

Our Town

January/February 2016

TOWN of WAKE FOREST



INSPIRING GREATNESS

King's message at core of public celebration

"Not everyone can be famous but everybody can be great because greatness is determined by service."

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s inspirational message for achieving greatness is this year's theme for the annual MLK Day Celebration. The free public event is scheduled for Thursday, Jan. 21, at Friendship Chapel Baptist Church, 237 Friendship Chapel Road.

The community is invited to attend the supper beginning at 6 p.m. followed by a program honoring King's

legacy at 7 p.m.

For more information, contact Human Resources Director Virginia Jones at vjones@wakeforestnc.gov.

Ways to serve your community

Wake Forest is rich with nonprofit groups and volunteer opportunities. The strength of this community is the generosity of its people. If you're looking to make a difference, consider getting involved in your community.

For a list of civic organizations and volunteer opportunities, visit wakeforestnc.gov and search for "civic clubs" and "volunteer."

MLK Holiday Schedule: Wake Forest Town Hall and all other administrative offices will be closed **Monday, Jan. 18** for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. Garbage and recycling will be collected as usual. Wake Forest bus service and yard waste collection will be suspended for the day.

Town of Wake Forest
301 S. Brooks Street
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wakeforestnc.gov

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News highlights

Free black history performance for children »

The Bright Star Children's Theatre will offer two performances of *Black History Hall of Fame* on Saturday, Feb. 13. This fast-paced free show is geared for young audiences.

In just 45-minutes, the audience will be introduced to over a dozen groundbreakers and hall-of-famers that have contributed to shaping our nation. You'll see everyone from Maya Angelou and Aretha Franklin to the Buffalo Soldiers and Mae Jemison. And that's just to name a few!

The show will be offered at 1 p.m. at the Alston-Massenburg Center, 416 N. Taylor St., and at 7 p.m. at the Wake Forest Renaissance Centre for the Arts, 405 S. Brooks St. For information, call the Renaissance Centre at 919-435-9458.



Ball league registration held in February »

The Wake Forest Parks, Recreation & Cultural Resources Department will accept registrations for youth baseball, softball, T-ball, dream league baseball and men's softball from Feb. 1-29.

Registrations are accepted online at wakeforestnc.recdesk.com. Call 919-435-9560 for information.



PUBLIC WORKS

Recycle your tree

The Town of Wake Forest is collecting and recycling live Christmas trees from residential homes according to its normal yard waste collection schedule.

All Wake Forest residents whose yard waste is collected by the town may participate in the "Treecycling" program.

To recycle your tree, please remove all decorations, tinsel, nails, stands and bags from the tree and set it behind the curb for collection. Residents are reminded that artificial trees cannot be recycled.



Friday Night on White begins in April

Building on the remarkable success of Beach Night on White last August, the Town of Wake Forest is pleased to announce a new monthly concert series which will bring even more musical entertainment to downtown Wake Forest.

Hosted jointly with Wake Forest Downtown, Inc., and presented by White Street Brewing Co., the outdoor concerts will be held on the second Friday of each month from April through September. Bands will perform on South White Street.

This year's line-up includes: The Magic Pipers Band (April 8), Brickhouse (May 13), The Will McBride Group (June 10), Stone Age Romeos (July 8), The Remedy (Aug 12) and Crush (Sept 9).

For information about sponsorship opportunities, contact Anna Bolton, abolton@wakeforestnc.gov, 919-435-9422. Securing your sponsorship before Jan. 31 guarantees your business will be included in all promotional materials.

Look for more information and details at wakeforestnc.gov (search for "friday night on white").



Beach Night on White drew nearly 8,000 people to downtown Wake Forest.



Let the good times roll at the fourth annual MARDI GRAS

The fourth annual Mardi Gras celebration is scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 6, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., in downtown Wake Forest.

The family-friendly festival offers music, street performances and a walking parade for children and adults. Line-up for the parade begins at 12:45 p.m. in front of town hall. Awards will be given for Parade Prince & Princess, Best Float (bike, wagon or scooter), Best Baby, Most Festive Family and Best Mask.

The Bubblegum Blowing Contest returns again this year with recognition given to those that can blow the best bubble.

Children's Activities

Free face painting will be offered in the town hall lobby from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. and in the Depot Parking Lot, 100 S. White St., from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Feeling creative? Children can make a mask in town hall from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The activity is offered by Wake Forest ARTS. Then, make sure to leave your mark by participating in sidewalk chart art in front of the Depot Parking Lot, from 1:30-3:30 p.m.

