Our Town
Weekly Update

OCTOBER 5-9, 2020

Weekly Update

Town Calendar

October 13 | 4:00 PM
Board of Commissioners Meeting

October 15 | 5:30 PM
Board of Commissioners Special Meeting, Planning & Zoning Board Meeting and Tree Board Meeting

October 17
Community Yard Sale

October 17
Spooktacular Drive-Thru Trunk or Treat

Upcoming Town Meetings

The next Board of Commissioners regular meeting is Tuesday, October 13, 2020 at 4:00 PM. The meeting will be held at the Historic Train Depot, located at 115 S. Dickerson Street. The meeting agenda can be found on our website. All interested parties are invited to attend in person or by phone/online. To join by phone, call 1.646.307.1990 (enter ID 619-434-950 #) or join online at join.me/619-434-950.

The Board of Commissioners will also meet on Thursday, October 15, 2020 at 5:30 PM at the Historic Train Depot for a special meeting in conjunction with the Planning & Zoning Board. This is the regularly scheduled Planning & Zoning Board meeting, which is held the third Thursday of each month, beginning at 5:30 PM. The purpose of the joint meeting is to discuss current town projects, including dilapidated housing issues, completion of the Westside Trail and Parks Plan, and an update on the Courthouse Avenue renovation project. The full agenda can be found on our website. All interested parties are invited to attend in person or by phone/online. To join by phone, call 1.646.307.1990 (enter ID 233-161-310 #) or join online at join.me/233-161-310.

On the same evening, following the Planning & Zoning Board meeting, the Town Tree Board will hold a special meeting to approve the proposed 2020-2021 Tree Program Annual Work Plan. All interested parties are invited to attend.

For questions regarding the meetings, or for assistance in joining remotely, please contact Kristin Wells, Town Clerk at kwells@burgawnc.gov or by phone at 663-3441.

Holiday Events

November 27th
Annual Burgaw Christmas Tree Lighting

November 16th - December 17th
Burgaw's Brightest Christmas Decorating Contest

December 12th
Santa's Workshop & Burgaw Christmas Parade

December 31st
3rd Annual New Years Eve Blueberry Drop

Mark your calendars!

Join Us!

Join us from 7:00 AM to 12:00 PM on Saturday, October 17th for a huge Community Yard Sale at the Historic Burgaw Train Depot located at 115 S. Dickerson Street. The event is hosted by the Burgaw Tourism Development Authority and will feature lots of fun for visitors to eat, shop, and sell. Later in the day, the town will be hosting our annual Halloween event with a little twist this year. Join us for a Spooktacular Drive Thru Trunk or Treat from 2:00pm-4:00pm at Rotary Park located at 102 Industrial Drive. The event is free to the public and will feature a number of vendors and Halloween decorations, not to mention lots of CANDY! Visitors are asked to remain in their vehicle and our vendors will assist you.

Fall is here and October 17th is quickly approaching!
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DEPARTMENTAL UPDATES

Parks & Recreation Department

- This week our department was happy to complete the installation of our new benches at Rotary Park and along the Osgood Canal Greenway & Urban Trail. We hope our residents enjoy the new park improvements. If you have suggestions regarding park improvements, please contact our department or stop into one of our next Parks & Recreation Advisory Board meetings. Our next meeting is scheduled for November 9th at the Historic Burgaw Train Depot.

- Our department would like to thank Abby Robbins and the students of Pender Early College for assisting our department with the preparations of our Spooktacular Drive Thru Trunk or Treat event. Students met on Thursday afternoon at the Train Depot and packed over 1,000 candy bags for the kids for next Saturday. Be sure to join us on Saturday, October 17th from 2:00pm-4:00pm, for some fun and FREE CANDY!!

- The Parks & Recreation Department submitted a grant this week on behalf of the Osgood Canal Greenway & Urban Trail. This grant would provide reading stations, recycling awareness, and fitness opportunities to all residents aged 16 and under. This grant is provided through the North Carolina Outdoor Heritage Advisory Council and is worth $100,000 in value. Applications are currently under review.

Public Works Department

- Ashe Street drainage has still been the focus. John, Robert, and Ben have continued the project and should be wrapping up soon.

