

LAKE WACCAMAW NEWS



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Town Board and Office Staff

- Ivan Wilson—Mayor
- Earl Harris- Mayor Pro Tem
- Lynn Cain Commissioner
- Bob Crutchfield Commissioner
- Daniel Hilburn Commissioner
- Darren Currie- Town Manager
- Linda Noble -Town Clerk
- Janie Faulk –Customer Service Representative

4TH ANNUAL HALLOWEEN CARNIVAL A SUCCESS

If you did not get the opportunity to attend, plan for next year. This year's Town Halloween Carnival was one of the largest yet. Kids were treated to candy, games, hot-dogs, ice cream and of course the Haunted House.

New this year was a pie throwing booth. It was one of the biggest hits of all. To all of the Police Officers who sat and waited for small children to slam a plate full of whipped cream in their face, the town says thank you.

It goes without saying that a program like this does not go on without many

volunteers and workers. There were so many who gave their time to the program. A special thanks goes out to Director Julie Strickland of the Columbus County Parks and Recreation and her staff for many of the games, setup supplies and manpower.

Another special thanks goes out to all the businesses and individuals who gave money, candy and who volunteered to work. It is because of citizens like you that this program was a success.

This is the largest program that the town is in-

involved in by far and one of the cheapest to organize. Thanks to all the many donations, the town spent approximately \$400 of town funds. For a program that serviced over 800 children, that is wonderful.

Once again, many thanks goes to all who helped and the organizers look forward to next year. Organizers are looking to improve each year so if you have an idea or would like to volunteer next year to help, please contact Town Hall.

TOWN PREPARES FOR 19TH ANNUAL WINTER FESTIVAL

The 19th Annual Winter Festival will be on December 4th and 5th.

On Friday December 4th, there will be a Candlelight Walk from the Town Hall to the Christmas Tree. At that time, there will be a short program and the Town Christmas Tree will be lit.

Afterwards, the Depot Museum will have refreshments and cookies for participants to enjoy.

Saturday things will kick off around 8:00am with all the craft vendors setting up along Flemington Drive. The vendors will be

there until around 2pm. They will have a variety of items just in time for Christmas.

At 10:30am the parade will begin on Columbia Avenue and come out to Lake Shore as it has done for many years. If you are entering in the parade, please decorate your car, trailer, etc. for Christmas. This year we are requiring that all Queen/King entrees in the parade pay \$10. You will need to get an entry form from Town Hall or from the newspaper.

Once again, there will be no four wheelers

allowed to ride in the parade unless they are actually pulling a float. This is for safety reasons.

Before and after the parade, there will be entertainment on stage. Two Kidz Entertainment will be here with the inflatables for the children.

Vendors and entertainment will be along Flemington Drive. As always, the Fire Department will be serving hotdogs. This is one of their major fundraisers of the year. Help support the fire department.

(Continued Page 3 "Festival")

DID YOU KNOW

*President Franklin D. Roosevelt restored the fourth Thursday in November as Thanksgiving Day in 1939. He did so to make the Christmas shopping season longer and thus stimulating the economy of the state.

Source: <http://www.theholidayspot.com/thanksgiving/trivia.htm>

**Austrian name for Santa - Weihnachtsmann, Nikolaus

**Source:<http://xmasfun.com/fun/SantaNames.asp>

***The Spanish ritual on New Year's eve is to eat twelve grapes at midnight. The tradition is meant to secure twelve happy months in the coming year.

***<http://www.factmonster.com/spot/newyearcelebrations.html>

DIVERSION PROJECT ALMOST COMPLETE

Frank Horne Construction will be completing a diversion project for the town in the very near future.

This project was necessary to keep from issuing a Special Order of Consistent (SOC) on the sewer system. Currently about 80% of the towns sewer goes through lift station #11.

By installing this new force main, the town will be diverting stations 15, 16 and 17 away from station 11. This will make station #17 act as another main station that will pump directly into the main sewer line going to the plant. This is an effort to prevent anymore Sanitary Sewer Overflows (SSO) at station 11.

During heavy rains the town often experiences trouble with inflow into the sewer system. This will aid the town in preventing spills.

This is yet another piece of the puzzle for continuing to rehabilitate the sewer system for the town. With a system in excess of 30 years old, it is necessary to do much needed maintenance.

COLUMBUS COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION: AN ASSET TO LAKE WACCAMAW

If you do not know already, the Columbus County Parks and Recreation Department does a great service for the Town of Lake Waccamaw involving recreation.

Over the years, the Department has assisted with and built part of the Elizabeth Brinkley Park, improved the small field, Council Field, on Pecan Lane and aids the town in many maintenance aspects of the parks.

Currently, the Recreation Department assists with the maintenance of Brinkley Park and with the variety of programs offered there. It was the Parks and Recreation department that was responsible for getting the girls softball programs in the communities of Columbus County including the Lake's program.

Without start up funds and other assistance, many areas would not have that successful program now. The department has aided the Dixie Youth Baseball program over the years by constructing and lighting the first ball field at Brinkley Park. It goes without saying that had it not been for the County Recreation Department over the years, Lake Waccamaw would not have the recreation facilities that it has now.