Got some energy to burn? A free bounce house will be open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Depot Parking Lot. Kids (and kids at heart) can learn how to hula-hoop at the Hoop Jam in Centennial Plaza prior to the start of the parade.



Just want to see the sights? Roaming acrobats, a juggler, a balloon twister, a magician and other street entertainers will provide plenty of entertainment throughout the day.

For more information, visit wakeforestnc.gov (search for "mardi gras") or call Wake Forest Downtown, Inc., at 919-435-9415.

Planning a Wedding?



The Wake Forest Renaissance Centre for the Arts is one of several excellent venues that are available in Wake Forest. Primarily used as a cultural arts facility, the centre also offers an elegant and sophisticated backdrop for special events. For rates and floorplans, visit wakeforestnc.org.

TOWN GOVERNMENT

Wake Forest Board of Commissioners

On Nov. 3, Brian Pate was elected to the Wake Forest Board of Commissioners filling the vacant seat left by outgoing Commissioner Zachary Donahue. Commissioner Anne Reeve and Commissioner Greg Harrington were both re-elected to their positions. Town elections are held on odd-numbered years in November.



Mayor V. Jones



Commissioner G. Harrington



Commissioner B. Pate



Commissioner A. Reeve



Commissioner M. Stinnett



Commissioner J. Thompson

Bridge replacements: two down, two to go



With the completion of the Forestville Road bridge, town officials are preparing for the fourth and final N.C.

Department of Transportation bridge replacement project on Rogers Road.

Rogers Road

Construction on the Rogers Road bridge is expected to begin in May and end in September 2016. NCDOT will replace the existing two-lane bridge with a five-lane bridge and widen the portion of Rogers Road from Hope Lutheran Church to Forestville Road.

Once completed, the project is expected to improve capacity and safety and relieve the bottlenecks that occur in the area during school rush hours.

West Oak Avenue

The closure of West Oak Avenue for the replacement of the bridge near the Harris Road intersection is expected to end in April.

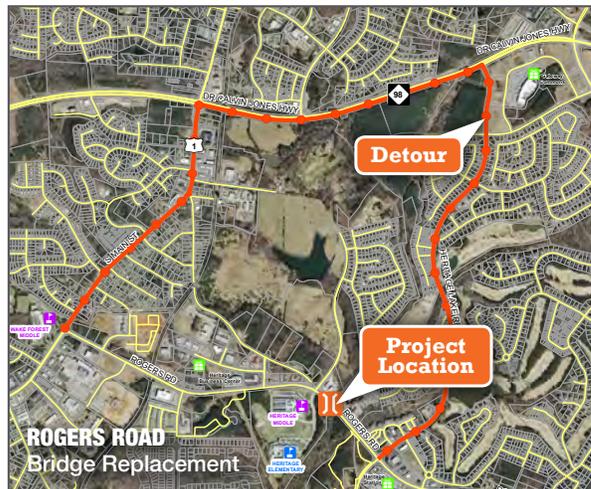
The new three-lane bridge will include a sidewalk and a 10-foot-wide multi-use path. A pedestrian underpass will provide a link for a future greenway connecting Joyner Park to the Olde Mill Stream section of the Richland Creek Greenway.

Up-to-date information about these two remaining bridge replacement projects, including detour maps, can be found at wakeforestnc.gov (search for “operation bridge exchange”).

Commuter Safety Tips

If you anticipate having to navigate around either of these areas, start preparing now. Motorists must be more alert as traffic patterns will be changing.

- **Allow yourself more time.** It may take longer to get where you’re going. Plan ahead.
- **Adults carpool, kids take the bus.** Fewer cars on the road reduce stress, improve mobility and save money.
- **Slow down.** Speeds you normally take for granted should be monitored carefully. Be prepared for sudden slowdowns and stoppages.
- **Be patient.** Each project will take time to complete. Be patient with other drivers and kinder to yourself.
- **Consider flex-time schedules.** Starting work earlier, stopping later or working through lunch can help you avoid peak traffic hours.



Award recipients, pictured from left, Ward Marotti, Holly Miller and Ross Keyser.

Town project earns engineering excellence award

The Town of Wake Forest and W.K. Dickson & Co., Inc. recently received the Engineering Excellence Award for Scientific Research for their benthic macro invertebrate relocation efforts as part of the Sanford Creek Habitat Restoration Project.

