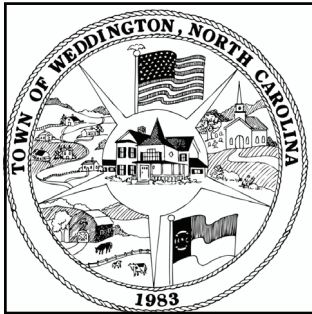


The Weddington Journal

Official Newsletter of the Town of Weddington

May, 2011



SECOND ANNUAL WEDDINGTON TOWN FESTIVAL ANNOUNCED

Town of Weddington
 1924 Weddington Road
 Weddington, NC 28104
 Phone: 704-846-2709
 Fax: 704-844-6372
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Mayor
 Nancy Anderson
Mayor Pro Tem
 Daniel Barry
Council
 Robert Gilmartin
 Jerry McKee
 Werner Thomisser

After the fabulous success of last summer's four part music series dubbed Weddstock, the Weddington Town Council has approved funding and support for this summer's festival. The Town of Weddington in partnership with Kids First of the Carolina's will hold a day long music festival on Saturday, August 20th. This year's family oriented music festival will kick off with a 5K race and other fun walks. Four to five area bands along with other dance/performance groups will be the focal point of the day. The Kid's Zone returns with crafts and sports activities. Food and beverage, vendors, businesses, civic groups, charities and craft vendors will be out in large numbers offering something for everyone from funnel cakes to sno-cones to candles to ways to get involved. This year several new surprises are planned! Once again Hunter Farms has donated its land for the event, providing a safe location to hold the event, with parking and facilities. Additional convenient parking and local businesses are across the street at Weddington Corners. Planning for the event is currently underway and sponsorships and exhibitors are currently being accepted. If interested contact: Amy McCollum at 704-846-2709.

On Saturday, April 9th, approximately 150 children and adults all convened at the Weddington Town Hall to meet the Easter Bunny and participate in the first ever Town of Weddington Easter Egg Hunt. The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board planned this successful new event for the Town with over 1200 Easter Eggs and prizes donated by Braces First, The Goddard School and Kids First of the Carolina's. The Easter Bunny was on hand for photos and hugs. Feedback from attendees was extremely positive, reinforcing the desire of Town residents to have such community events. Many thanks to Stephanie Belcher, Sharon Sanders, Barbara Harrison, Pat Harrison, Scott Buzard, Amy McCollum and Hayden Sanders for their work in planning and running the event.



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A Word From Our Tax Collector

*** Online Tax Inquiry***



For your convenience, you may now look up your Weddington Property Tax information online at www.townofweddington.com. There is a link to online tax information on the homepage. You may search by Name, Receipt Number (Bill Number), or Map Number (Parcel Number).

Weddington Property Taxes were due without penalty on or before January 5, 2011. Property owners whose payments were postmarked on or after January 6, 2011 were assessed a penalty of 2 percent interest for the month of January and an additional ¼ percent every month thereafter until the bill is paid. In accordance with NC Statutes all unpaid property taxes will be advertised in a local newspaper.

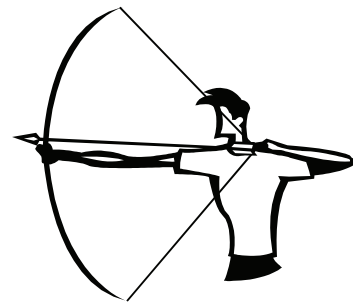
Weddington Property Taxes are separate from Union County Property Taxes. If you are unsure if your Weddington Tax bill was paid, please contact the Tax Collector or check online.

For further information regarding taxes contact:

Kim Woods, Tax Collector
 704-846-2709
 704-844-6372 Fax
kim@townofweddington.com

Union County Tax Office
 704-283-3848

The application for The Town of Weddington to participate in the Urban Archery Season during the 2012 hunting season has been approved. The Urban Archery Season is an extension of the normal deer season and is available only for incorporated municipalities. The 5-week season begins the second Saturday after January 1. The approved season is January 14, 2012 to February 19, 2012.



