Don’t forget to show off your pet!

There’s a few days left to show off your furry friends during our Pet-A-Palooza Photo Contest! Submit a picture of your pet for a chance to win one of the prizes below. Dogs, cats, rabbits, horses, hamsters, reptiles, farm animals… all animals welcome and you can enter more than one! Registration closes at 5:00 PM on Friday, February 5th, so hurry today and send us the best photos of your pets! Contact the Burgaw Parks & Recreation Department at 300-6401 for questions or assistance with submitting your photo.

Visit burgawnc.gov/pets to register

Best in Show: $50.00 Gift Card
Most Creative: Pet Gift Basket
Most Unique: $25.00 Gift Card

We want to hear from you! Take our 30 second survey (link to the right) to tell us what you’re interested in seeing in town! The Burgaw Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee would like to hear your opinion on future capital improvements here in Town. This survey is an extension of previous information sent out in years past. Data will be used to plan future public meetings to discuss possibilities and funding sources. Three (3) random drawings will be completed for a chance to win a $20.00 gift card for participating. Contact the Parks & Recreation Department for further information. Paper copies of the survey are also available at Town Hall.
This week, the Parks & Recreation Department welcomed Jayna Donaldson. Jayna is a current senior at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington and former pre-school teacher. She currently has a minor in Business and is actively seeking a Bachelors in Recreation, Sport Leadership, and Tourism Management. We welcome Jayna to the team and look forward to all of her great accomplishments over the next 12 weeks.

Burgaw Incubator Kitchen ready for business startups

Do you have a food concept you are looking to test out? Join the Burgaw Incubator Kitchen today for shared commercial kitchen space. The kitchen is currently regulated by the Pender County Health Department and the North Carolina Department of Agriculture. Our kitchen features numerous equipment included commercial fridges, freezers, mixers, prep space, and much more. To schedule a visit, contact our department at (910)-300-6401 or email recreation@burgawnc.gov.

Spring is just around the corner; consider adopting a park this year

Is your organization looking to become involved within the community? Sign-up today for our newly formed Adopt-A-Park program in order to better serve our local parks and greenspaces. This program is designed as a yearlong commitment to the Burgaw Parks & Recreation Department in order to assist with upkeep and beautification of our town parks. More information about the program and the application can be found by visiting burgawnc.gov. Contact the Parks & Recreation Department at recreation@burgawnc.gov for more information.

Send some love to our seniors this Valentine’s season

Help us send lots of love this Valentine’s season to our senior citizens at local nursing homes. Write a special letter of encouragement and drop it off at our special valentine’s mailbox located in front of Town Hall. Letters will be delivered by our Parks & Recreation staff to the Laurels of Pender, Ashe Gardens, and Pender Memorial Hospital. Letters must be dropped off by 9:00 AM on Friday, February 26.

For more information, please contact the Parks & Recreation Department at (910)-300-6401. If you are affiliated with a local daycare, school, or community organization and would like to participate, please contact Riley Jordan at rjordan@burgawnc.gov.

Letters of LOVE TO OUR SENIORS
Update on the Courthouse Avenue project

On January 7th, the planning and landscape architecture design team from WithersRavenel presented design concepts for Courthouse Avenue. Three alternatives were presented at an open house at the Railroad Depot. Interested visitors were able to move from drawing to drawing and discuss the project ideas with the designers. Each of the plans detailed a variety of improvements along the one-block long corridor that included different layouts for parking, street trees, benches, landscape areas and sidewalk improvements. Each plan had the intent of creating a comfortable pedestrian environment that can be used for special events such as the Blueberry Festival. In two of the concepts, the sidewalks are proposed to be wider to accommodate trees, landscape areas, new streetlights and seating areas.

The Town owns a parcel of land on Courthouse Avenue that the designers proposed for a couple different uses. One idea is for the Town to develop the property with a small building for a new business. The plan depicted a building with additional parking along side and behind the building. A second design proposed a public park with seating, a shade pavilion and an event plaza with a fountain.

As visitors reviewed the plans, they were asked to provide comments and vote for a preferred design. After reviewing the comments and votes for the plans, one concept was clearly the favorite of the evening. Concept C, shown here, received nearly 90% of the votes. According to the design team, Concept C redesigns Courthouse Avenue as a “living street” that is focused on providing a safer pedestrian environment and a better event space. With no curbs to define the spaces between cars and people, the difference between vehicle spaces and pedestrian spaces become blurred. Cars will still be able to travel along Courthouse Avenue, at a slower speed, but the emphasis will be on pedestrians. Subtle changes in paving color or pattern will delineate the vehicle travel lane and parking areas. With no curbs, the street becomes a grand festival street without the challenges of working around curbs. Concept C also shows the town-owned property as a public park that includes a small interactive fountain in the circular plaza. A shade pavilion can accommodate small groups and the open lawn could host more than 100 people for a movie night and small concert.