The award-winning project was led by a team comprised of W.K. Dickson & Co., Inc.’s Ward Marotti; Town of Wake Forest Assistant Engineer and Project Manager Holly Miller; Town of Wake Forest Urban Forestry Coordinator Jennifer Rall; and Eagle Scout candidate Ross Keyser, who installed coir fiber rolls into Sanford Creek in Heritage South in the vicinity of Golden Star Way/Marshall Farm Street as part of his Eagle Project.

The project was judged to be an “outstanding example of the dedication and determination of a firm to push the envelope into uncharted territory to improve the environment.”



Tree Care 101 program offered at town hall

Urban Forestry Coordinator Jennifer Rall will lead a comprehensive introductory class about tree care. Geared to the homeowner, the one-day class covers proper tree selection, planting, pruning and mulching.

The class is offered Saturday, Feb. 27, from 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at Wake Forest Town Hall, 301 S. Brooks St. The cost is \$15. Pre-registration is required at wakeforestnc.recdesk.com (search for “tree care 101”). For more information, contact Jennifer Rall, jrall@wakeforestnc.gov, 919-435-9565.

Public invited to State of the Town Address

The 2016 Wake Forest State of the Town Address & Dinner is scheduled for Monday, Feb. 15, at 6 p.m. at the Wake Forest Renaissance Centre for the Arts, 405 S. Brooks St.

Hosted by the Wake Forest Rotary Club, the occasion offers Wake Forest citizens the opportunity to reflect on the town's list of accomplishments during the previous year and learn about its goals in the coming months.

Tickets are \$15 per person and include a buffet dinner. Purchase tickets online at wakeforestnc.gov (search for "state of the town") or in person at the Renaissance Centre.

Anyone not interested in eating dinner is welcome to attend the State of the Town address without purchasing a ticket. Non-ticket buyers should arrive between 6:30 and 6:45 p.m. at the conclusion of the dinner portion of the program. The mayor's address is expected to begin between 6:45 and 7 p.m.



Watch the State of the Town Address

Mayor Jones' State of the Town Address will be recorded and replayed on Wake Forest TV 10 throughout March. It will also be available in streaming video on the town's website.



Dispose of unwanted medications safely

A medicine drop-off box is located in the lobby of the Wake Forest Police Department's Criminal Investigation Division headquarters at 221 S. Brooks St. Unwanted medication may be dropped off Monday-Friday between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.



Singer, songwriter and cellist Shana Tucker will perform at the Renaissance Centre on Jan. 9.

THE ARTS

New year brings an exciting line-up of performances

Make plans now to attend one of the many upcoming events at the Wake Forest Renaissance Centre for the Arts. There's something for everyone:

bar for wine, beer and other refreshments. Presented by Wake Forest ARTS. *Tickets \$5.*

Yesterday & Today: The Interactive Beatles Experience



Feb. 20 ■ 7 p.m.

Rock to the music of the Beatles in an all new interactive concert experience where the audience creates the playlist for the night. With dead-on musical precision, the band delivers the soundtrack of our lives. *Tickets \$15 advance, \$18 day of.*

Cindabella: A Southern Fried Fairytale Musical

Feb. 26 ■ 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.

Relive a classic with a new southern twist! See Cindabella make it to the fish fry with the help of her Fairy Memaw! This new original southern musical comes from the creator/producer of *Girls Raised in the South-GRITS: The Musical*. Presented by: McGee Communications & Entertainment. *Tickets \$7.*

For tickets and complete event information visit wakeforestnc.org or call the Renaissance Centre box office at 919-435-9458.

Shana Tucker Concert

Jan. 9 ■ 7 p.m.

With a style and sound that has been described as a mashup of Joni Mitchell and Tracy Chapman, Shana Tucker breaks the boundaries between classical, jazz, folk, R&B and soul. Tucker performs throughout the country and has opened for critically acclaimed talents like Lisa Fischer, Norah Jones and Javon Jackson. *Tickets \$15 advance, \$18 day of.*

Rockin' the Forest: Tres Chicas

Jan. 30 ■ 8 p.m.

The alternative country trio, Tres Chicas, will rock the forest with their sweet vocal harmonies. Their music combines folk, country and rock. *Tickets \$10 adult, \$5 ages 12 & under.*



Neck of the Woods

Feb. 19 ■ 7:30 p.m.