***2011 Schedule of
Town Council Meetings***
 7:00 pm at Weddington Town Hall
 unless otherwise posted

June 13	July 11	Aug. 8
Sept. 12	Oct. 10	Nov. 14
Dec. 12		

***2011 Schedule of
Planning Board Meetings***
 7:00 pm at Weddington Town Hall
 unless otherwise posted

May 23	June 27	July 25
Aug. 22	Sept. 26	Oct. 24
Nov. 28	Dec. 19	

2011 Holiday Schedule

Memorial Day	May 30
Independence Day	July 4
Labor Day	Sept. 5
Thanksgiving	Nov. 24 and 25
Christmas	Dec 23 and 26

HIGHLIGHTS FROM RECENT TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS

The following are only a few bullet points from the Council Meetings. Please visit the Town's website and review the minutes for further detail on these items or call the Town Hall with any questions.

JANUARY 17, 2011 SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

- Presentation of Audit by Tinsley and Terry
- Approval to proceed with the Downtown Streetscape Plan
- Council moved to enlist the services of Mr. Jeff Rieves to assist with developing amendments to the Town's ordinance regarding agricultural uses
- Appointment of Michael Smith to the Public Safety Advisory Committee
- Appointment of Lorri Elliott as a Non-Voting Member to the Public Safety Advisory Committee
- Approval of Resolution of Consideration Identifying Areas as Being Under Consideration for Annexation

FEBRUARY 14, 2011 REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

- Approval of Amendments to the Public Safety Rules of Procedure and the Town's Appointment Policy
- Approval of Resolution to Add Beulah Oaks Way to the State Maintained Secondary Road System
- Approval to Authorize the Advertisement of Unpaid 2010 Taxes that are Liens on Real Property
- Approval of Amendments to the Minor Subdivision Definition
- Council voted not to approve a Resolution in Support of the 2012 Union County Property Revaluation
- Approval of Budget Amendment for Fiscal Year 2010-2011

MARCH 7, 2011 SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

- Approval of Resolution Supporting Sewer Capacity Allocation for the Woods Subdivision

MARCH 14, 2011 REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

- Approval of Text Amendments to Add "Private Banquet, Reception and Conference Center" Uses as a Permitted Use in the MX Zoning District
- Directed Staff to Provide to Council a Detailed Livestock Management Plan
- Discussion of Federal Census and Redistricting Requirements
- Approval of Funding for Weddington Easter Egg Hunt
- Approval of Proposal from COG for the Use of a Facilitator for the Town Retreat

MARCH 18 AND 19, 2011 SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING - 2011 BOARD RETREAT

- The Council received updates from the all of the Boards and Committees
- The following items were also discussed: Citizens Emergency Response Team (CERT) and Union County Emergency Operations Plan, Presentation by Mr. Edward Goscicki, Union County Public Works Director, Presentation by the Providence Volunteer Fire Department, Development of Town Hall Landscaping Plan, Technology Needs for Council and Staff, Library and Yearly Operating Cost Contribution, Greenspace and Urban Planning, Land Use Plan Revisions, LARTP Text Amendment Questions, Transportation, and Preliminary Budget Review

APRIL 11, 2011 REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

- Approval of Rezoning of All B-1 and B-2 Parcels to B-1 and B-2 Conditional District
- Approval of Pet Grooming Text Amendment
- Approval of Text Amendments to R-40, R-40D, R-60, R-80, RCD, and RE – Conditional Uses
- Approval of Text Revisions to the Town Land Use Plan
- Approval of Text Amendments to Section 46-9 and 58-4 – LARTP
- Approval of Town Monument Signs Text Amendment
- Approval of Retaining Consultant to Identify and Evaluate Potential Sites for a Regional Library
- Approved Funding not to exceed \$20,000 for Weddington Festival
- Approval of \$45,000 to Providence VFD for architect to complete specifications and bid drawings for fire station upgrades

Update from the Planning/Zoning Office...

