

“THE RIGHT TRACK”



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

February 2013

“Home of the North Carolina Transportation Museum”

FROM THE MAYOR

The Board of Aldermen continues to be quite busy. At the December meeting, we amended the ordinance to allow indoor recreation facilities. This amendment was in response to an inquiry about a possible indoor soccer facility. Our auditor, Eddie Carrick, reviewed the Town’s annual financial statement at the December meeting and encouraged the Board to remain conservative in budgeting and expenditures. Several property liens were approved in December to recover charges to correct code violations.

In January, the Board of Aldermen adopted an ordinance amendment concerning chronic violators of the public nuisance ordinance. This amendment will enable our code enforcement staff to be even more efficient with handling code violations. In January, the Board also authorized the purchase of new pagers for the fire department.

As Mayor, I continue to attend meetings and events on a regular basis. These include: the regional mayors’ meeting, a reception at North Rowan High School, and the opening of the new exhibit at the NC Transportation Museum.

Congratulations to our Student Appreciation winners for December. Recipients were Madisyn Smith, North Rowan Elementary; and Briana Dummett, North Rowan Middle School. January’s winners were Danielle Smith from North Rowan Elementary, and Felix Espinal from North Rowan Middle School. In February, certificates were presented to: Jada Hawkins, North Rowan Elementary School; McKenzie Shoaf, North Rowan Middle School; and Devante

Everhart, North Rowan High School. We congratulate these fine students on their accomplishments and encourage them to keep up the good work!

Thank you,
Jody Everhart
Mayor



FROM THE TOWN MANAGER

There are a lot of very cool things going on in town. Our Small Town Main Street Program continues to ramp up thanks to a lot of fresh, positive energy from those of you who have been able to come out and participate. If you’d like to be a part of something that’s truly shaping how our downtown will look and thrive for decades to come, we’d love to have you join us for our meetings the 2nd Thursday of each month at 5:45 pm.

We’ve already started breaking out into committees. The Design Committee will be focusing on making things more appealing, user-friendly, safe, functional, connected, and fun. The economic Restructuring Committee will delve into how we can best retain and recruit good businesses, and expand downtown Spencer as a center of activity. The Promotions Committee will focus on how we can best attract people of all ages and background to downtown Spencer.

Thanks to North Rowan High School for joining us in this history we’re making. High School stu-

dents Warren Massey, Khalil McGee, Margarito Mendoza, Ricky Vang, Kingson Wang, and Shontel Wilson are interning with us this semester, helping us with the research, information gathering, studies, surveys, and so forth. They’ve also been invaluable resources to our discussions and meetings already, giving insight about downtown needs from more youthful points of view. It’s great to know that their thumbprints will be etched in the results of this program.

Spencer Woods has also continued to gain steam from an amazing amount of support. Over this past quarter, we developed and finalized a Master Plan for the park, and we’ve applied for a second Parks And Recreation Trust Fund (PARTF) grant to begin further development of it. Scouts and volunteers have been instrumental already in developing the primitive trails of the park interior. As we move forward we’ll begin developing the ADA-accessible portions of the park and more of the trail connections. Special thanks to the Land-Trust, and to Bob Pendergrass personally. There’s truly no way we could have made such a tight PARTF application deadline without all of the tireless work and hours that he put into helping us with that application.

As always, please call if you ever have questions about these or any other town services or initiatives. We appreciate your continued support and feedback.

Larry E. Smith
Town Manager



GOOD NEIGHBOR DO'S AND DON'TS

You can preserve and enhance the livability of your neighborhood by following some basic guidelines established through the Town of Spencer's code and zoning ordinances. These comprehensive strategies are formed to assist residents with improving their homes and neighborhoods.