Not only do the Parks and Recreation staff assist with maintenance, they also assist with the Halloween program. The town borrows several games from the department. Staff helps with the setup and manning of the booths. The department has helped tremendously over the past two years with this program.

Recreation is often one of those government functions that is cut first when times are bad. The Lake Waccamaw Board of Commissioners and the Columbus County Board of Commissioners are to be commended for appropriating funds for programs like this in such a tight economy, but recreation is important to many citizens within the area.

So if you see any of the employees of the Columbus County Parks and Recreation staff or Director Julie Strickland, please tell them thank you for what they do to assist communities with recreation opportunities and in particular what they do at Lake Waccamaw.

Project Updates

Sewer Projects

The town continues to work on issues with the aging sewer system. In a related article, the diversion project is almost completed assisting the town with SSOs.

Another small project is the rehab of lift station "A" as well as the influent at the plant. These two small projects cost the town a little over \$15,000 to complete but was necessary to ensure proper operation of the system. Other projects will be coming up over the next

few years. With the age of the system, it is time for routine maintenance on all parts of the system.

DOT WORK BEGINS

As all of you know by now, the work on Bella Coola to replace the bridges has begun. The stop lights are up and working so please be patient as the work is completed.

Be aware of the workers on site as this project will take probably another year to complete. DOT also would like to express their appreciation for the resident's patience during the project.

Helpful Hints from Town Hall

WATER AND SEWER EMERGENCIES!!

If you have a water or sewer emergency after hours, there are two numbers you can call to alert the on-call staff to respond. The primary on-call number is (910) 840-6189. If no one contacts you within a few minutes, the secondary number to call is (910) 840-6200.

If all those fail call 911 and they can reach someone with the Town.

Helpful Hints from Town Hall

TAXES DUE

Just a reminder that the 2009 property taxes are due by January 5, 2010 to avoid any penalties. Property owners have until that time to pay before penalties are added into the amount.

As always, property owners can pay a portion or all their taxes up until this time before penalties are assessed. Owners can pay in partial payments to avoid having to pay a lump some if they so desire.

TOWN ADDRESSES RECYCLING ISSUE

At the October meeting of the Board of Commissioners, the Board reviewed three different options before making a decision on the new recycling laws. The Board looked at beginning curbside recycling as well as a centralized location here in town somewhere or encourage citizens to carry their recycles to the county run recycling sites.

After much discussion, the Board voted to edu-

cate the citizens about the county sites and encourage residents to carry recyclables to those sites. The two closest sites are in Whiteville and Byrdsville off of 74.

The reason for this was because curbside recycling would cost each homeowner approximately \$5 more per home per month. A centralized site would add approximately \$1 to each homeowner per month. The Board felt that it

would be best to wait and see what the demands were for the recycling and if necessary, revisit the issue at a later time. In addition, the state is still discussing issues of enforcement.

The Board is concerned about the issue and encourages everyone to make efforts to recycle. If you have any questions on this issue please contact Town Hall or your town board members.

Town Needs Your Help

If you live on a town street or NCDOT street, and have bushes or trees that obstruct the view of vehicles and passing motorist, please trim them back. The Town is going to start trimming these shrubs and bushes along these streets over the winter months. Town Hall is receiving complaints about several areas and it is putting motorist in danger as they meet oncoming traffic.

Please help the town with this effort to keep the streets free from overhanging limbs.

"Festival"

Beginning at noon and then again at 1:30pm, there will be a reading of the Polar Express by Mr. Bill Thompson and Mr. Henry Wyche at the Depot. Tickets are \$5 per child and are available at the Depot and Town Hall. There will be refreshments afterwards and each child will get their golden ticket punched.

SWEARING IN OF BOARD MEMBERS

At the regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners on December 10, 2009, the newly elected members will be sworn in again.

After each election, the board members who win must be sworn in for the new term of office regardless of their past service.

At this meeting, Mayor Ivan Wilson will be taking the oath for the first four year term as mayor in the town's history.

Also being sworn in are Commissioners Daniel Hilburn and Bob Crutchfield. Both won reelection this year. The public is encouraged to attend all meetings.

Town of Lake Waccamaw

Primary Business Address
205 Flemington Dr.
P.O. Box 145
Lake Waccamaw, NC 28450

Phone: 910-646-3700
Fax: 910-646-3860
Email: lwtownmanager@embarqmail.com



**Water and Sewer
Emergency Contact
Numbers**

**Primary On Call
840-6189**

**Secondary On Call
840-6200**

Calendar of Events

Meetings

Planning Board Meeting—First Monday each Month
7PM at Town Hall

Town Board Meeting — Second Tuesday each Month
6PM at Town Hall

UPCOMING TOWN HOLIDAYS/EVENTS

- **December 4, 2009 Candle Light Walk (Town Hall) 5:30PM**
- **December 5, 2009 Winter Festival and Parade begins at 10:30AM**
- ** December 24 & 25 Town Offices Closed for Christmas**
- **January 1, 2010 Town Offices Closed for New Year's Day**

Town of Lake Waccamaw
PO Box 145
Lake Waccamaw, NC 28450

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