

## Christmas Disposal

## Tree

There are a couple of ways to dispose of live Christmas trees. The Town will pick all live trees that are placed at the curb. All ornaments and stands must be removed prior to pick-up. All business owners need to make sure to not leave discarded Christmas trees behind their business.

Keep Moore County Beautiful is sponsoring a Christmas tree recycling program beginning Thursday, December 26<sup>th</sup>. Citizens can take their Christmas tree Monday through Saturday from 7:30 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. to the following locations:

- Moore County Landfill  
456 Turning Leaf Way, Aberdeen,  
off HWY 5  
(910) 295-4202
- Carthage Collection Site  
5361 US HWY 15-501 S.,  
Carthage  
(910) 947-2704

## Update on Aberdeen Park Projects

### Ray's Mill Pond Park

Site Solutions of Charlotte, NC began an evaluation of the existing house and site at Ray's Mill Pond Park in December. Based on the site visit and review of the structure of the house, park, and dam, recommendations will be presented in late January/early February on their findings and recommendations to proceed with the renovation and development of the park project.

### Aberdeen Lake Park

Improvements to the trail will be made in February. Staff will re-grade certain sections of the trail and add gravel in areas that stay wet after inclement weather. During this time, undergrowth will be removed and bushes trimmed.

A long leaf Pine Tree and a bench were installed in honor of the recently retired Mayor Betsy Mofield. The tree and bench were located between the Aberdeen Recreation Station and Page Lake near the Gazebo. Stop by and see the beautiful bench and lovely long leaf Pine Tree.

## On the Calendar

### January & February

#### • Bingo

Thursday, January 9 at 1:00 p.m. at Aberdeen Recreation Station. The cost is \$1 for residents and \$2 for non-residents. Refreshments provided and participants are asked to bring a wrapped prize of \$5 or less. (910) 944-4574.

#### • Bingo

Thursday, February 13 at 1:00 p.m. at Aberdeen Recreation Station. The cost is \$1 for residents and \$2 for non-residents. Refreshments provided and participants are asked to bring a wrapped prize of \$5 or less. (910) 944-4574.

#### • Youth Kickball

Registration will begin late February. The league is for boys and girls ages 4 -15. Cost is \$12 for residents and \$25 for non-residents. Practices will begin in late March. (910) 944-4572.

#### • Senior Chair Exercises

Every Tuesday and Thursday at 10:30 a.m. at Aberdeen Recreation Station. Cost is \$2 per month for residents and \$5 per month for non-residents. Classes are on-going. (910) 944-4574.

#### • Senior Art Classes

Every Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. at Aberdeen Recreation Station. Cost is \$2 per month for residents and \$5 per month for non-residents. Participants must supply own materials. Classes are on-going. (910) 944-4574.

#### • Water Bills

\$5 or 5% late fee added for those bills not paid by 5:00 p.m. on January 20. Accounts with outstanding balance will have a \$25 fee added for those bills not paid by 5:00 p.m. on February 5 and disconnected February 6.

For a full listing of community events, visit [www.townofaberdeem.net/calendar.aspx](http://www.townofaberdeem.net/calendar.aspx).

## Winterize Your Irrigation System

If you have an RPZ valve installed on your water line, it is your responsibility to make sure that it is properly insulated for extreme low temperatures.

If your valve is tied off of your water line to your house to serve an irrigation system, swimming pool, or

other non-sewered service then you should cut the valve off and properly drain it for the winter. A new law became effective July 1, 2010 that all homes are required to have a separate water meter if you have an in-ground irrigation, swimming pool, etc.

## Recycle Dates

### Monday Dates:

- January 6
- January 22 (Wednesday)
- February 3
- February 17

### Friday Dates:

- January 3
- January 17
- January 31
- February 14
- February 28



# Bon Accord

ISSUE January & February 2014



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## Message from Town Manager, Bill Zell

Thanksgiving to the New Year is a very busy time for all of us as we're involved in traveling, family gatherings, shopping, and if you're like me, mostly eating. Therefore sometimes we can miss some of the things that are going on around us.

The Town of Aberdeen has experienced a major change in our Town leadership structure resulting from the November elections. First of all, we had three incumbents decide not to run; our Mayor for the last 14 years and the two Commissioners whose four year terms were expiring.