- After picking up small piles of debris, John and Ben reset a meter box at the Scotchman on Friday and a box in Village on 18.

- A water leak on HWY 53 West was repaired Monday.

- Green team this week cut Town Hall, Harrell Park, and the cemetery. Ditches and roadides were also mowed. After they were finished they continued edging sidewalks and doing downtown beautification.

- Roland, Jeremy and Brian have all been tasked with debris pick-up this week.

Looking for the perfect venue for your holiday gathering?

Visit our website to reserve one of our facilities today!

BurgawNC.gov/rentals

If you need assistance, or do not have access to a computer, please come by Town Hall and our Parks & Recreation Director will be happy to assist you with your reservation!

Reserve your date, before it’s too late!

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

EMERGENCY RESPONSE PHONE # 910-470-0457

On-call person this week is: Charles Hall

REMINDER:
This phone is only answered after hours, 4:30PM-7:30AM and is for water and sewer emergencies only. Unless Public Works has been giving prior notice we cannot turn your water on due to non-payment shut off.
The October CPR (Community, Policing, and Race Relations) forum went extremely well. The meetings continue to be constructive and the discussions cover a wide variety of topics, other than just law enforcement. Thank you to Desmond Jordan for allowing us to utilize House of Gains as the meeting place for the past two months. Next month, we will be giving the Hampstead area of Pender County the convenience of meeting at the Hampstead United Methodist Church Family Life Center. HUMC is on Hwy 17 next to Dunkin Donuts. Please contact one of the following representatives for questions and/or to RSVP, due to Covid-19 limitations:

- Sheriff Alan Cutler – 910-259-1212
- Chief Jim Hock, Burgaw Police Dept. – 910-259-4924
- Bishop James Malloy – 910-540-7299
- Karen Malloy – 919-740-7802

Captain Fuller attended a Cold Case Investigations Training via Zoom this week. The training was in conjunction with the Sexual Assault Kit Initiative.

Officer Ramirez, the PD’s Administrative Assistant, continues to progress well with her Patrol Officer Field Training. Having Officer Ramirez certified as an officer, while working at the front desk of the PD, is a great resource for the department and the citizens.

Many thanks to Little Town Pre-K who visited and dropped off care packages for our members during Fire Prevention Week.

We visited the children at Burgaw Presbyterian to do a presentation on Fire Prevention.

If you saw firefighters on the roof of the station this week, we were practicing different maneuvers with the aerial ladder on Ladder 15!

On Thursday night, our membership spent the first of two nights reviewing traffic incident management. This program is sponsored by NCDOT and helps us prepare for our operations on highways and on Interstate 40 to ensure we are doing all we can to alert drivers and protect our members while working on our roadways.

We responded to 12 incidents over the past week.

DANIEL FULLER
ASSISTANT POLICE CHIEF, BURGAW POLICE DEPARTMENT

Job Duties:
Assist the Police Chief in supervising and planning of law enforcement, act as decision maker in absence of the Police Chief, assist in planning and organizing of all police activities.

How long have you worked for the Town?
3.5 years

What do you love most about working with the Town?
Ability to interact with diverse individuals and to get out and involved in the community.

Fun Fact about me:
I like to work out and hang out with my family.
Planning Department

- Worked with the Manager, Bob Taylor, SE Economic Development Commission, Public Works Director and Finance Director on information to submit for a FEMA BRIC pre-application for the two lift stations moving out of the floodplain and the stormwater improvements needed at the Stag Park Industrial Park.

- Prepared the Planning Board Packet containing the following agenda items to be discussed on October 15:
  - Consideration of a Text Amendment requested by the Burtons to enable the keeping of horses in the R-20 Zoning District on tracts of land five acres or larger. The request would amend section 6-2 Definitions, 8-2 Table of Permitted Uses and 8-4 Use Standards.
  - Consideration of a Text Amendment requested by Robert Kenan Attorney at Law on behalf of the Pender County ABC Board to enable a warehouse along retail and office at the new ABC site in Burgaw. The request would amend section 8-2 Table of Permitted Uses.
  - Consideration of Chapters 14-17 and Appendix A and B of the new Unified Development Ordinance codified as part of the new NC G.S. 160D requirements.