The designers will be finalizing the preferred concept in the next couple weeks before presenting the plan to the Town for approval.

Stay Alert with CodeRED®

We encourage our citizens to follow us on Facebook and our website for important updates. Town staff also urges citizens to sign up with CodeRED Emergency Notifications. This program is free and easy to sign up. You have the options to enter your phone numbers and/or email address to receive critical notifications from the town, such as severe weather alerts, important information, boil water advisories, etc. Sign up today by visiting BurgawNC.gov and click “Code Red Signup” at the bottom of the homepage.
Burgaw Police Department has made a conditional offer to Cameron Smith to become the newest officer. He will complete the hiring process to become certified through the Criminal Justice Training and Standards Commission. All sworn officers have a series of tests and documentation that must be submitted and approved through the State of North Carolina in order to obtain a Probationary and then General Certificate. Cameron will be filling the position vacated by Officer Leagan, who recently resigned from the department to be sworn with Smithfield Police Department.

Burgaw officers receive Intermediate Certificates from NC Training & Standards Commission

Sergeant Byrd and Corporal Padgett with the Burgaw Police Department received their Intermediate Certificates from the North Carolina Training and Standards Commission. There are three (3) certificate levels: General - received after 1 year of continuous service with an agency; Intermediate – received after a formulated number of years of experience, training, and education; Advanced – received after additional number of years of experience, training, and education. Congratulations to these officers for this great achievement.

Burgaw Police Department makes conditional offer to new officer

Burgaw Police Department has made a conditional offer to Cameron Smith to become the newest officer. He will complete the hiring process to become certified through the Criminal Justice Training and Standards Commission. All sworn officers have a series of tests and documentation that must be submitted and approved through the State of North Carolina in order to obtain a Probationary and then General Certificate. Cameron will be filling the position vacated by Officer Leagan, who recently resigned from the department to be sworn with Smithfield Police Department.

Check out our new signs downtown!

Make sure to check out our upcoming events on the new signs located throughout the Historic Downtown District. Stay tuned for more information on upcoming events in town. Contact Riley Jordan at rjordan@burgawnc.gov for further information regarding our special events.

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Police Department continues to seek applicants for newly formed Police Advisory Board

We are currently seeking applicants to fill the seven (7) member vacancies on the newly formed Police Advisory Board, which will be appointed by the Town of Burgaw Board of Commissioners. Members must reside within the corporate limits of town. The advisory board will meet quarterly and serve a two (2) year term. Interested citizens can visit burgawnc.gov/pab for more information and to download the membership application. All applications must be submitted by 5:00 PM on Monday, February 22, 2021, to the Town Clerk at 109 N. Walker Street, Burgaw NC 28425, or kwells@burgawnc.gov.

Heating Safety

Take note of these simple safety tips and precautions to prevent heating fires:

- Keep anything that can burn at least three feet away from heating equipment, like the furnace, fireplace, wood stove, or portable space heater.
- Have a three foot “kid-free zone” around open fires and space heaters.
- Never use your oven to heat your home.
- Have a qualified professional install stationary space heating equipment, water heaters or central heating equipment according to the local codes and manufacturer’s instructions.
- Have heating equipment and chimneys cleaned and inspected every year by a qualified professional.
- Remember to turn portable heaters off when leaving the room or going to bed.
- Always use the right kind of fuel, specified by the manufacturer, for fuel burning space heaters.
- Make sure the fireplace has a sturdy screen to stop sparks from flying into the room. Ashes should be cool before putting them in a metal container. Keep the container a safe distance away from your home.
- Test smoke alarms at least once a month.

DID YOU KNOW?

Heating equipment is one of the leading causes of home fire deaths.

1948 CRIME SPREE

1948 started off to be a very active year for criminal activity in the Town of Burgaw. From January to April, eight stores had been broken into and large sums of goods and money taken. Following the three raids that took place on a Friday night in early April, downtown merchants demanded adequate protection. The Town of Burgaw Board of Commissioners called a Special Meeting on Tuesday April 13, 1948 and fired Police Chief P. H. Squires. They then placed J. T. Ward at the helm and instructed him that his number one priority would be to prevent further burglarizing in the community and to apprehend the criminals.