Our Mayor Betsy Mofield, a lifelong resident of Aberdeen has spent 26 of the last 32 years serving the citizens of Aberdeen either as a Commissioner or our Mayor, and the Town under her leadership has more than doubled in population and total valuation. Her love for Aberdeen is unmistakable in that she is always telling whoever will listen about the benefits of living in Aberdeen and about our delicious water. Robert Farrell our former Town Commissioner and new Mayor, has said that Betsy is "Aberdeen's Ambassador to the World".

Town Commissioner Walter Wright was born and raised in Aberdeen, but his career took him away for some 40 years. Returning after retirement, he got involved and has served a total of 12 years on the Board of which the last eight years were consecutive. Walter has been involved with many other projects including the Head Start Building, Interim Manager, and the revitalization of Main

Street. Walter's legacy to the citizens of Aberdeen will be the sidewalks on the west side of US 1.

Last but surely not least Town Commissioner Alan Parker, also born and raised in Aberdeen, served for four years from 2009 to 2013. Alan is the son of former Mayor and Commissioner Art Parker. Alan's strengths were in good judgment and decision making.

It states in the North Carolina General Statutes that the Town Manager works at the pleasure of the Board of Commissioners, but I want to say that it's been my pleasure working for these three extraordinary individuals.

As stated above, our new Mayor is long-time Town Commissioner Robert Farrell. There are two differences in the positions, first, as the Mayor he'll have to run every two years as opposed to four years for a commissioner's seat. The second difference is as Mayor he won't have a vote unless one Commissioner is out and there is a tie vote.

The two new Commissioners are Joe Dannelley, who has been on the Aberdeen Planning Board for the past five years, and Buck Mims who is currently a member of the Moore County Planning Board.

With Robert Farrell moving over to the Mayor's seat it has created a vacancy on the Board of Commissioners for the remaining two years of his Commissioner's seat term. The Board will appoint someone to fill that position sometime in January.

## Youth Kickball

Come join Aberdeen's Spring Youth Kickball league. This activity is available for boys and girls ages 4-15, as of May 30<sup>th</sup>, who are looking to participate in a fun, safe, exciting sport. Practices will begin in late March. Registration will begin at the end of February. Registration forms can be picked up at the Aberdeen Recreation Station. A copy of the child's birth certificate and payment are due at registration. Fees are \$12 for residents and \$25 for non-residents.

Individuals must reside within the city limits of Aberdeen to qualify for resident rates.

Volunteer Coaches and sponsors are needed for all athletic leagues! If interested, please call Joseph Keel at (910) 944-4572

## Aberdeen Welcomes New Program Coordinator

Jack Clelland began his duties as Aberdeen's Program Coordinator on December 2nd, 2013. Jack will be responsible for Parks and Recreation Department sponsored programs for seniors, instructional classes for all ages, Youth Summer Camps, and aiding with Special Events. Jack will also be Aberdeen Parks and Recreation Department's representative for the Senior Games in the Pines Committee.

Jack is a graduate of Appalachian State University where he majored in Recreation Management with a concentration in Outdoor Education. His major will be instrumental in aiding with the development of the Environmental Education Center and Nature Programs at Ray's Mill Pond Park.

Jack brings excellent experience to the position. Jack was employed with the Lee County Parks and Recreation Department for two years and most recently worked for the State of North Carolina.

If you would like to suggest a program or talk with Jack about teaching a particular program, please call him at 944-(PARK) (7275). Or please stop by the Aberdeen Recreation Station, 301 Lake Park Crossing, and welcome Jack to Aberdeen!



### Aberdeen Business Guild

*So what is this business guild thing about?* The Aberdeen Business Guild was established by local downtown business merchants to encourage and enrich the commercial environment while simultaneously raising the quality of life for all local residents. Members work towards cooperative efforts to promote each other's business success. Networking and building professional relationships helps to foster opportunities to learn about each other's businesses, share tips, exchange leads and hear speakers on a variety of topics. The guild also provides opportunities to share advertising costs and better promote the individual businesses.