- The final plat amendment for Creekside cannot be considered until the November Planning Board meeting on November 19th because additional survey work is required on the submittal.

- Prepared the annual program of work for the Tree Board’s recommendation to be considered after the Planning Board meeting on October 15.

- Assisted the public with permits including a zoning certification and answered questions on permitted uses and the zoning of property.

- Continue to work with the Permit Technician on resolving complaints and staying diligent on the notification process and follow up of complaints.

Inspections Department

- New home construction continues. We currently have 5 new homes under construction and others working towards permits.

- Minor safety measures for town facilities are underway that will enhance safety and social distancing for citizens and town employees.

- Work around town by property owners has really picked back up as more and more are feeling comfortable getting out. There are two demolitions in progress as well as major and minor home repairs postponed due to the epidemic.

- Pender County Courthouse renovations have passed their first partial wall inspection for closing them up.
Samuel Joshua Brothers, Sr. was born on July 21, 1890 to Samuel Edward and Alice Margaret Bradshaw Brothers. He was one of seven children. At the age of 20, Sam married Leola Ramsey, who was just 17 years old at the time. Just two years later in 1912, their first child was born, Marie Brothers. Over the next 26 years, Leola gave birth to 15 other children. Little did Sam and Leola know when they married, that they would have heartbreak after heartbreak over the next 30 years. In June of 1928, their son, John Wells Brothers, the name sake of one of Sam’s brothers, died at the age of 8 months from colitis. In the early 1900’s, colitis was often fatal. In 1933, another child, Juliette Brothers who was also 8 months of age, passed away.

The very next year, the unspeakable happened. On November 28, 1934 at 5:30 in the afternoon, Sam and Leola’s son, Samuel Joshua Brothers, Jr. was returning home after hunting with a cousin about a mile and a half northwest of Burgaw. In a field, approximately 500 yards from the Brothers’ home, Sam Jr’s cousin raised his gun to fire at birds and Sam Jr. walked into the line of fire. Sam Jr. received a fatal wound to the left side of his head. He was 8 years old when he died. The deadly accident was witnessed by Leola’s brother and sister-in-law, Burton and Henrietta Ramsey, who were walking behind the young boys at the time of the accident. Another child, Charles Abernathy Brothers, was lost in 1937 at the age of 19 in a drowning accident. He drowned in the Northeast Cape Fear River near Croom’s Bridge. All four of the young Brothers’ children, along with most of the other Brothers’ family members are buried in the Burgaw Cemetery.

The death of four of Leola’s young children would not be the only heartbreak that she would endure. Saturday May 6, 1939 would be the day her world turned upside down. Sam was the night watchman for the Town of Burgaw. Neither of them knew that as he kissed her goodnight and headed out the door for work, it would be for the last time. Join us next week for Part Two of The Night Watchman.
UTILITY BILL REMINDERS

- All utility payments are due by the 10th of the month.
- The Town allows a grace period until the 15th of the month.
- Late fees are imposed on all delinquent accounts on the 16th of the month.
- Disconnects occur on the 21st of the month for delinquent accounts.

NOTE: If you plan to pay around the 15th or 21st, we encourage you to make your payment by phone, visit Town Hall, or utilize the drop box. Online payments take 24-48 hours to reflect on your account in the utility billing system.

Notice to Customers who Pay Online

Please note that if you make your utility payment online AND have a six digit WIPP pin number, you will now need to drop the last two digits of the number in order to process the payment online. The system only recognizes the first four numbers of the WIPP pin number. We apologize for any inconvenience, but this is necessary for third party billing. Thank you for your cooperation.

Remember to keep your phone number updated on your utility account!

EYE ON WATER

We would like to remind our residents of our Eye on Water program offered free to our utility customers. Eye on Water can help you track your water usage and alert you when a potential leak starts. Sign up by visiting our website or visit https://eyeonwater.com/signup. Signing up is simple and it will walk you through step by step on how to set up this service. If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact Customer Service at 663-3445.

Historic Burgaw Train Depot

Prints by Ivey Hayes
Available for purchase at Town Hall
Get yours today for only $20!
Makes great gifts for your Burgaw friends and family!