Chief Ward went right to work. He, himself, stayed up late nights patrolling the streets, seeking the criminals. Two weeks passed with no activity, but in the early hours of Wednesday morning on April 28, 1948 the suspect returned. This time, to rob the jewelry store. Here are the words of Chief Ward as he recounted the events that early morning.

“It was about three o’clock and I was crossing the street at the corner of the Pender Theatre on my way to inspect the back of the stores on that block from the alley-way which runs down behind them. Just as I was about to walk alongside the theatre building toward the alley, I heard a suspicious noise down the main street which I had just crossed. When looked across the street, about four stores from the corner where I was then standing, I could see the faint outline of a person crouched at the door of the jewelry store. I drew my gun and took careful, deliberate aim. I shot to stop him. The man, whom I cannot identify other than to say he was bare-headed and wearing a white shirt, threw down his tools and made a dash for the alleyway which comes into the main street alongside C. F. Davis’ store. I shot at him twice before he turned down the alley. The last shot evidently struck the robber because I heard him give a loud groan. I immediately gave chase on foot down the alleyway, passing through the block to the next street without seeing the man further. Realizing that once the robber passed through the alley, he could have gone in any one of several directions, I figured the best course of action was to get in the patrol car, which was parked nearby, and tour the immediate neighborhood. This gave me the opportunity of covering more area in the chance of spotting the fleeing culprit and placing me in a position to give chase in the event he had taken to flight in his own or an accomplice’s car. No trail, however, was again picked up.”

Further investigation into that night’s activities revealed that the first shot fired by Chief Ward had just missed the burglar’s head by mere few inches and was found in the front door of the jewelry store. The second bullet that was fired by Chief Ward was found, but the third was not, indicating that the robber had possibly been struck as thought by the Chief.

It is unknown as to if the robber was ever caught but newspaper accounts of robberies in the downtown area ceased possibly indicating that, at the very least, the robber was scared to continue his criminal enterprise in Burgaw.
2021 Town of Burgaw Meeting Schedule

All meetings are held at the Historic Train Depot, located at 115 S. Dickerson Street, Burgaw, unless otherwise posted.

Meeting agendas can be found on the town’s website at BurgawNC.gov.

Notices for cancellations and special called meetings will be posted on the town’s website and weekly newsletter when necessary.

For questions or assistance, please contact the Town Clerk at 910-663-3441 or kwells@burgawnc.gov.

Board of Commissioners Meetings
Second Tuesday of every month | 4:30 PM
Public Forum/Public Hearings at 5:30 PM

Planning & Zoning Board Meetings
Third Thursday of every month | 5:30 PM

Burgaw Area Tourism Development Authority
First Thursday of every month | 8:30 AM

Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee
Second Monday of January, March, May, July, September, November | 5:30 PM

The Burgaw Police Department would like to remind residents and family members of the RU Okay? Program. The program calls individuals weekly to check their safety and security. The program is open to Burgaw residents who are elderly, shut ins, or just could use someone to check in on them throughout the week. Those individuals are also notified during inclement weather conditions such as hurricanes or ice storms of safety concerns. If you or a family member are interested in being added to the program, please contact the Burgaw Police Department at 910-259-4924.

Public Works Emergency Response Number

PHONE # 910-470-0457

This phone is only answered after hours, between 4:30 PM - 7:30 AM, and is for water and sewer emergencies only. Unless Public Works has been given prior Notice from Town Hall, Public Works cannot turn your water on due to non-payment shut off.

2021 RECYCLING Schedule

EAST side of Railroad Right-of-way

| January 13 | July 14 |
| January 27 | July 28 |
| February 10 | August 11 |
| February 24 | August 25 |
| March 10 | September 8 |
| March 24 | September 22 |
| April 7 | October 6 |
| April 21 | October 20 |
| May 5 | November 3 |
| May 19 | November 17 |
| June 2 | December 1 |
| June 16 | December 15 |
| June 30 | December 29 |

WEST side of Railroad Right-of-way

| January 6 | July 7 |
| January 20 | July 21 |
| February 3 | August 4 |
| February 17 | August 18 |
| March 3 | September 1 |
| March 17 | September 15 |
| March 31 | September 29 |
| April 14 | October 13 |
| April 28 | October 27 |
| May 12 | November 10 |
| May 26 | November 24 |
| June 9 | December 8 |
| June 23 | December 22 |

“Railroad Right-of-way” is the Train Depot at 115 S. Dickerson Street

For Assistance: 910-663-3441

Stay IN THE KNOW

Sign up with “Notify Me” on our website to receive the weekly newsletter and other important information directly to your email and/or via text message!

For Assistance: 910-663-3441