Providence Road & Weddington Road Construction Update

Work on Providence Road (Highway 16) and Weddington Road (NC 84) is complete. Scurry Construction and NCDOT will continue to monitor Providence Road for the next 8-10 months. Landscaping on both roads is complete other than some Loropetalum (a flowering shrub) that will be planted this fall.

An access road at the rear of the Weddington Corners Shopping Center has also been built as part of this project. This road connects the Shopping Center parking lot and Weddington-Matthews Road to allow for better access into and out of the Shopping Center and other businesses along Providence Road and Weddington Road. The access road has been landscaped and a sign displaying the Shopping Center and Town Hall has been erected along Weddington-Matthews Road.

NCDOT is currently studying the feasibility of a traffic circle at the Weddington Road and Weddington-Matthews Road intersection. Funds for the traffic circle have been approved by NCDOT.

Weddington Church Road will be relocated to behind the Family Life Center and just north of the lake. NCDENR and NCDOT are currently working on the road plans.

Hemby/Beulah Church Road and Weddington-Matthews Road Intersection Update

Installation of turning lanes and a traffic signal at the Hemby/Beulah Church Road and Weddington-Matthews Road intersection should begin within the next month. Right-of-way for the turn lanes has been acquired. Grading and paving work will occur next.

Rea Road Extension Update

The Rea Road Extension project was kept on the 2012-2018 Draft TIP (Transportation Improvement Program) by MUMPO (Mecklenburg Union Metropolitan Planning Organization). The TIP allocates approximately \$2.3 million for the Rea Road Extension project. There is still no definite route or timeline for the project.

On April 27th the MPO released the Draft TIP and 2035 LRTP (Long Range Transportation Plan) amendments for public review. A hard copy of these documents will be available at Town Hall or you can visit [http://www.mumpo.org/2012-2018 Transportation Improvement Program.htm](http://www.mumpo.org/2012-2018%20Transportation%20Improvement%20Program.htm) for more information. There will be a Public Comment period from May 16 - June 16 and the MPO will approve the plan on July 20, 2011.

Carolina Thread Trail

The Town of Weddington along with Union County and eleven other Union County municipalities selected the Trust for Public Land as the consultant for the Carolina Thread Trail Plan. The Carolina Thread Trail will connect more than two million citizens with hundreds of miles of pedestrian, equestrian and bicycle trails that wind through fifteen counties in North and South Carolina.

The Carolina Thread Trail, Trust for Public Land and Steering Committee held four Listening Sessions in July 2010 and four Open Houses throughout Union County in January and February 2011. From those meetings, maps and trail locations were selected. The current trail does not run directly through Weddington but does border the Town in Wesley Chapel and Waxhaw.

Please visit www.carolinathreadtrail.org for more information.

PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2012

There will be a public hearing on the proposed budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012 at the next Town Council meeting on June 13th. There is no change to the current tax rate of 3 cents per \$100. The following is the proposed budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012:

Ad Valorem taxes	\$ 587,750
State-collected revenues	\$ 618,750
Zoning & subdivision revenues	\$ 11,000
Other revenues	\$ <u>14,000</u>
Total revenues	\$1,231,500
Appropriation from fund balance	\$ <u>515,000</u>
Total revenues and appropriation from fund balance	\$ <u>1,746,500</u>
Administrative expenditures	\$ 434,275
Planning & zoning expenditures	\$ 196,650
General government expenditures	\$ <u>1,115,575</u>
Total expenditures	\$ <u>1,746,500</u>

Items of note included in the budget are the continued funding of contract deputies from Union County Sheriff's Department to service the Town as well as continued funding for the Providence Volunteer Fire Department paid firefighters. In addition, money has been appropriated from the Town's fund balance to finance necessary capital improvements to the Providence Volunteer Fire Station. Also, with the completion of the widening of Providence Road money has been budgeted for the maintenance and landscaping of the medians. The Council is also proposing to continue to sponsor community events such as the Easter Egg Hunt which was recently held at Town Hall as well as a Holiday Tree Lighting and a summer festival.