Do's

- Become friends with your neighbors and try to work out any differences you may have
- Cut your grass once a week, keeping all clippings off streets and sidewalks
- Empty excess water collecting in pots, buckets and containers that can attract and breed mosquitoes
- Call the police and report any suspicious people or activities in the area
- Schedule bulky items for pick-up
- Properly display house numbers
- Clean up after your pets
- Change batteries in smoke and carbon monoxide detectors twice a year
- Keep all trash in an acceptable garbage can with a tight-fitting lid

Don'ts

- Park inoperable or unregistered vehicles on your property
- Park your car on the front lawn
- Store excess trash and debris around your home
- Play loud music, particularly after 11 p.m.
- Drain hazardous contaminants down the storm water drains
- Allow your dog to bark excessively during the night



NOTES FROM PUBLIC WORKS

Brush and Yard Waste Pick-Up

Public Works wants to remind all citizens that all loose leaves, grass clippings and small debris will need to be bagged for pick-up during our "out of season" months. This includes **January 1st to March 15th and April 15th to September 30th. Please limit weight of bags to 50 lbs. or less per bag. The leaf vac will run for a month, beginning March 15th and ending on April 15th for spring cleanup.**

We also want to remind everyone to cut all debris into 6' lengths no thicker than 4" in diameter and place them on the curb with the butt ends facing the street. Our Brush pick up service runs Monday through Friday on predetermined routes. We begin our week on the north end of town and work our way south. On light weeks we can cover the entire town in a couple of days, and on the heavy weeks it may take us all week. If anyone needs additional or bulk brush pick-up they will need to call Town Hall for the issuance of a work order. Thank you all for the cooperation and attentiveness to our Town's ordinances.

Mulch Give-Away

March 16, 2013—7 am till noon

Public Works will be having a mulch give-away on Saturday March 16th. This corresponds with our normal Saturday recycling, so bring your recycling and get a free load of mulch. This will be the only free mulch give-away until fall, so take advantage of it while it lasts. Mulch is Free for Town residents, please bring I.D. Out of town residents will be charged \$5.00 a loader bucket. Mulch is available other times of the year with a small charge for the loading. If interested please direct questions to Public Works 704-633-5331 or pwddir@ci.spencer.nc.us.

Joel Taylor

COMMUNITY APPEARANCE COMMISSION

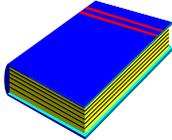
The Community Appearance Commission is excited about its upcoming banquet to honor 2012 recipients of the Community Appearance Award on Tuesday, March 26. Award winners will receive special recognition for their contributions to the beautification of Spencer, and one homeowner will take home the coveted Albert Stout Award, signifying extraordinary effort toward the community's appearance. 2012 winners should receive a formal invitation within the next couple weeks. Please RSVP to Town Hall at your earliest convenience. Again, congratulations, and we look forward to celebrating your hard work with you.

As spring comes in just around the corner, the Commission will be on the lookout for homes and businesses around town that add to the streetscape of Spencer. Take time to prepare your property for others to enjoy as they pass. Keep your lawn and shrubbery neatly trimmed, take part in the Town's free mulch Saturday, and plant some colorful flowers to add life to your yard. You could be the next recipient of the Community Appearance Award.

Do you have an interest in horticulture and the outdoors? Are you skilled in landscaping and design? There are currently several vacancies on the Community Appearance Commission. If you are interested in becoming a part of a team that works to maintain Spencer's beauty and character, the time to join is now! Contact a Commission member, Town Hall, or download an application online.

Lynn Plummer, Chairman
Spencer Community Appearance Commission





LIBRARY NOTES

After school tutoring continues Monday through Thursday afternoons from 3-4:30 pm at the library for elementary students. I would like to give a special shout of thanks to the students at North Rowan Middle School who come one to two days a week to help. Thanks also to Karen Bowyer, who has been helping out. There is presently a waiting list of children who wish to be involved with the program. My problem is finding folks who are willing to work as volunteer tutors. If you are interested in helping out with this program, please call the library at 704-636-9072.

There are some overdue books still out there. Would you please check your shelves for books belonging to the library and have them returned? You can either bring them in or drop off in the dropbox on Rowan Avenue. If you are unsure of what titles you may have, please feel free to call me and I will be glad to give you that information. Thank you for your cooperation.

