



The circa 1820 Calvin Jones House

WAKE FOREST

Historic Preservation Commission • *Newsletter*

Number Fifty-five

June 2026

Join us for Juneteenth!

The annual Juneteenth Celebration will take place on Saturday, June 20th at the Dubois Center, 518 N. Franklin Street, from 11-5pm. This is a family-friendly event sponsored by the Northeast Community Coalition and Town of Wake Forest. As part of the celebration, the Dubois Campus historic marker will be unveiled at 11am on June 20th, and the Ailey Young House, located at 320 N. White Street, will be open for tours from 1pm-5pm.

As a reminder, the COA application deadline for the July 28, 2026 meeting is June 29, 2026 at 5:00pm. All applications must be submitted electronically. A full schedule of all deadlines for 2026 is on the back page of this newsletter.

Around Town

Historical Walking Tour: WF Downtown

The Wake Forest Historical Museum will lead a walking tour of downtown on Friday, June 26 from 3-4:30pm. The tour begins at the corner of S. White St and Wait Avenue and explores the Downtown National Register Historic District. The tour will highlight the area's architectural history and discuss the lives of those who contributed to downtown's development. Tours are free and open to the public, but pre-registration is required. Visit wakeforestmuseum.org to learn more and register.

Oscar Alston's Barber Shop Historic Marker

On Friday, June 19th, a dedication ceremony for the historic marker for Oscar Alston's Barber Shop will be held at 111 S. White St. at 10am. Oscar Alston (1888-1963) was a prominent Black barber in Wake Forest whose life reflected the complex history of Black business owners during the 20th century. He moved to Washington, D.C. and opened several barber shops around Georgetown University's campus in the 1930s. Alston moved back to Wake Forest in the 1940s and operated the Alston Barber Shop in the basement of the Wilkinson Building at 111 S. White St. from 1943-1962.

The Wake Forest Historic Preservation Commission meeting on Tuesday, June 23, 2026, at 6:30p.m. in the Board Chambers Wake Forest Town Hall, 301 S. Brooks Street, has been canceled.



Opening of Joey McCrea Wiggins Park

The Joey McCrea Wiggins Park, formerly known as Taylor Street Park, 416 N. Taylor Street, opened on Saturday, June 13 and has a new accessible playground and upgraded sprayground. The Wake Forest Police Department donated \$200,000 of the \$730,000 total cost of the project using funds raised over the past 20 years through golf tournaments, car shows, and other fundraising initiatives. Park visitors will notice that several pieces of new playground equipment have a police theme in recognition of the WFPD's contribution. In April 2026, the Board of Commissioners voted to rename Taylor Street Park in honor of Wake Forest native and former Wake Forest Police Officer Joey McCrea Wiggins who passed away in 2006.

Historic Preservation Commission Meeting Calendar 2026

All meetings are at 6:30 pm.

Meeting Date	<i>COA Application Deadline</i>
January 27, 2026	<i>December 29, 2025</i>
February 24, 2026	<i>January 26, 2026</i>
March 24, 2026	<i>February 23, 2026</i>
April 28, 2026	<i>March 30, 2026</i>
May 26, 2026	<i>April 27, 2026</i>
June 23, 2026	<i>May 25, 2026</i>
July 28, 2026	<i>June 29, 2026</i>
August 25, 2026	<i>July 27, 2026</i>
September 22, 2026	<i>August 24, 2026</i>
October 27, 2026	<i>September 28, 2026</i>
November 18, 2026*	<i>October 20, 2026</i>
December 16, 2026*	<i>November 17, 2026</i>

**The November and December meetings are on the 3rd Wednesday due to holidays.*