The Town Council invites your comments on the above budget at the public hearing on June 13th. Please feel free to contact the Mayor, Councilmembers or Finance Officer if you have any questions. Copies of a more detailed version of the budget are available at Town Hall.

Weddington has a new four-way stop at the intersection of Beulah Church and Antioch Church Roads. NCDOT had previously determined that this was an unsafe intersection and needed to be improved. According to NCDOT, installing an all-way intersection typically reduces crashes up to 60%.



Do you know what do to at a 4 way Stop?

Driving through most towns and cities brings you to a 4-way stop at some point. Whether it is at a stop sign or a red light, 4-way stops can confuse some of the most experienced drivers. There is only one set of rules that applies to 4-way stops, although many people don't follow them. Learn how to handle a 4-way stop by following these steps.

1. Slow your vehicle when approaching a 4-way stop. As you stop at the stop sign or red light, notice if there are any other vehicles at any of the other stops, or if there are any approaching at the same time.
2. Stop your vehicle completely. This means that your tires are completely stopped and not rolling at all. If there are cross walk lines or painted indicators on the road, stop at the appropriate lines. If it is a stop sign and there are no lines on the road, stop when the front of your car is even with the stop sign. If there is something blocking your view of the other stops signs, you may move forward only after stopping completely at your own stop sign.
3. Look at the other stops to see if there are any other vehicles stopped or moving. The vehicles leave the stop signs in the same order in which they arrived. The first vehicle to arrive at a complete stop is the first vehicle allowed to leave the stop sign.
4. Know that if there is more than one vehicle arriving at the same time at the 4-way stop, the vehicle furthest to the right is allowed to leave first. Always allow at least a few seconds to make sure no one else takes off even if it your turn to leave first. Many people do not follow this rule, even though it is the legal way to leave a 4-way stop.

Town Resident honored by County, State, Nation

Martha Allen was recognized by the Town Council at their meeting on March 14 for achieving the American National Red Cross Presidential Award for Excellence. Ms. Kathy Bragg, Director of the Union County Red Cross stated, "Martha Allen is a fantastic Red Cross Volunteer. She has been a member of the American Red Cross Union County Chapter for many years. She became an active volunteer for the Union County Chapter in 2003 when she joined our Board of Directors. She has been a driving force for our Chapter's growth and success over the past eight years. Martha's passion over the last few years has been the Tiffany Circle of the American Red Cross. The Tiffany Circle recognizes women philanthropists in our community and in our nation who want to help their local American Red Cross Chapters provide financial stability so that we can help so many people. In Union County, we were able to serve over 24,400 people last year. We were able to do this because of people like Martha. Martha joined the Tiffany Council in 2008 and was the sole member for the Union County Chapter. Since then, she has helped recruit 8 other women leaders in Union County as Tiffany members. With her support and guidance, we went to the National Tiffany Circle Summit last year where our Tiffany Circle won National Tiffany Circle of the Year. Martha has done a lot of work over the past 8 years and all that work culminated in October of this past year. Martha Allen was chosen one of only six national award recipients this past October for the Presidential Award for Excellence. There are over 750 American Red Cross Chapters across the Country. Martha lives in Weddington and she is a devoted advocate of all the American Red Cross does. Her spirit is boundless and her compassion is genuine and whether she is at a blood drive giving out cookies or receiving a National Award in Washington, DC you will always find the same Martha Allen – a person that wants to help her neighbor, love her community and make this world a better place."



News from Raleigh

NC House District 68 Representative D. Craig Horn has uncovered more than \$1.8 million owed to District 68 taxpayers by the North Carolina Department of State Treasurer. The State Treasurer accumulates "unclaimed property" each year and compiles a list of those to whom this money is owed. On a hint from Representative Sarah Stevens, District 90, Representative Horn contacted the Department of State Treasurer to inquire of their Unclaimed Property Program.

You can search for and file a claim for any property or cash you may be entitled to by contacting the NC Treasurer at:

www.nccash.com or by calling 919-508-1000.

You can access an online claim form at the website or by calling the above number.