The library is open from 2-7 on Monday and Tuesday, and from 2-5 on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Please stop by and check us out!

Thanks so much for all of your support.

Cyndi Atwell
Librarian
Spencer Public Library



FROM THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Following the tragic collision on January 18, 2013, the Spencer Police Department would like to remind all citizens about the importance of complying with speed laws, other rules of the road, and seat belt and child restraint laws. Life is precious and as a community we should all look out for each other. The six lives that were lost should be a constant reminder for all of us to take time to protect ourselves and abide by all laws that are designed to keep us safe. Our condolences to the families that have lost loved ones in this horrific crash.

Spencer Police Officers have recently visited our schools and monitored whether child restraints and car seats are being used to transport children, our most treasured assets. I have directed our police personnel to be more cognizant of hazardous moving violations and to take appropriate enforcement action when necessary. If you need information on the child restraint law, stop by Town Hall and we will provide you with a brochure containing the latest information.

I wish to remind you again, lock your vehicles and DO NOT LEAVE VALUABLES IN THE AUTOMOBILE. This will help reduce crime and make you less vulnerable. If you see suspicious activity, dial 911 and report it immediately. The police department will respond and check the area. This lets would-be perpetrators know Spencer is not an easy target.

Thank you for your support. I hope you will call me if you have questions, concerns, or suggestions to make our safe town even safer.

M. T. James
Chief of Police



FOREST-DALE CLUB, INC.

The best kept secret in Spencer is Forest-Dale Club! Established in 1955, Forest-Dale is situated on the corner of Whitehead Avenue and Forestdale Drive in Spencer, just a few blocks from North Rowan High School. Our concrete swimming pool goes from 3' to 12' and has a slide, a low dive, and a high dive. We also have a baby pool. Staffed by certified lifeguards at all times, we are open seven days a week from Memorial Day through Labor Day. We have women's and men's bath houses, as well as a concession stand featuring Cheerwine slushies. We also have special events throughout the summer, such as cookouts and pizza parties for the kids, and free swimming lessons.

With the high price of gas, why not enjoy a vacation every day this summer at Forest-Dale for only a few dollars a day for your entire family? Membership is open to anyone in good standing in our community. Once you join, you become a stockholder in Forest-Dale, and are entitled to all the privileges of membership, including \$5.00 guest passes. Membership levels (after first year) include household, seniors, and bachelors, and though 2013 dues have not been set yet, they normally run around \$375 for new members. Payment plans are available NOW! For questions or to obtain an application for membership, please contact Carol Everhart at 704-798-2894.



**SPENCER JAYCEES EASTER
EGGSTRAVAGANZA**

Saturday, March 16, 2013
2:00 p.m.

Eighth Street Ball Park
Spencer, NC



Easter Egg Hunt for ages 0-12
Games, Prizes, Candy, and Temporary Tattoos
Special visit from the Easter Bunny!

All activities are free. Please bring your own basket

Weather make-up date 3-17-2013, 2:00 pm

**SPAGHETTI DINNER
FUNDRAISER**

For Emily Hain, who has Chiari Malformation, a rare brain disorder

Sponsored by Spencer Jaycees and the Millbridge Ruritan Club

Saturday, April 27, 2013
4-8 p.m.

\$7.00, call 704-633-6101 for tickets



BRING ON SPRING!

Spring is just around the corner, which generally brings warmer weather, spring flowers, and spring cleaning! If you're planning a spring cleaning, remember there are some items that are not collected as part of the regular trash service. These items include, but are not limited to: mattresses, box springs, furniture, appliances, tires, building materials, etc. The Town of Spencer Public Works Department will pick up such items for a fee. If you wish to have the Town remove these types of bulk items, call the Town Hall at 704-633-2231 and request a "Bulk Item Estimate". At that time, a representative from the Public Works Department will issue an estimated cost of removal. After the amount is paid, the items will be removed.

Let us help you with your Spring Cleaning.....give us a call for an estimate!

Sylvia Chillcott
Code Enforcement Officer



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