

TownVoice

Police Encourage All to Hide, Lock & Take

ELECTED OFFICIALS

MILES ATKINS
MAYOR

EDDIE DINGLER
WARD I COMMISSIONER

THURMAN HOUSTON
WARD II COMMISSIONER,
MAYOR PRO TEM

DANNY BEAVER
WARD III COMMISSIONER

LISA QUALLS
WARD IV COMMISSIONER

DAVID COBLE
AT-LARGE COMMISSIONER

BOBBY COMPTON
AT-LARGE COMMISSIONER

TOWN OFFICIALS

N. ERSKINE SMITH JR.
TOWN MANAGER

STEPHEN P. GAMBILL
TOWN ATTORNEY

JANET POPE
TOWN CLERK

Vehicle break-ins are a common crime that can happen anywhere and at any time, whether at a shopping center or at home. The Mooresville Police Department is proactive in their attempts to prevent vehicle break-ins, but here are things everyone can do to protect your vehicles and personal property from being stolen:

HIDE

Never keep valuables, such as jewelry, electronics or a purse, in plain sight inside a vehicle. Leaving these items in view is an invitation for someone to break into your vehicle. Put items in the trunk of your vehicle **before** arriving at your destination. Placing items in the trunk at a parking spot shows someone that valuables are in the trunk.

LOCK

The majority of vehicle break-ins occur when cars are left unlocked. Approximately 87% of all vehicle robberies occur to vehicles left unlocked. Make sure your doors are shut properly and locked before leaving the vehicle. Thieves look for a quick, easy potential target so leaving doors unlocked allows a thief simple access to your vehicle.

TAKE

Take items with you if there is not ample room in the trunk of your vehicle to hide them. Expensive items, like jewelry or electronic devices, may be small enough to fit in a pocket or purse. These items are a lot safer with you than left visible in a vehicle.

There are other general safety tips to follow with personal belongings and information. Do not leave anything visible in a vehicle with personal information on it, such as mail, credit card statements or voter



registration forms. These items often include your home address as well as financial information.

If your home has a garage door opener avoid leaving this in the vehicle, if possible. Keep it in a purse or bag and keep it with you. If it must be left in a vehicle, put it in the trunk or under a seat.

The Mooresville Police Department continuously works to prevent vehicle break-ins. It is ultimately the duty of you, the resident, to take action and be responsible. If you ever see a suspicious person or car in your neighborhood, shopping center, or anywhere else, call the Mooresville Police Department at (704) 664-3311. If you witness a crime taking place, call 9-1-1 immediately.



IN THIS
ISSUE

2 FROM THE TOWN
MANAGER
A New Plan
For The Future

3 ACTIVITIES
Stormwater
Erosion Control

4 EDUCATION
Sewer Lateral
Policy a Win/Win



A New Plan For The Future



DEPARTMENT PHONE NUMBERS

BUSINESS OFFICE
704-663-3800

CHARLES MACK CITIZEN CENTER
704-662-3334

CULTURAL & RECREATION SERVICES
704-663-1026

EMPLOYMENT/HUMAN RESOURCES
704-799-4070

FIRE (NON-EMERGENCY)
704-664-1338

GOLF COURSE
704-663-2539

LIBRARY
704-664-2927

PLANNING
704-662-7040

POLICE (NON-EMERGENCY)
704-664-3311

SANITATION
704-664-4278

SELMA BURKE CENTER
704-799-4035

TALBERT RECREATION CENTER
704-799-4281

WAR MEMORIAL CENTER
704-663-2670

WATER
704-663-3800

WINNIE HOOPER CENTER
704-663-0033

ZONING
704-662-7040

As I write this article, the temperatures are below freezing and winter weather has hit us for the second time. While I am warm inside I know our Town employees are doing their jobs. The streets were treated with brine, our water and sewer continue to be treated, our buildings and grounds staff kept our facilities accessible and our sanitation crews continue with their collections. I know I've written this before but we often take the efforts of these employees for granted.

As we prepare for March, the Town is preparing its budget for the new fiscal year beginning in July. The Town's budget, both general fund and utility fund, come close to \$90 million dollars. The high level of service, programs and services come with a price. The Town Board and staff are well aware of the cost for providing these services.

The Board recently completed its annual retreat in Winston-Salem. This year they began completely reworking their own strategic plan. While the old plan has served as a guide, the format and annual review was sporadic. The staff has greatly improved its financial reporting and forecasting. The departments have established a strong capital plan identifying future projects and equipment needs for the growing community. The Board has solid data and a strong foundation to achieve their objectives.