Contact Person: Laurie Payne

Phone: 919-733-2406

You can reach Representative Horn by email:

Hornla@ncleg.net

Centralina Council of Government's Region Excellence Award

Erik Blowers, Weddington Resident and owner of God Bless the USA, Inc. recently received the Centralina Council of Government's Region of Excellence Award for Excellence in Clean Cities Initiatives. God Bless the USA, Inc. began operations in December of 2005 and has brought new and insightful developments to its industry. The company provides residential waste management services in the Union County (NC) and Lancaster County (SC) areas and is the only company that has a Hybrid Refuse Vehicle in the Carolinas. In 2010, the company was the first in the southeastern United States to obtain a Hydraulic Hybrid Refuse Vehicle. This unique, advanced technology truck was purchased using stimulus funding through the bi-state Carolina Blue Skies and Green Jobs Initiative. God Bless the USA, Inc. continues to look for a cleaner fuel source through the acquisition of two compressed natural gas (CNG) refuse trucks and the addition of a CNG refueling station at its base of operations.

“Deputy Corner”



It is with great pleasure that the Town of Weddington welcomes newest Weddington Officer, Deputy Sheriff James "Chris" Walker. He is very excited about being assigned to our Town and believes in getting to know our residents. Let's make him feel welcome, so wave and speak to him when he comes into your neighborhood.

Chris comes to us with a wide range of experience and training. He is certified as a Canine Officer and performed this duty during his tenure at the Anson County Sheriff's Office. Chris, while serving with Anson County, earned the rank of Sergeant prior to transferring to the Union County Sheriff's Office. He has been a Law Enforcement Officer for 11 years.

Chris and his wife are expecting their second child. This newest member to the Walker household will give their daughter a little brother. Chris believes in family and spends all of his off time with them. He is from the area and attended Union County Schools.

Again, please make every effort to welcome Deputy Walker into our community.

MOBILE RADAR TRAILER (MRT)

The Town of Weddington, several years ago, purchased its own MRT in an attempt to deter speeding and ensure availability of an MRT to the Town. The MRT has an on-board computer that allows the Deputies to track speeding and determine a plan to reduce it based upon the reports it generates.

We believe that most of our residents do not realize how fast they are traveling until there is a visual reminder in front of them. This is the norm in almost every occasion where we sit and watch traffic approaching our MRT. If you would like to find out if you really do have a speeding problem on your street or in your neighborhood, follow the link below, and left click the mouse on Mobile Radar Trailer Request Form. Once the document is open, simply fill in the information and follow the directions at the bottom of the form.

If the request is for a street(s) in a development with an existing HOA, the HOA must be involved in this process.

<http://townofweddington.com/documents-forms/deputies/>

***Your Weddington Deputy emails are listed below if you need anything.
Remember to call 911 for any emergency and 704-289-1591 for any non-emergency.***

Deputy Sheriff Gene Baucom
genebaucom@co.union.nc.us

Deputy Sheriff James Walker
james.walker@co.union.nc.us

Deputy Sheriff Ronnie Honeycutt
ronhoneycutt@co.union.nc.us

**Thank you for your
service to Weddington
Ronnie Honeycutt!**

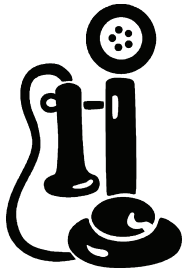
Let's all say farewell to Deputy Ronnie Honeycutt. He is retiring after serving as a Town deputy since July of 2007. Ron has created and implemented many programs for Weddington. Thank you Ron for your hard work and endless hours spent keeping Weddington a safe place to live.

You will be greatly missed!

THE WEDDINGTON JOURNAL

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Website: www.townofweddington.com
Town Hall Hours:
Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9AM to 1PM
or by appointment



Have a story idea for us? A question you want answered? Something you'd like to see in the newsletter? Give us a call. Drop us a note. Send us an e-mail. We'll do our best to respond.

Members of the Weddington Town Council are available to speak to any club, group or neighborhood meeting. If your group would like a council member present to talk about issues facing Weddington, call Town Hall at 704-846-2709 to schedule a speaker.