Neck of the Woods is a variety performance series that features emerging local artists. An evening may consist of several performance arts acts. Each show is different and may include actors, dancers, musicians, comedians, writers and spoken word artists. Come out and support your local artists! Cash



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February 2016

Dental Health Month

Most experts agree that daily brushing is ideal, but if that's unrealistic, aim for **three to four times per week**.



Pet Safety

Pets who spend a lot of time outdoors need more food in the winter because keeping warm depletes energy.

Use plastic food and water bowls; when the temperature is low, your pet's tongue can stick and freeze to metal.

Mon-Fri: 10am-7pm, Sat: 9am-5pm, Sun: 12:30pm-5pm
929 Heritage Lake Road, Wake Forest

dirtydogsspa.com

919-453-0765

Flag-raising committee seeks names of deceased veterans

The Town of Wake Forest and several local veterans' organizations honor the sacrifices of deceased Wake Forest veterans during monthly flag-raising ceremonies. The committee is soliciting the names of deceased Wake Forest veterans who may be honored during future flag-raising ceremonies.

To be eligible for consideration, the deceased veteran must meet one of the following criteria: 1) joined active duty in Wake Forest; 2) died in Wake Forest; or 3) was a member of a Wake Forest veterans' organization.

Friends or family members of deceased veterans who meet at least one of these criteria are urged to contact Wake Forest Memorial Flag-Raising Committee Chair Dennis Mecum at 919-327-7887 or cdrvfwpost8466@yahoo.com.

Beware of IRS-related scams



The Wake Forest Police Department is warning area residents not to be fooled by scammers impersonating IRS investigators. In recent weeks the police department has received numerous reports from residents about callers claiming to be from the IRS telling the intended victims they owe taxes and must pay using a credit card, bank account draft, pre-paid debit card or wire transfer. The scammers threaten those who refuse to pay with arrest, deportation or loss of a business or driver's license.

The callers who commit this fraud often share the following characteristics:

- Use common names and fake IRS badge numbers
- Know the last four digits of the victim's Social Security number
- Make caller ID appear as if the IRS is calling
- Send bogus IRS emails
- Call a second time claiming to be the police or DMV, and caller ID again supports their claim

It is important to know that the IRS:

- Never asks for credit card, debit card or prepaid card information over the phone
- Never insists that taxpayers use a specific payment method to pay taxes
- Never requests immediate payment over the telephone and will not take enforcement action immediately following a phone conversation.

If you get a call from someone claiming to be with the IRS asking for a payment, here's what to do:

If you owe federal taxes, or think you might owe taxes, hang up and call the IRS at 800-829-1040. IRS workers can help you with your payment questions. If you don't owe taxes, call and report the incident to the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration at 800-366-4484.

You can also file a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission at FTC.gov. Add "IRS Telephone Scam" to the comments in your complaint.

If you believe you have been contacted by a potential scammer, call the Wake Forest Police Department at 919-554-6150.

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Glad You Asked

TOWN OF WAKE FOREST Q&A

Q: Can you tell me about the metal structure that stands near the chamber of commerce on South White Street?

A: This is one of the first installations of public art in Wake Forest. Created by artist Robert Tully, *Rain Gate* serves as an artistic gateway for pedestrians on the south end of the downtown shopping district.

But it's much more than that. What makes this piece so fascinating is that it also serves for bio-retention. Whenever it rains, water collects in the upper trough and is then released slowly down an artistic rain chain.

The sculptural gateway holds enough water to run long enough for you to see it work.



After a rainfall totalling one-half inch, the thin stream runs down the chain for approximately 13 hours. The rain chain is anchored in the bio-retention area, which cleans storm-water runoff from the parking lot.

The rain trough shape

is inspired by train tressels and downspouts on buildings nearby. Designed to fit in with the historic character of Wake Forest, the stainless steel structure has a reddish patina on the outside.

With rain totals last year exceeding what Seattle typically gets, we should have plenty of opportunities to visit the structure and see how it works.



Special Needs Family Game Night

Enjoy a fun-filled evening playing board games with the whole family at the Wake Forest Renaissance Centre for the Arts on Friday, Jan. 15, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Centre staff will provide games for you to enjoy or you can bring your own if you'd like. The event is free but pre-registration is required.