The Town intends to ask for input from you, the citizens, as well. There will be several opportunities for community organizations, Town partners and individuals to participate and provide input to what's important and the role of the Town in achieving the goals. The hope is that the staff, Board, community and citizens are all aligned in important activities and services for the Town. With every decision and activity the Board makes or becomes involved, they understand the link to an identified goal.

Along with a new strategic plan and strong capital plan, the Town will establish a new performance measurement system. This will be a "balanced scorecard" system to evaluate programs and services to ensure they are achieving the goals and objectives established by the Board. These measurements will be used to

determine success, failure or progress. If the Town hasn't achieved or made progress then we have to evaluate why. We will make sure the scorecard is available for all citizens to view. My hope in this process is the decisions and expenditures made enable the Town and community to achieve a condition of excellence and high performance.

As an organization and a community, we grow, we fail and we achieve together. We share common goals and objectives to achieve a community that citizens can be proud of, a community where people want to live, work and play, and a community that provides opportunity for all. I hope you will take advantage of opportunities to participate and be involved in developing the new strategic plan for the Town.

N. Erskine Smith, Jr., ICMA-CM, AICP
Town Manager

Reader Mail

On my water bill would it be possible to show a longer time span of useage from one year to the next?

Thank you for that question. Currently, the graph on your water bill shows the previous 12 months. We hope to update this so customers can see the previous 13 months, therefore allowing customers to compare useage from a previous year.

Please send any questions or suggestions for a future issue to the address below:

Town Voice
c/o Public Information Office
P.O. Box 878
Mooresville, NC 28115
comments@ci.mooresville.nc.us

Stormwater Erosion Control

Erosion can be a concern for many property owners whose property borders on water or have steep yards, especially with the amount of rainfall we have seen in the last few months. Erosion occurs when wind, rain or snow moves across land and carries away soil that is loose or exposed. To minimize the amount of erosion on your property there are a few things you can do.

Plant native vegetation like the purple cone flower, St John's Wart, or trees such as a dogwood to help stabilize slopes. Native vegetation typically develops a more extensive root system and can help hold the soil in place while flowers and foliage help soften the blow from each rain. Visit the North Carolina A&T State Cooperative Extension's website at www.plants.ces.ncsu.edu to find more information on native vegetation that might be appropriate for your yard.

Ensure the runoff across your property is spread out and not directed to only one area. Placing mulch around the base of plants will work to slow down the water and keep the flow more uniform as it travels through areas with plants. Mulch will also minimize erosion by covering soil that would otherwise be exposed.

Mowing the lawn less frequently, or leaving your grass a little longer when mowing, can also help to slow the runoff flowing across your property. This gives water the opportunity to infiltrate and soak into the ground.

Proper lawn watering practices can also minimize erosion. Over-watering the lawn will saturate the soil, which means less water will be absorbed when it rains, and plants will have a shallower root system and less stabilization. Lawns typically require only one inch of irrigation per week for soil in this area to promote a healthy root system. Proper lawn watering practices will mean healthier root systems, which means better soil stabilization and therefore less erosion.

For more information on how you can prevent stormwater pollution, contact Rylee Hernandez, Stormwater Program Specialist, at 704-799-4068 or rhernandez@ci.moorestville.nc.us.

News in Brief

Music on Main - March 11 On Friday, March 11, the Town of Mooresville's last Music on Main Indoor Series show of the season will bring Poor Boy Revival to the stage. This group performs cover songs of famous musicians such as Creedance Clearwater Revival and John Fogerty with classic southern rock style of the 60s and 70s.



This concert will be in the Joe V. Knox Auditorium of The Charles Mack Citizen Center. The concert begins at 6:30 p.m. Seating is \$10 for general admission and \$20 for V.I.P. meet & greet passes. Seating may be secured online at www.MooresvilleRecreation.org, calling 704-663-7026, or in person at the Recreation Administrative Office at 418 Carpenter Avenue.

St. Patrick's Parade - March 12 The Mooresville Downtown Commission (MDC) will host the 5th annual Saint Patrick's Parade Saturday, March 12. This will be a community parade featuring Acrofitness, Irish Wolfhounds, Ceol Na Gael Pipe Band, Rince Na h'Eireann Irish Dance School, Mooresville Fire-Rescue and more.