*So what have we done lately?* Recently, the Aberdeen Business Guild sponsored the 4<sup>th</sup> annual Holiday Open House weekend including the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Bread Bowl Walking Tour. Participating businesses in historic downtown Aberdeen opened with sales and specials during Veteran's Day weekend to kick-off the holiday season. La

Poblanita, a local downtown Mexican café, won first place in the professional division of the Bread Bowl competition and Brooke Storz, a local high school student from Pinecrest won the amateur division. The Holiday Open House is one of the activities marketed and promoted by our downtown merchants to draw customers to Aberdeen.

*What's next?* Upcoming in 2014 will be the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Spring Spree Festival. It's an arts and crafts festival that provides a warm and family friendly event including music and food. We are welcoming any businesses located within the Town limits to contact us and become a member this year. We want to reach out to the businesses located outside of the downtown district and welcome everyone into the guild. For those interested, please contact Molly Menard, President of the Aberdeen Business Guild at (910) 944-1212 or shopaberdeenncc@gmail.com.

### Brownfields Assessment

The town is considering applying for an EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant to conduct

## What can the Planning Department do for You?

Grants available to assist citizens.

environmental assessments on potentially contaminated properties. If you are aware of a property that could benefit from such an assessment, please contact Community Development Planner Jae Kim at 944-7024. The application will be submitted on or before 1/22/14.

### Fence Permit

If you are planning on building a fence in your yard, or have already done so, please be aware that a Zoning Compliance Permit is required. Please stop by the Planning Department office at 115 N. Poplar Street to pick up an application. The permitting process will insure that the installation is compliant with the town's requirements and can help to prevent complications that may result from unpermitted work. The fee for a fence permit is \$50.00. Applications and information are also available on the town website at [www.townofaberdeen.net](http://www.townofaberdeen.net).

Please contact the Planning Department at 944-7024 if you have questions or need more information.



## Town Transitions to New Software

The Town of Aberdeen has upgraded its financial software and went live December 16<sup>th</sup>. Not only will there be issues for the staff to contend with during this time of transition and becoming familiar with the software, but also you, our citizens, will have to deal with some minor inconveniences.

Any time you deal with change there is always a learning curve to deal with. One issue we know right now that you, our customer, needs to be aware of is that

your January water bill is for approximately 45 days, which means it'll be less days than your usual bill (that's always great and easy to deal with), but then your March bill will be for approximately 70 days and that will be a larger bill (not as easy to take).

We ask you to please bear with us as we go through the learning curve because we do believe the new software will allow us to be more responsive to your needs going forward.

### Vouchers for Water Payments from Outside Source

Beginning January 1<sup>st</sup> the Town of Aberdeen will no longer be able to accept voucher type payments for water bills due to the functionality of new software. We ask our customers who seek assistance with their water bills to please plan ahead so that payment by check or credit card can be received and processed prior to cut off day.

## An Opportunity to Communicate Your Vision of Aberdeen's Future

The Planning Department is working on a 2040 Comprehensive Land Use Plan to help guide and plan for growth in upcoming years. A Land Use Plan Steering Committee will be appointed to assist with this very important project.

The Board of Commissioners hope to select individuals to represent a broad range of community interests including commerce, industry, banking, real estate, agriculture, military presence, environmental concerns and faith-based interests.

Please contact Planning Director Pamela

Graham at (910) 944-7024 if you have an interest in serving on this steering committee. The committee will begin meeting in January of 2014 and wrap up their input mid-summer.



## Your Government

Board of Commissioners  
Work Session

2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday before Board Meeting | 5:30 p.m.  
Town Hall Conference Room  
January 7<sup>th</sup>, January 30<sup>th</sup> & February 27<sup>th</sup>

Board of Commissioners  
Meeting

2<sup>nd</sup> Monday | 6:00 p.m.  
J. Curtis McInnis Board Room  
January 13<sup>th</sup> & February 10<sup>th</sup>

Planning Board Meeting

3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday | 6:00 p.m.  
J. Curtis McInnis Board Room  
January 16<sup>th</sup> & February 20<sup>th</sup>

Have agendas delivered directly to your inbox. Sign up for E-news at: [www.townofaberdeen.net](http://www.townofaberdeen.net).

## Town Hall Closing

- In observation of New Year's Day, Town Hall and other administrative offices will be closed January 1, 2014.
- In observation of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Town Hall and other administrative offices will be closed January 20, 2014.

There will be no recycle pick-up on January 20<sup>th</sup>; the make-up day will be Wednesday, January 22, 2014.