Special Needs Valentine Party

The Town of Wake Forest invites our youth with special needs and their siblings to celebrate Valentine's Day. The party will be held Saturday, Feb. 6, from 2-4 p.m. at the Renaissance Centre. There will be music, crafts, games and refreshments. Drop in for a game of BINGO! The event is \$5 and pre-registration is required.



To pre-register for either program, contact Kelly Schurtz, kschurtz@wakeforestnc.gov, 919-556-7093.



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For More Information Contact:

Laura Wickwar
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Are winter bills giving you the chills?

Warm up to these easy, money-saving tips provided by NC Public Power:

- Set your thermostat to 68 degrees or lower. Every degree above 68 increases your energy use by 3-5 percent.
- Install a programmable thermostat and set it to turn down your heat at night.
- Traditional fireplaces lose more heat than they produce, so only use them on mild days.
- Avoid using space heaters for long periods of time. Use of one small (1500 watt) heater in your home could add more than \$100 to your monthly electric bill.
- Clean and replace your air filters regularly. Dirty filters restrict airflow and increase energy use.



Wake County is working on a plan for more greenway trails. Where would you like to see new trail connections? Share your thoughts at www.surveymonkey.com/s/wakegreenways.

Applauding 16 years of service to the Wake Forest greenway system

Jan Ammons, outgoing vice-chair of the Greenways Advisory Board, has helped spur action on all things greenway in Wake Forest



Sixteen years ago, Jan Ammons had a strong vision for the town's greenway system. At that time, there were very few trails in Wake Forest, so she decided to get involved and help make it happen—first by serving on the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board and then as a founding member of the Greenways Advisory Board (GAB).

Over the years, her advocacy for a town-wide system of trails has helped spur development of the greenway system. Most notably was the successful passage of the first greenways bond in Wake Forest which will help fund development. “This is a big jump-start toward reaching our goal of creating one long, connected linear park,” said Ammons.

What inspired you to volunteer? And what kept you going throughout the years? It started as a genuine interest in and passion for the work. Over the years, our progress was sometimes slow—it felt like we were inching along. During those times, it was tenacious determination to finish what we started. Later, Candace Davis’ [Transportation Planning Manager] commitment—her ability to find grants that would allow community members to pay only a fraction of the cost for greenways—is what kept me on fire.

What GAB accomplishment are you most proud of? The Neuse River Bridge, which connects Wake Forest’s trails with Raleigh’s Capital

Area Greenway System. I will never forget the ribbon cutting and the crowd of 100 people on land, plus a handful floating in the river below that helped celebrate with us on that day.

I’ll also never forget a less public day: the completion of the Heritage High soft trail. It marked the town’s first National Trails Day celebration, and it happened to be my birthday. It was the best gift I could have ever imagined.

What are your hopes for the Wake Forest greenway system in five-to-ten years? I cannot wait to be able to ride my bike from Falls Dam in Raleigh, cross the Wake Forest Neuse River bridge, and take the trail all the way into downtown Wake Forest without encountering a single car on my journey.

What needs to happen to get there? We need to stay true to the vision. We have to keep putting one foot in front of the other: collaborate with each other, meet regularly, update our plans and then fund the implementation of those plans.

What advice would you give someone who is thinking of getting involved? Be persistent. Be resilient. And stop waiting for the right time—the time is now.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETINGS

Third Tuesday | 7 p.m.
Town Hall Board Room

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS WORK SESSION

First Tuesday | 5:30 p.m.
Town Hall Board Room

PLANNING BOARD MEETINGS

First Tuesday | 7:30 p.m.
Town Hall Board Room

- Watch meetings live on WFTV 10.
- Watch meetings live or on-demand in streaming video: wakeforestnc.gov/government-boardofcommissioners.aspx.
- Watch re-broadcasts of meetings on WFTV 10 at 9 a.m., 3 p.m. and 9 p.m. daily for up to two weeks after the meeting.



WFTV 10 can be found at digital channel 97.5. Watch it live online at wakeforestnc.gov/wftv-10.aspx.

STAYING INFORMED

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**TOWN of
WAKE FOREST**

301 S. Brooks St.
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Our *Town* is an award-winning newsletter published bi-monthly by the Town of Wake Forest Communications Department

Communications & Public Affairs Director

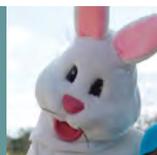
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DATE:**



March 19
Easter Egg Hunt



April 2
Dirt Day



April 23
Arbor Day