The parade takes place on Main Street from Iredell Avenue to Center Avenue, and begins at 3 p.m. If you are interested in participating, contact the MDC at info@downtownmoorestville.com.

Easter Eggstravaganza - March 19 Join the Town's Cultural & Recreation Services for the 4th Annual Easter Eggstravaganza on Saturday, March 19. The event is from 1 - 4 p.m. at Cornelius Road Park, located at 247 Cornelius Road. Activities will include bounce houses, train rides, arts & crafts, summer camp previews and 20,000 eggs. Fun for all ages!



Holiday Closing - March 25 Town offices and facilities will be closed in observance of the Good Friday Holiday on Friday, March 25. There will be no changes in sanitation services.

Global Youth Services Day - April 16 Global Youth Services Day mobilizes millions of young people who improve their communities through service. Established in 1988, Global Youth Services Day is the largest service event in the world, and the only day of service dedicated to children and youth.

Join us on Saturday, April 16 from 9 a.m. - Noon as youth throughout Mooresville gather to work on service projects to benefit our area. The event is open to youth ages 6 - 18. (Participants under 12 must be accompanied by an adult). Pre-registration is REQUIRED. For more information, call 704-663-7026.

Sewer Lateral Policy a Win/Win

In the summer of 2014, the Town's Public Utilities Department began looking at the existing sewer lateral renewal program. The policy stated the property owner was responsible for their sewer lateral from their residence or business to the Town's sewer line.

Under the program Town crews would install a new section of sewer lateral, along with a clean out, in the Town's right-of-way for a \$400 fee.

However, since the last several feet of the lateral was often in the Town's right-of-way the property owner would have to pay a plumber and a licensed utility contractor to make any repairs. This process could quickly become expensive for property owners. And while the \$400

paid to Town crews didn't usually cover Town costs, it still created a financial hardship to the owners of the property.

In November of 2014, the Town Board approved a proposal from the Public Utilities Department to change their sewer lateral policy and remove the \$400 fee. Property owners in Mooresville now have the sections of their sewer laterals in the Town's right-of-way repaired or replaced, along with a sewer clean out, at no charge.

Since the Town implemented this program, crews have installed or repaired almost 400 sewer laterals at no charge to the customer.

For more information, call 704-663-7282.

MARK
YOUR
CALENDAR

MARCH 10
PLANNING BOARD
TOWN HALL @ 6 P.M.

MARCH 11
MUSIC ON MAIN
CMCC @ 6:30 P.M.

MARCH 19
EASTER EGGSTRAVAGANZA
CORNELIUS ROAD PARK
1 - 4 P.M.

MARCH 20
WATER BILLS DUE

MARCH 21
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TOWN HALL @ 6 P.M.

MARCH 25
GOOD FRIDAY HOLIDAY
TOWN OFFICES CLOSED

New Program Available at the Library

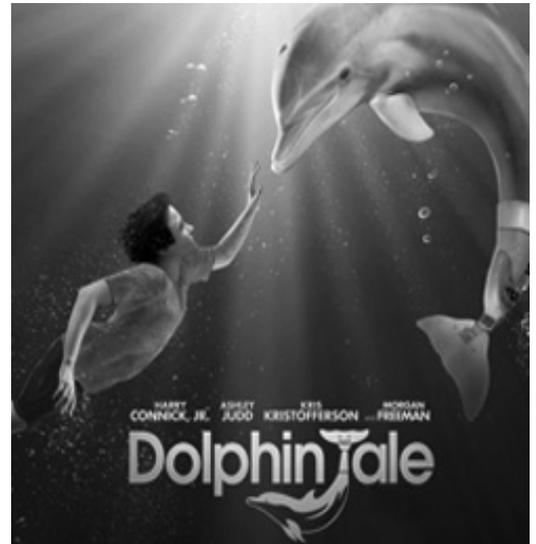
Beginning in March, the Mooresville Public Library will offer a new program for adults with special needs or learning disabilities. This program, called "Create and Learn," offers creative activities for attendees to experience.

Different activities will be offered each month, from movies to art classes to science experiments, and pre-registration is not required to attend any of these events.

March 11: Movie & Discussion - "Dolphin Tale"
April 8: Design & Grow - Fun with flowers
May 13: Mad Science - Perform cool experiments

All programs will be from 2:30 - 4:30 p.m., and anyone attending should meet in the Selma Burke Room on the main floor of the library.

For more information, call April at 704-663-1701.



For a list of other events and programs at the library, visit the Mooresville Public Library's Schedule of Events calendar.