH ROWAN ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

Your North Rowan Alumni Association (NRAA) is planning special events for the 2010 Homecoming! The Association is proudly sponsoring these events to encourage you to get together with old friends and catch up with what has been going on. Advance purchase of tickets required. Tickets available on line at [www.nrhscavaliers.com](http://www.nrhscavaliers.com). We can be reached at 704-984-1658 for information. Tickets and golf registration forms available beginning August 23 at Spencer Town Hall, Debbie Barnhardt Jewelers, North Rowan High School and Salisbury Square Antiques and Collectibles and through the North Rowan Connection. Exact change or check payable to NRAA at these locations please.

**Friday, October 1**

**Port a Pit**—1/2 barbeque chicken dinner with sides and dessert at the school for \$8.00. Students are out that day, so you can dine for lunch or dinner in the school cafeteria or carry out. Available between 11:00 am through 2:00 pm and 4:00 pm through 6:30 pm. We will deliver 15 or more meals to your site within Rowan County.

**After Party**—For alumni and their guests age 21 or over at Pancho Villa's Restaurant, 1517 E. Innes Street, from 10:00 pm until 2:00 am. There will be music provided by "DJ" Bobbie Jones and a cash bar. Neat dress required. Limit of 300 tickets.

**Saturday, October 2**

**First Annual NRAA Memorial Golf Tournament**—Bring your "A" game to Corbin Hills Golf Club for a morning of golf, followed by a cook-out lunch. The Captain's Choice format allows each player to make a putt or hit that superb drive that contributes to team performance. \$50 per player gets you in the tournament. Prizes for low team net score, closest to the pin, 50/50 raffle on a par 3, lots of giveaways and raffle prizes. Plus, you can honor a classmate, teacher or championship team

by sponsoring one of the holes.

**NRAA Annual Meeting**—

Plan to attend the annual meeting of our corporation that supports North Rowan High's students. Four Board positions are up for election. A review of our past year's activities will be given, and plans for the coming year will be unveiled. Be a part of this great organization that awards scholarships to students, provides awards to outstanding faculty members, maintains this web site for you, and plans events like this year's homecoming activities. Meeting to begin at 4:00 pm at the school.

Check us out at [www.nrhscavaliers.com](http://www.nrhscavaliers.com). Membership in the NRAA is only \$10 a year, so please join and get in on the fun!

Mark Alley  
President  
Class of '70



**NC TRANSPORTATION MUSEUM CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

- August 26-29, Charlotte Fall Auto Fair
- September 7, Fall Rides resume (Thursday—Sunday)
- September 9, Business Affair
- September 11, Mopar Car Show
- Sept. 24-26, A Day Out With Thomas
- October 1-3, A Day Out With Thomas
- October 16, Annual AACA Car Show
- October 23, U-Boats off North Carolina Program
- October 30, Pumpkin Patch Express
- October 30-31, Autumn Leaf Excursions

**BEWARE OF HOT VEHICLES**

Please remember these safety recommendations:

- Never leave a child unattended in a vehicle for even a minute.
- Be sure that all occupants leave the vehicle when unloading. Don't overlook sleeping babies.
- Always lock your car and ensure children do not have access to keys or remote entry devices. If a child is missing, check the car first, including the trunk. Teach your children that vehicles are never to be used as a play area.
- Keep a stuffed animal in the carseat and when the child is put in the seat place the animal in the front with the driver.
- Or place your purse or briefcase in the back seat as a reminder that you have your child in the car.
- Make "look before you leave" a routine whenever you get out of the car.
- Have a plan that your childcare provider will call you if your child does not show up for school.

A hot vehicle is also a dangerous place for pets. Call 911 if you see a child or a pet unattended in a vehicle. Your call could save a life.



**YARD WASTE**

Reminder: Between April 1st and October 15th, **grass clippings and leaves must be placed in bags or boxes for town pickup.** If you have limbs or branches, these must be placed at curbside and separated from the bags of leaves/grass clippings.

**FROM THE LAND  
MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT**

**Web Site**

On our newly revised web site (<http://www.ci.spencer.nc.us>) you will find a Code Enforcement complaint form (Departments>Land Management>Complaints (Code Enforcement)). This online form will allow you to submit potential complaints at any time you wish! Maybe you forgot during our business hours or just got back from vacation. Whatever the case, you can now forward complaints 24/7.

**Front-Yard Parking**

On April 13, the Board of Aldermen adopted a front-yard parking ordinance for the town. It will go into effect March 31, 2011.

**Exactly how will this affect you?** If you currently park on bare dirt or grass in your front yard you will likely be affected. After March 31, 2011 you will not be able to park in your front yard (side and back yard parking is okay) unless you have an improved surface.

**What's an improved surface, you ask?** It is one on which a sufficient layer of gravel has been placed or asphalt or concrete have been brought in. Additional requirements are listed in the ordinance below.

**What if I can't do this?** Call Town Hall at 704-633-2231 and ask

to speak with Dustin Wilson or Nathan Ross. We will meet you at your property to assist and perhaps come up with alternatives.

**What if I'm in the Historic District and need to make a parking pad?** Good question. You'll need to approach the Historic Preservation Commission. We're happy to help you with the process. Call us at 704-633-2231 to discuss.

**I want to continue to park in my front yard. Can someone come out and look at my property?** That's what we're here for. Give us a call at 704-633-2231. **We are currently evaluating properties for compliance. You will be contacted within the next few weeks if you may need to take action to remain in compliance.**

Front-Yard Parking Ordinance:

- No front-yard parking of motor vehicles will hereafter be allowed at dwellings or in any residential district of the Town of Spencer unless parking is situated upon an improved, prepared surface that extends from a public right-of-way. No part of any sidewalk shall be counted towards a front yard parking area. No more than forty (40) percent of the front yard may be used for parking. Grass and bare earth shall not be acceptable parking surfaces. At a minimum, a parking pad con-

sisting of aggregate stone base of 4" is required. The use of other materials, except concrete, bituminous asphalt and aforementioned aggregate stone must be approved by the Technical Review Committee. The parking pad must be delineated with appropriate materials with a physical edge that is maintained.

- Properties having to comply with division (K) (1) shall do so by no later than March 31, 2011.
- In order to protect property values and promote the general welfare of the town's citizens, parking for recreational vehicles, boats, and trailers shall be restricted to the side or rear yards in the residential districts and for dwellings in the town.
- Violations of this section of the Spencer Code of Ordinances will be enforced in accord with Chapter 10, Section 99 of the Spencer Code of Ordinances.

Call Town Hall at 704-633-2231 for more information.

Dustin Wilson  
Land Management Director  
704-633-2231  
LMDDIR@CI.SPENCER.NC.US



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